

## Doctrine of Imagination

1. Prior to the Flood every imagination of the thoughts of men was only evil.
  - *Genesis 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*
2. After the Flood the Lord knew that man's imaginations would continue to be evil.
  - *Genesis 9:21 And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.*
3. The Lord has promised to judge the person who is determined to follow sinful behavior produced by a wicked imagination.
  - *Deuteronomy 29:19 And it come to pass, when he heareth the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, though I walk in the imagination of mine heart, to add drunkenness to thirst: 20 The LORD will not spare him, but then the anger of the LORD and his jealousy shall smoke against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him, and the LORD shall blot out his name from under heaven.*
4. God knows every thought and every imagination in the heart of man.
  - *Deuteronomy 31:21 And it shall come to pass, when many evils and troubles are befallen them, that this song shall testify against them as a witness; for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed: for I know their imagination which they go about, even now, before I have brought them into the land which I swear.*
5. David prayed that the Lord would allow the people of Israel to have holy imaginations.
  - *1 Chronicles 29:18 O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this for ever in the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of thy people, and prepare their heart unto thee:*
6. It was the promise to Jeremiah that the day would come when the people of God would no longer walk after the imaginations of their evil hearts.
  - *Jeremiah 3:17 At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart.*
7. Despite divine pleas, men continually give their hearts to evil imaginations.

- *Jeremiah 7:23 But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you. 24 But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels and in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward.*
8. When men break fellowship with the Lord He will use the covenant relationship as a basis for divine discipline.
- *Jeremiah 11:8 Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked every one in the imagination of their evil heart: therefore I will bring upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do; but they did them not.*
9. Man insists on his own imaginations in part because he has no faith in God.
- *Jeremiah 13:10 This evil people, which refuse to hear my words, which walk in the imagination of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing.*
  - *Jeremiah 18:12 And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart.*
10. False prophets provide false peace to people who walk in the evil imaginations of their own hearts.
- *Jeremiah 23:17 They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.*
11. God is still sovereign over the false usage of the imagination.
- *Luke 1:51 He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.*
12. One of the seven deadly sins of Proverbs 6:18 is a heart that deviseth wicked imaginations.
- *Proverbs 6:18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,*
13. Paul speaks of a vain or empty imagination.
- *Romans 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

14. The Christian is commanded to cast down imaginations that are not pleasing to the Lord.

- *2 Corinthians 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;*