**Thinking and Feeling Like God, Part 1**

1Cor.2:16, *“For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he should instruct Him? But* ***we have the mind of Christ.”***  In context (vv.6-16), Paul refers to the *revelation of the thoughts of God* by the *Holy Spirit* to those *inspired* by Him. To them Jesus said, *“No longer do I call you slaves; for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you,”* John 15:15. Surely, such includes not only *what* God thinks, but how He *feels!*

With this title I don’t mean to imply that we should (or do!) *think* and *feel* that we ARE God, but that we ought to *see things* and *reason* aboutas He does, as well as to *be moved emotionally* by the same things and in the same directions as He is. For instance, Prov.6:16-19 lists seven things that the Lord ***hates****.* In fact, these seven things are said to be an *“abomination”* (*toebah* {to-ay-BAW}- disgusting, loathsome, detestable, abhorrent, repulsive, repugnant) to Him:

* *Haughty Eyes,* cf. 16:18; 18:12; 21:4,24 (*insolent pride,* insultingly contemptuous)
* *Lying Tongues,* cf. 12:22; 17:7 (*subjectivism* and *relativism*)
* *Hands that Shed Innocent Blood,* cf. 28:17 (*abortion* and *senseless ambush*)
* *Hearts that Devise Wicked Plans,* cf. 3:22; 24:1-2 (*unscrupulous* and *vindictive*)
* *Feet that Run Rapidly to Evil,* cf. 1:15-16 (*mob mentality*)
* *False Witnesses that Utter Lies,* cf. 12:17; 19:5,9; 21:28 (*lie under oath*)
* *Those who Spread Strife among Brethren,* cf. 6:12-15; 16:28 (*to get “their” way*).

Now, you and I are **not** *inspired* by the Holy Spirit like Paul was, and Jesus **hasn’t** *spoken* to us as He did to the Twelve, but we **do** have the *revelation* that, when we *read,* allows us to *understand*, Eph.3:3-5. So, do **we *think* and *feel*** about that list in Prov.6:16-19 the way God does? Are they disgusting, loathsome, detestable, abhorrent, repulsive, and repugnant to us? Or, in today’s vernacular, are they “offensive” to us? Or, do we instead:

* Revere and emulate *lofty eyes* and *eyebrows raised in arrogance,* cf. 30:13?
* Justify *lying tongues* and *lips of deceit,* cf. 6:24; 26:23-26?
* Excuse *hands that shed innocent blood?* (“It’s a societal problem- they’re victims.”)
* Rationalize *hearts that devise wicked plans?* (“It’s a woman’s body/right.”)
* Exonerate *feet that run rapidly to evil?* (“They’re just kids- they didn’t know what they were doing.”)
* Tolerate those who *spread strife among brethren,* Rom.16:17-18; Titus 3:9-11?

Think about other things on which God has specified His *thoughts* or *feelings.* Do we *think* and *feel* as He does regarding them? For Instance:

1. God hates divorce, Mal.2:13-16. Do you? Don’t become a “Yeahbutter” (one who always says “Yeah, but…”). Why is this such a “big deal” with God?
	1. Because there are *“treacherous dealings”* involved, v.14a, 15b, 16b;
	2. Because you made a *“covenant”* to this person *before* God, v.14b;
	3. Because it is against the *Spirit,* v.15; and,
	4. Because there are (often) *offspring* involved, v.15; (it’s not just about *you* and *your feeling/desires*)
	5. Therefore, *“take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously,”* v.16!
2. Homosexuality is an *abomination* (there’s that word again!) to God, Lev.18:1-5,20-30. How do you *think* and *feel* about homosexuality? Again, why is it such a “big deal” who has sex with whom?
	1. God thinks/feels about homosexuality the same as He does about *child sacrifice,* v.21; (let that sink in!)
	2. God thinks/feels about homosexuality the same as He does about *bestiality,* v.23; (it is a *perversion*- that is, against *nature,* cf. Gen.2:18-25);
	3. Such things *defile* the land (and its *people*), and were the very reasons God wanted the Canaanites destroyed (*“you shall not leave alive anything that breathes,”* cf. Deut.20:16), vv.24-30.

“But these are all O.T. references- we’re under the N.T.” Yes we are. So let’s see what God *thinks* and how He *feels* about homosexuality in Rom.1:

1. *“impurity,”* v.24a;
2. *“dishonored,”* (*dishonorable*), v.24b;
3. *“served* (*serving*) *the creature instead of the Creator,”* v.25;
4. *“degrading,”* v.26;
5. *“unnatural,”* v.27; and,
6. *“indecent,”* v.28.

Furthermore, though redeemable, those who practice such things *“shall not inherit the kingdom of God,”* 1Cor.6:9-11.

Conclusions:

1. If we’re going to be with God *eternally* in heaven, or even be in *fellowship* with Him and His here, we’re going to have *think* and *feel* like He does! This means we’re going to have to “see” things as He does. Do you?
2. Do we now see why “our land”- yep, the “good ole USA, is in the shape that it is *morally* and *spiritually?*
3. As God’s people, we live in a land that no longer (generally) *thinks, feels,* or *sees* as God does. Our children are bombarded from virtually every front with pressures to abandon God’s *thoughts, feelings,* and *perspectives.*
4. Those of us who continue faithfully to *think, feel,* and *see* as God does may not be able to save this country, but we had better do all that we can to save our children. How? Vigilantly (as in Deut.6:1-9) *practice* and *teach* them God’s *thoughts,* God’s *feelings,* and God’s *perspectives* on *pride/haughtiness, lying,* the *shedding of innocent blood, hearts* filled with *wicked plans* and *feet* that *run rapidly to evil,* bearing *false witness,* and *one* who *spreads strife* among *brethren;* as well the other things God *hates* such as *adultery/divorce;* and those things are an *abomination* to Him such as *homosexuality.*