

**Self-Made Men.**

Proverbs 23:7, make this statement so full of meaning: "For as a man thinketh in his heart, so he is." That is to say if your heart is filled with envy, malice and jealousy and selfishness, that is the kind of a man you will be. People will learn it by your talk and conduct, but if you are on the right side, your thoughts will be filled with tenderness, pity, sweetness and purity, and that is the kind of a man you will be. It will beam out of your eyes, and they will hear it in your voice. They will discern it in your business affairs with men, and they will discern it in all your life, as a man thinketh, so he is. That is why the Lord tells us in Proverbs 24:9, "The thoughts of the foolish are sinful." Why are they sinful? Because they are foolish, because they are wrong. Paul, in writing to the Corinthians, says to bring your thoughts into communion with Christ, so that if you can bring your thoughts to the ideal to which Christ intended you should, you will not only be a benefit to others but a blessing to yourself. God, speaking through Jeremiah 6: and 9, says: "I will bring evil upon these people, even the fruit of their thoughts." In the old law, the law of Moses, a man could beg, he could seek to purchase virtue and the moral chastity of a woman, but if the crime was not actually committed he could not be punished, but under the gospel law, Jesus makes the man's thought to bear and so He tells us, Matthew 5:27-28: "Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her, hath committed adultery already in his heart." There is your thought. God knew well Christ understood correctly that thoughts were vehicles that carried our words and gave birth to acts. We may be able to say nobody will know my thoughts, but do not forget that God knows your thoughts and reads them, and there are some men who can read them.

**The Little Corporal Knew Men.**

Napoleon said once, "I know men." Napoleon was not the only reader of character. All your character is written in your face. That is why you say, "Oh, isn't that a lovely woman. What a good looking woman she is." You do not mean handsome, or pretty, or a face that is made up of paint and powder. But there is something in her smile, in the glance of her eye, in the very lines of her face that speaks louder than thunder that her thoughts are pure, her desires clean and she is an influence for good. You know men and you know women that when they look into your face or they come to your house, or you grasp their hands, there is something within you that says: "Oh, I wish I were a better woman, or I wish I were a better man, or I wish I were living the life that that man or woman is living." That is the exhibition of virtue, of the true way a man or woman should live. While there are others who from their looks and words tell an entirely different story, and you would not feel safe with them alone. You think you can hide your thoughts sometimes but God always sees them.

**It Would Be Some Spectacle.**

There is nothing that shall not be revealed, and oh, what a spectacle it will be when all the revelations of secret thoughts shall be made known. You may think that your secret thoughts will never be discovered, but listen to what the Bible says upon that point: "Thou understandest my thoughts afar off." Ps. 139:2, and the prophet informs us that "A book of remembrance was written before Him (God) for them that feared the Lord and that thought upon His name." Mal. 3:16, and Paul knowing that our thoughts are to bring us their fruitage in kind, said, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there