

## My Mind is Made Up – Bible Study

### Psalm 23:1-3 (KJV)

**1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

**2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

**3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

### 3 John 1:2

**2 Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.**

In the passages we just read, first David says, “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, and leads me beside still waters. **He restores my soul.** He leads me in the path of righteousness. Here is the first qualifier. If you and I want to be lead down the righteous path, it is contingent upon me having a **soul** that is **restored**. In the next scripture, it says more than anything else God wants me to be prosperous and healthy. Here is the qualifier, **even as my soul is prosperous**.

If righteous living and prosperity, God’s way are contingent upon my soul being in the right position, I must know the makeup of my soul and what I can do to make sure that it is properly aligned with God's ways. Let’s define the soul.

**Soul: The soul is the 1 element of our tripartite reality. It is the real us. It consists of our mind, will, emotions, intellect, and imagination.**

### Colossians 3:2 (NASB)

**2 Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth.**

The Oxford Dictionary defines the mind as the element of a person that enables them to be aware of the world and their experiences, to think, and to feel; the faculty of consciousness and thought.

**A made-up mind is when someone has made a decision that will not change, even if circumstances aren't in agreement with that decision. With this in mind, let's examine: My Mind is Made Up**

### **Romans 12:2 (NASB)**

**2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.**

To renew something means to bring it back to its original state. Often, it takes us a while to shed some of the negative images and thought patterns we have developed over time. All of us need to be renewed and restored to the position our hearts and minds were before life stained our minds. **THE ONLY REASON WE GOT SO MESSED UP IN THE FIRST PLACE, IS BECAUSE WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WE HAD.**

- 1. A made-up mind is renewed often with the Word.**

### **Isaiah 43:18-19 (NASB)**

**18 "Do not call to mind the former things, Or consider things of the past.**

**19 Behold, I am going to do something new, Now it will spring up; Will you not be aware of it? I will even make a roadway in the wilderness, Rivers in the desert.**

The scripture says do not call to mind the former things. When I bring up the past, I'm calling it back to my mind. The NLT translation says, "Forget all that." The past cannot leave. So, I must leave it. When an elephant is young, the trainers chain it to a stake in the ground. He tries his hardest. But, he can't break free. As he grows, they don't have to change the chain or the stake, because he remembers not being able to get free. So, he doesn't even try. **Many of us, like the elephant, don't realize we're able to be free now.**

**2. A made-up mind refuses to be haunted by the past.**

**Philippians 2:5 (NKJV)**

**5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,**

Repentance means changing your mind and turning around. **It's not an apology or an I'm sorry.** When someone has been incarcerated for a long time, it's said they become "institutionalized." In many ways they've allowed captors to determine how they think, act, and respond. **We have to be careful not to allow prolonged circumstances to set our expectations for the future.** We can't allow dysfunction to become the way we function.

**3. A made-up mind repents when unhealthy patterns are recognized.**

**Philippians 4:8 (NLT)**

**8 And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.**

**Romans 10:17 (NASB)**

**17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.**

The quality of our decisions will be determined by the quality of the information we have when we make them. Here's the question. **WHO ARE YOU BELIEVING RIGHT NOW?** Here's the answer. **YOU'RE BELIEVING WHOMEVER YOU ARE HEARING THE MOST.** Our success or failure will be determined by whose voice we hear in our souls, when we make decisions.

**4. A made-up mind receives direction from God and His Word.**

**John 8:31-32 (NASB)**

**31 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly My disciples;**

**32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”**

One of the results of a renewed, made-up mind is that you begin to expect others to have renewed minds as well. You're not truly free if you're okay with your brothers and sisters remaining in bondage. God allows us to break out, so we can go back and break others out. Whatever the bondage; spiritual, mental, emotional, or financial when you get out, help someone else get out. **We must make up our minds that everyone we're in relationship with, will have a made-up mind as well.**

**5. A made-up mind recognizes the importance of relationships.**

A made-up mind is when someone has made a decision that will not change, even if circumstances aren't in agreement with that decision. If righteous living and prosperity, God's way are contingent upon my soul being in the right position, **I must make up my mind to be everything God called me to be.**