

Putting Your Flesh Under Arrest

“How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your Word.” – Psalm 119:9

The godly conduct that produces spiritual stability depends on obeying the divine standard of God’s Word. The Word is what cultivates godly attitudes, thoughts, and actions that keep us from being overwhelmed by trials and temptations.

To further apprehend the relationship between godly attitudes, thoughts, and actions, consider this analogy. If a policeman sees someone about to violate the law, he will arrest him. Similarly, godly attitudes and thoughts produced by the Word act as policemen to arrest the flesh before it commits a crime against the standard of God’s Word. But if those thoughts and attitudes are not ‘on duty’, they cannot arrest the flesh, and the flesh is subsequently free to violate the law of God.

The analogy serves to remind us that right attitudes and thoughts must precede right practices. The apostle Paul realized only spiritual weapons will help in our warfare against the flesh: “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.” (2Cor. 10:4) By using the right weapons, you can take “every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.” (v.5)