

## Controlled Thinking

Keith Dixon  
March 1, 2020  
Gray

### Introduction

1. Philippians 4:8
2. Paul is exhorting the Philippians to consider themselves seriously and shape their conduct by the state items.
3. Think means to take into account, reflect upon and then allow these things to shape your conduct Holland, Martin
4. Thought is the raw material out of which character is made Proverbs 23:7; 4:23, keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.
5. There are six motives which all who seek Christian perfection should constantly keep in mind
6. Let us study these six things.

### II Discussion

1. Whatsoever things are true
  1. True means true to the face, truthful, conforming to reality, genuine
  2. John 17:17
  3. Are we living our lives true to the facts of Christianity?
2. Whatsoever things are honest or noble (NKJV)
  1. Honest means worthy of reverence, august, venerable
  2. 1 Timothy 2:2; 3:4, 8, 11; Titus 2:2 Reverent NKJV
  3. Are we living an honest or reverent life
3. Whatsoever things are just
  1. Just means observant of custom, rule, right, especially in the fulfillment towards gods and men and of things that were in accordance with right
  2. Roman 13:7
  3. Are we living right with our fellow man?
4. Whatsoever things are pure
  1. Pure from defilement; not contaminated (from the same root word as holy)
  2. 1 Timothy 5:2, 22; Titus 2:5; James 3:17
  3. Are we living a pure (set apart) life?
5. Whatsoever things are lovely
  1. Lovely means attractive or pleasing, agreeable, lovely
  2. Romans 12:18
  3. What kind of life do we live?
6. Whatsoever things are of good report
  1. This means uttering words, or sounds of good omen
  2. 1 Timothy 3:7; Proverbs 22:1; 1 Peter 2:12
  3. Are we living a life that others are saying good about us?

### III Conclusion

1. If there be any virtue - moral excellence, courage
2. If there be any praise Living the Christian life a compared to the world so that we can praise and be praised 1 Peter 2:12; Matthew 5:13-16; 10:32-33
3. We are told to ponder and practice these things. As a man thinketh
4. Will you have these items in your life and others see Christ in you
5. Start by being in Christ yourself

Sources: sermon preached in 1989; Reason to Rejoice by Thomas Holland; Word Study Greek-English New Testament Paul McReynolds