A strong mind …

Jesus:

36. As you know, the Enemy's battleground is the mind. He attacks primarily in the mind. He knows that if he can get into your mind and influence your thoughts, then your body, countenance, and actions will follow suit. You will then apply the thoughts of your mind, which he has influenced, to your daily life and actions, and he will have won a victory.

37. As one of My children, you have a measure of protection against the Enemy and his attacks. But you must also do your part to keep your shield up, to resist him, to not give or allow him entrance. You have to walk in the center of My will. You have to obey the conditions I have laid out for you to avail yourself of My full protection. In these Last Days, the ante has been upped in the spirit world, and I have given you new weapons with which to keep the Enemy at bay, as part of your protection. If you're not using them, then he has a chance to attack you. [For more on how to avail yourself of the Lord's protection, see also "Conditions for having God's protection" in *Word Basics*, page 116, and "The spiritual warfare" on page 163.]

38. Your mind is always open prey for the Enemy's attacks. He can't directly come in and take over your mind and bombard you with his thoughts from within, but, like the story of the birds flying overhead, he is able to try to harass, torment, and distract you. Then, if in an unguarded, weak, or rebellious moment, you open a crack to the Enemy, he can come in and begin to infiltrate from within. Then you have at your disposal the spiritual powers I have given you of prayer and invoking the power of the keys to rebuke the Enemy and cause him to flee. While it's pretty easy to open a crack in the door of your mind to the Enemy, it's also pretty easy to rebuke him and kick him out--if he hasn't been there for so long that he's deeply entrenched.

39. Now that you generally understand how the Enemy's attacks on your mind work, and how you can close the door of your mind and refuse him entrance or access from within, I'll explain more about his mind powers. The Enemy is a spirit, the god of this world, and as such, he has godlike powers. He learned these powers when he stood at the right hand of My Father. He is strong and mighty in the use of mind powers, for that is how to best influence a human. While My Father and I and the angelic forces use our powers for good, to steer people in the right direction, he wars against us, influencing people toward the negative, filling their minds with lies and untruths, encouraging them to be skeptical, cynical, and unbelieving.

Text box:

Dad on gods

God has made man a little lower than the angels, the gods (Psa.8:5). Did you know that there are lots of gods, whom even the Bible calls gods?--The angels! They're like gods to us. In other words, they're divine, supernatural beings with miraculous powers, etc. But there's only one <u>the</u> God, so don't get confused. Of course, the Devil has a lot of gods too, … evil gods, evil angels, evil archangels, etc. But thank God we've got good angels!

The first thing [the Devil] told [Adam and Eve] was a lie: "Thou shalt not surely die!" Then, "For God doth know that in the day that ye eat thereof ye shall be as gods, to know good and evil." That was the truth. And man's been busy trying to be a god ever since. And he's getting closer to it all the time with all these miraculous and marvelous machines that think and all kinds of stuff. He's learning all about the Creation that God has made and coming to know more about God and His Creation all the time--at least through the Creation he'd know more about God if he'd admit it. But he's getting smarter all the time, getting closer to being a god all the time. But of course he's never going to make it, not without the Lord, but we are!

We are going to be as gods, you and I! We are going to be like the angels, and "we shall be like Him"--Jesus! (1Jn.3:2). So we are really going to make it! … In fact, we're already the sons of God! So if you're already God's son, you're like God, right? So you're like gods. You're becoming like angels and you will have samples of that power to exercise when you need it! (From "Ye Shall Be As Gods," ML #1701:8,9,15,16, GN Book 18.)

End of text box.

40. Sadly, because the heart of man since the fall is naturally sinful, it is often easier to persuade a person in the direction of wrong than right. It's easier for a person to become skeptical, cynical and unbelieving than for someone to become full of faith, trusting, and accepting. This is the

nature of man, and is why those who choose God and the Heavenly Kingdom, and who receive Me into their hearts, and choose to live lives of love and sacrifice and service to others will receive such a great reward in Heaven--because they have paid a great price, and they have given their minds, hearts, and spirits to Me, rather than to the prince of the power of this world.

41. Since Satan's domain is the world as you know it, he has dominant control over much of the world and its influence. The media and the entertainment of the world all mirror his propaganda, for the most part. This aids him in shaping the minds of the masses, starting from a very young age, and these mindsets become very hard to alter and break. People become stuck in a rut, a habit, and they are comfortable. They become less discerning of spiritual things, because Satan does his best to keep people bound on an earthly plane. Everything he does has a purpose, and it all ties together in keeping his slaves in subjection to him and his plan.

42. My children who have yielded their lives to Me, and who have asked Me to dwell within them, and have asked for My mind and thoughts to guide them, have great protection against the Enemy. As long as you're surrendering to Me, the Enemy cannot control you or take control of your mind. However, he will still try to attack you. He will use his wiles of discouragement, doubt, condemnation, fear, worry, comparison, self-righteousness, pride, and a host of other similar devices that he knows will cause you to alter your behavior and your way of thinking if he can cause them to take hold. Of course, the only way these attacks can take hold and cause any change in your life is if you let them.

43. If you receive and believe the Enemy's words over My Words and promises to you, then you have made your choice, and then the Enemy gains power, gains control. Then he has a greater frequency within your mind on which he can transmit. You could say that you choose the level of frequency and the amount of airtime that he has available to him.

44. Little choices that you make daily determine how much power, influence and control I have over your mind, as compared to the Enemy. It's not a one-time choice that you make; the level of control that I have as compared to the Enemy can vary from day to day, depending on your choices. That's why some days you are more attacked, more discouraged, more hindered than others. It's often because you have opened yourself to the Enemy or allowed him entrance in some way. Even My most dedicated children have times when they slip up or are off guard and leave a little room for the Enemy to come in. Then soon afterwards they close the door and regain full victory. This is natural, and nobody can be perfect 100% of the time. However, the danger comes when you don't shut the door right away, and then the Enemy is able to get a foot in, then a leg, and on it goes. Then he builds a camp in your mind.

45. When your guard is down or your defenses are weak because you haven't been spending enough time with Me, or you aren't balanced spiritually, or you're struggling with something, or having difficulty yielding in some area, then the Enemy sees that as a good time to try to influence your mind, to attack you. He uses his powers of thought, of influence, of confusion and haze to cloud your mind and twist your thoughts and viewpoints. This is his mind-altering technique. He uses confusion and influence, cluttered thoughts, and his worldly wisdom and doubt to influence your mind and cause you to stray from the simple answers that I have given you.

46. Like a hypnotist, if the Enemy is granted some access to your mind--if you're listening to his thoughts or doubts, words and negativity, accusations, complaints and murmurings--then he has some power or ability to tamper with your mind and your perception of reality. When people yield to the Enemy in a major way, then you see this principle illustrated very clearly. Their mind becomes warped, and they don't see the truth of the situation anymore. Rather, they see things from a perspective that's warped by the Enemy. It's not the truth anymore; it's not even reality. It's a figment of their imagination. But to the people involved, it's entirely real, and it's because the door of the mind has been opened to the Enemy, and he has tampered with their perception of reality, confusing, warping, and putting his own spin on the situation.

47. Just like a person who becomes hypnotized, they can be snapped out of it by someone who knows how to break the spell or the power. I am able to break that spell and bring someone who is confused, deluded, and seeing things out of perspective into full light and truth. But they must be willing to kick the Enemy out of their mind, and they must take hold of the spiritual power and truth that I am offering. If they're unwilling, then they will remain in their delusion, as so many have.

48. As times wax worse, the Enemy will try this tactic more on those of you, My children, who are yielded and sold out to Me. He will try to tip you off your spiritual balance by trying to slip in a fast one when you're not focused or fully on guard, when you're trying to relax, when you're discouraged or fighting a battle, when you're not praying or seeking Me. He will not be able to render serious harm, but

he is able to confuse and warp, and even temporarily alter the way you see things or feel about them.

49. Usually such an attack comes when there is a chink in your spiritual armor. What you need to do to set the Enemy back on his heels is to recognize that you've been ambushed, rebuke the Enemy in the power of the keys, and claim My spiritual protection and deliverance. Claim My mind, My truth, and My freedom in the spirit from the attacks of the Enemy.

50. In some cases, however, you may be on guard and not allowing the Enemy entrance, and he may still attack. In such a case, you have to realize that the barrage of thoughts or feelings that you're receiving are lying vanities. Though you may be thinking the thoughts that he's shooting your way, and even experiencing feelings that are contrary to what you know you believe or feel, hold fast to what you know to be true and resist the Enemy, calling on the power of the keys for deliverance!

51. The Enemy cannot stand up against the power of the keys, and the keys are especially powerful against spiritual attacks and attacks of the mind. They send forth a power that cripples the Enemy in his attacks, because the keys have been so ordained, as a protection for My children in these Last Days when I knew the Enemy's attacks of the mind would increase upon you.

52. Also remember that the keys of the Kingdom and My Word are one. Again, you don't have to try to figure this out in your carnal mind, but know that the stronger you are in the Word, the more powerful the keys of the Kingdom are for you. The more you love and cherish My Word, and the more decisions you make to believe My Word and resist the Enemy, the more the keys will be activated to comfort and bring peace, stability, victory and clarity to your mind. By the same token, if you call on the keys to give you strength to hang on to My Word, it works that direction too. Even if you feel weak or tossed to and fro, but you call out to the keys for strength, they will help to restore your hunger for the Word and your faith. So when I tell you to call on the keys to deliver you from the illusions of the Enemy, there are three main things that you can do:

1) Call on the keys in prayer. Ask for their power to be activated on your behalf. Stand on the promises I have given you.

2) Go to My Word with a renewed desperation. Cling to it, believe it, and reject and refuse all that is not in line with My Word. Your faith will be strengthened and the Enemy will retreat in terror.

3) Rest in My love. Love Me intimately, speak to Me, listen to Me, spend time with Me. Find comfort in My arms, no matter what the Enemy is telling you.

These three things are all part of using the power of the keys, because the keys, My Word, and My love are all one.

53. So you have no need to fear, because you have a greater weapon and it can foil the Enemy's attacks. He is no match for you, and though he is a master of illusion and has power to alter how things seem to appear, or even how you seem to feel, remember that for the most part, it's an illusion, trickery, and lies. If you ever have a question about what is real and what is false, hold the power of the keys against it. Challenge any thought, any feeling, any situation with the power of the keys, using the formula I gave you above, and you will see the truth. What fades away is illusion, the Enemy's attack. What remains standing strong is My truth, lit by the power of the keys!

54. My children, it is important to realize that in these Last Days new attacks will come. Though you have fought the Enemy's attacks on your mind before, this is a new avenue that he will use--the avenue of illusion and trickery. His goal is to try to make you believe, through his illusions, that you have changed--that the way you feel and think about something, and even what you believe to be true, has changed. It is a vile attack against Me and My Word, because he will naturally attack the Word and your beliefs, and the living Words and instruction that I have given you personally. He will try to discredit My voice of prophecy and the leadings that I will give you in these Last Days.

55. When these attacks come upon you, hold up the power of the keys! Challenging every thought and belief and question that comes to your mind, measuring it against the yardstick of My Word, and calling on the keys to make things clear, is a foolproof method of clarifying things and dispelling the smokescreen of the Enemy. I will not leave you feeling hazy or confused when you hold on to My Word and raise high the standard of the keys of the Kingdom. The Enemy may continue to attack, but you will clearly see what is truth and what is a lie. You will then have to decide to hold on to the truth, but you will see clearly and know what is truth, for the power of the keys will make this abundantly apparent.

56. The keys of the Kingdom will become your guiding light more and more as the days grow darker. They will be the light that shows you the way, and they will be your safeguard. They will show you the veracity of anything, for all you have to do is hold the keys up, and what is false will fall away and

what is true will stand strong.

57. I know that might sound overly simplistic for you who battle in your minds or who are tempted with analytical thinking. But remember that it's the Enemy who wants to ensnare you in analyzing and figuring things out, for in that arena he can win! He can discredit or cast doubt on the things of the spirit by picking them apart. And his attacks will only grow stronger and more cunning and believable with time. But by using the formula of the keys, My Word, and My love, you are able to pick him apart and all his lies--not by analyzing, but simply by drawing close to Me and choosing to hold on to the things of the spirit. Then all will become clear once again.

58. Practice now to wield the power of the keys, and test every thought and imagination that comes into your mind. Strengthen your mind by learning to discern the thoughts that come into your mind, so that you can tell which are true and just, and which are the Enemy's wiles and machinations. Don't be led about by your thoughts or your feelings; rather, try everything against the yardstick of the keys of the Kingdom, My Word, and My love.

59. This power will not fail you. The keys will lift you up from the depths and hold you fast. When you are attacked or buffeted, call on the power of the keys. Even if you feel that you're confused beyond hope, or unable to sort things out in your mind, or that your feelings have changed, call on the power of the keys and watch things fall into their proper place again. Keep calling on the power of the keys until all is made right, and it will be, for that is the promise of the power of the keys.

60. One reason the keys were created was to restore everything to its true and proper state. They begin by leading you, My children, through the Endtime, through the Great Tribulation, and through the tests to come, into My Heavenly Kingdom, and back to the perfection of the world as it will be in the days to come. *(End of message from Jesus.)*

(Issues, Part 16 [#3450])