

*“And [Jesus] came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up: and, **As His Custom Was**, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath Day, and stood up for to read.”*  
*Luke 4:16 KJV*



In some countries it is their custom to drive on one side of the road or the other. In the US it is the right; in England it is the left. If you live in the US, you don't have to decide

when you get in the car which, because it is a custom become habit. However, if you went to live in England you would have to retrain your habit. *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”* When we come to Christ through faith in His Word, we become a new creature' a citizen of a new country, and we must retrain our thinking for new customs. We are used to doing things the old way and now must adapt our thinking to the new. *“Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you. That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto Praise and Honour and Glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.”* Faith will seem strange at first, but thought is where the new must begin. *“As [a man] thinketh in his heart, so is he. Let this Mind (way of thinking) be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.”* How do you retrain driving habits? By driving a different car in a different country. You no longer sit on the same side of the car or drive on the same side of the road. You must retrain your old driving habits by doing the new and the same thing works for believers. You can know the driving rules and customs of a country, but you'll be very unhappy unless you do them. *“If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye DO them.”* It was Christ's habit or custom to go to synagogue on the Sabbath. Knowing is not doing. Habits develop from repetitive doing. Just like driving becomes reflex more than actual thought and action over time, so must obedience through faith become reflex over time by repetitive doing. You drive a car, because you wanted to do it, or you would never have learned. A car represented freedom to go places you could not go by walking. It was its liberty which attracted you. Faith gives us the Liberty to conquer death, forever, through Christ. Through obedience we can go places we've never been, and see things we never seen, but only if we obey! What are your customs?

Our thoughts determine what we do,  
Which deeds we often come to rue,  
But if by faith, we walk in Light,  
Our thoughts begin to think aright. –CGP

We must determine to retrain our way of thinking to God's Way of thinking if we are ever to change the customs of our doing. We must study God's Word, so we may begin to identify old ways of thought or habits of thought that are contrary to God's Word. *“Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the Knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity Every Thought to the obedience of Christ; And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.”* The disobedience spoken of here is our own; beginning with our thoughts and continuing to our actions. You revenge disobedience by obeying. You cant pull the mote out of your brother's eye until you get the beam out of your own! *“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.”* You can't reach down to aid another if you are also in the pit.

*“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the Work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.” 1 Corinthians 15:58 KJV*