

*"He that hath **no rule** over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls." Proverbs 25:28 KJV*



Inca Ruins, Andes Mountains, Peru

Even a mouse can enter a city whose walls are broken down, but there is probably little of value left. It is easily entered by any passerby. It takes no effort whatsoever to breach a broken wall. It is open to the elements and provides no protection at all. Persons who are easily provoked have no wall. *"He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls."* Devious persons can easily control those without self-control. Controlling one's spirit is probably the hardest task any human faces. Paul wrote in his letter to the Christians at Rome, *"The good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do."* We call it "pushing someone's button" when they have a trigger that breaks down their wall of control; an Achilles' heel, so to speak. The secret to having a "strong wall" about our spirit is a close walk with the Almighty. A city or nation has peace because they have strong defenses. Why would a thief trouble with a locked door when the next is wide open? *"This Book of the Law (God's Word) shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."* If there is such a thing as "good success," then there must be "bad" success. I can think of a few instances right away. A successful thief, swindler, murderer, gossip, backbiter, backslider, and the list continues. We rarely, if ever, consider financial success as "evil," but Christ did when He said, *"It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."* The same thing applies to a man who cannot control his temper. Prisons are full of violent men whose spirits are "without walls." When thoughts run willy-nilly without constraint, and we act impulsively without first considering the consequences, we open the gates to demon whispers. *"Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked."* Thoughts originate from self, Satan, or God and all sound alike. There's no distinguishable difference between the "voices" of thought. We consider all thoughts our own. Thought's ruler is God's Word. It shows what is good and evil. *"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."* Every thought!

Perdition thoughts will break the wall,
That guard men's souls from sinful fall,
The "keep" of Truth will stay the horde,
For those who love God's Holy Word. ~CGP

Knowing God's Word is essential to controlling thoughts. The content of thought distinguishes origin. If it doesn't measure up to God's Word, Truth, it must be "cast down." You can't start a fire by throwing lit matches into a bucket of water. *"Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word"* Keep your thoughts full with the water of God's Word and Satan's "fiery darts" will extinguish on contact. I can't keep the birds from flying over my head, but I can sure stop them from building a nest in my hair. We must carefully measure thoughts before acting upon them.

"Great peace have they which love Thy Law: and nothing shall offend them." Psalm 119:165 KJV