

The Fallen Mind vs. The Mind of Christ by Dr. Baxter Kruger

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Twl9HPya4SE>

This lecture, delivered by **Dr. C. Baxter Kruger** at a 2016 men's conference, explores the nature of the **fallen human mind** versus the **mind of Christ**. The lecture emphasizes that the core problem of humanity is not God's attitude, but our own internal belief systems that create distance from communion with the Trinity.

The Fundamental Problem: The Fallen Adamic Mind (0:00 - 9:00)

- **Core Thesis:** The fundamental conflict is the **fallen Adamic mind** operating within us, resisting the **communion** that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have established. (0:36-0:56)
- **God's Nature:** The biblical narrative is not about a divine being requiring satisfaction for anger, but about the Trinity determined to bring humanity into their **circle of shared life**. (1:12-1:34)
- **The Danger of Abstraction:** Citing *George MacDonald*, Kruger argues that many well-meaning souls are horrified by their limited or incorrect beliefs about God. (1:36-2:16)
- **St. Hillary's Warning:** Kruger quotes *St. Hillary*, emphasizing that the regenerate mind must be enlightened by the Holy Spirit and should not force its own limited human logic onto the divine nature. The error of the West is "reading our thoughts into the book" rather than receiving revelation. (2:40-3:54)

The Biblical Vision of Union (4:30 - 15:45)

- **Ephesians 1:** Kruger identifies *Ephesians 1* as the apex of Paul's writings. He highlights that we were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world to be in a relationship of **face-to-face communion** with God. (5:14-7:46)
- **Identity and Origin:** Every human person is known by name by the Father, Son, and Spirit. Birth is an act of participation in this divine reality. (7:50-9:00)
- **John 1:1:** John's gospel describes the eternal, face-to-face relationship of the Trinity. Jesus sits in this circle as a human being, inviting us to share his life. (10:08-11:15)
- **Knowledge vs. Communion:** Distinguishing between evangelical rationalism (revelation as information about God) and the experience of communion (God living within the soul). (12:05-14:15)

Genesis 3 and the Whispering Serpent (24:00 - 33:00)

- **The Deception:** The serpent's temptation in *Genesis 3* centers on casting doubt on the Father's trustworthiness and suggesting that humanity lacks inherent value or wisdom—the original **"I am not"** lie. (25:00-26:55)
- **Projection:** Once they believe the lie, Adam and Eve experience shame and project their perceived infidelity onto God, creating a false, fearful image of Him. (27:30-29:20)
- **Ruach (The Wind):** Kruger notes that *Genesis 3:8* describes the Lord walking in the *ruach* (Spirit/Wind), yet Adam and Eve hide. The fundamental tragedy of the Fall is humanity hiding from the presence of the Trinity. (31:00-32:30)

Jesus' Response to Unbelief (38:30 - 47:00)

- **John 5:** Jesus confronts the religious leaders for searching the scriptures while rejecting the living person of the Son. He points out they have never heard the Father's voice or seen His form, because the Word does not abide in them. (39:08-40:35)
- **Overcoming Darkness:** God's strategy to heal humanity is to enter the darkness by becoming one of us, even accepting our rejection (the Cross) to secure a way inside our hearts. (46:20-47:00)

Identifying the "I Am Not" Lies (50:00 - 1:03:50)

- **The Whisperer:** Kruger describes the devil (the whisperer) as waiting for moments of childhood wounding to implant destructive beliefs (e.g., "I am not smart," "I am not worthy," "I am not safe"). (52:00-53:40)
- **Group Testimony:** The session includes audience participation where individuals express their "I am not" lies, such as: "I am not worthy of pursuit," "I am not man enough," and "I am not loved." (54:35-1:00:10)
- **The Goal:** The lecture concludes with the call to allow the Holy Spirit to reconstruct our minds by replacing these lies with the reality of our union with Christ, freeing us from the patterns of shame and insecurity.