

HOW IS YOUR HEART?

Let's take a look into the Bible and see what the Lord has to say on the matter of our hearts --

In the opening pages of the New Testament we find what is referred to as the "Sermon on the Mount" -- the Lord Jesus' message to all of us concerning what He wants us to know about our relationship with He and God the Father.

Matthew 1, chapter 5 verse 8 tells us -- "*Blessed are the Pure in Heart for they shall see God.*" Immediately we are instructed to have a Pure Heart in order to have a proper relationship with God. How is that possible for us in this sin-cursed world today with all the immorality everywhere we look?

First of all He tells us in Chapter 6, verse 21 -- "*Where your treasure is, there will your Heart be also*" -- so, we must determine what takes priority in our lives -- in this case it is treasure -- basically money or riches -- or whatever controls your thinking and ambitions every day.

A verse comes to mind on this matter -- "*For what shall it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul*" (Mark 8:36) -- thus we see a stern warning about accumulating riches at the expense of our relationship with God.

The Bible often refers to the condition of our hearts -- "*reason about these things in your hearts*" (Mark 2:8) -- "*the hardness of their hearts*" (Mark 3:5) -- "*the Word that was sown in their hearts*" (Mark 4:15) -- "*the imagination of their hearts*" (Luke 1:51).

Today the heart is known as the romantic center of our beings and particularly in the commercial realm of Greeting Cards, Chocolates, and Romantic Gifts. But we can't get away from the Biblical center of the real emotions of the heart.

The human heart is far more than a physical blood-pump that keeps our bodies functioning -- it is the center of our emotions and especially in relationship to Faith and Trust in the Supreme Being, the very Creator of the Heavens and the Earth -- and ALL that are in them.

We are told in the Book of Romans -- "*For with the Heart one Believes unto Righteousness, and with the mouth Confession is made unto Salvation*" (10:10). So we see that the Heart is the means of Believing and obtaining the necessary relationship with God for Salvation.

We are warned that -- "*God knows your hearts*" (Luke 16:15) -- whatever we think or say -- God knows all about it -- kind of scary isn't it?

An outstanding verse in the Old Testament is -- "*Your Word (the Bible) have I hid in my Heart (by reading and memorizing) -- that I might not sin against you*" (Psalm 119:11) -- thus providing us the means of control over our actions -- by memorizing Scripture verses that will come to mind exactly when we need them -- to guide through temptations and provide us a sure way of escape.

Dear reader -- take time to seriously consider your heart -- to turn it over completely to God -- to trust Him with every part of your being -- and to have complete Victory over every situation you face today, and forever.

"Trust in the Lord with ALL your Heart, and lean not on your own understanding -- in ALL your ways acknowledge Him -- and He SHALL direct your paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

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