

The Heart

Chapter 9

What has the human heart got to do with righteousness? Well the human heart is what God really looks at when He sees us. He does not look at our appearance or our actions (alone), but He looks at what is causing our actions: our desires and our attitudes.

The heart itself is nothing, but the heart is where our will, attitudes, desires, emotions and our most precious treasures are held. The heart also holds our human spirit, and it is where the Holy Spirit lives while He is in us. The heart is the center of the very being of our soul.

When we became a living soul in Genesis God breathed into us the human spirit, which is based on God's spirit. He made it so that this human spirit lives in what He is calling our heart, our spiritual heart, and the center of our being. And as you should know, that the spiritual controls the physical. So out of what spirit that lives in your heart, you will do, act and say. That is why the scriptures say:

MT 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

The only way to see God is by being righteous, and only those with a pure heart are righteous, thus they will see God.

But as we were saying, that God cares more about the attitude of you heart, what you have allowed your heart to believe and so what spirit lives in your heart.

That is why He makes a big deal about this scripture:

MT 5:27 "You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' [28] **But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.** [29] If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. [30] And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell."

1JN 3:11 "This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. [12] Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous. [13] Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you. [14] We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. [15] **Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.**"

Here He was saying that if some physical part of your body offends or sins against God that it is better to remove it than to live in Hell. But again if the spiritual controls the physical, then even though you remove the physical result, you have not removed the cause. He is saying that you need to take great measures to ensure that you do not sin, for the penalty for sin is death, and this death is not in the grave or ground, but rather it is the death of hell, the final death for all people who are still sinners.

So the whole point of this article is to show how the heart works and the penalty of having one that is not pure and holy, and that you can and must change what is stored in your heart so that you can do what you know you should be doing.

MT 6:19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. [20] But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. [21] **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**"

1TI 1:3 "As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer [4] nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work--which is by faith. [5] **The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.** [6] Some have wandered away from these and turned to meaningless talk. [7] They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm."

Note: Remember that this love is not the feeling, but the attitude of love that is from I Corinthians 13.

MT 11:28 "Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. [29] **Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart,** and you will find rest for your souls. [30] For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

MT 12:33 "Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. [34] You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? **For out of the overflow (of treasure) of the heart the mouth speaks.** [35] **The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.** [36] But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. [37] For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."

MT 13:10 "The disciples came to Him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?"

MT 13:11 "He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. [12] Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. [13] This is why I speak to them in parables:

"Though seeing, they do not see;
though hearing, they do not hear or understand."

MT 13:14 "In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah:
" `You will be ever hearing but never understanding;
you will be ever seeing but never perceiving."

MT 13:15 "**For this people's heart has become calloused;**
they hardly hear with their ears,
and they have closed their eyes.
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts
and turn, and I would heal them.'

MT 13:16 "But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. [17] For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it."

MT 13:18 "Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: [19] When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. [20] The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. [21] But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. [22] The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. [23] But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

MT 15:15 Peter said, "Explain the parable to us."

MT 15:16 "Are you still so dull?" Jesus asked them. [17] "Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? [18] **But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man `unclean.'** [19] **For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.** [20] **These are what make a man `unclean'**; but eating with unwashed hands does not make him `unclean.' "

EPH 1:15 "For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, [16] I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. [17] I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. [18] **I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints,** [19] and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, [20] which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, [21] far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. [22] And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, [23] which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.

MT 18:32 "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. [33] Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' [34] In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

MT 18:35 "**This is how My heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart.**"

Sincerity, honestly, pure motives and attitudes in your heart, from these you forgive him/her, then God will forgive you the same way. You cannot just say words and hope that God will accept them. He knows the difference between sincere and insincere words. Words of life come from the treasures in your heart, not words from your mind. Praying words out of your mind can start to change the attitude of your heart, but they of themselves are worthless because they do not hold life. Remember, when God breathed life into man, it went into your heart, so life can only come out of your heart.

MT 22:34 "Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. [35] One of them, an expert in the law, tested Him with this question: [36] "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

MT 22:37 Jesus replied: " **'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'** [38] This is the first and greatest commandment. [39] And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' [40] All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Sounds a little contradictory, but it is not. The heart is the center of you being, you soul. The heart holds our will, attitudes, desires and our most precious treasures (our human spirit), but our soul holds our heart, our emotions and our senses where our emotions and senses should follow our heart, and not the other way around.

MK 11:20 "In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. [21] Peter remembered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree You cursed has withered!"

MK 11:22 "Have faith in God," Jesus answered. [23] "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, '**Go, throw yourself into the sea,**' and **does not doubt in his heart** but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. [24] Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. [25] And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins. "

This one has had me thinking about its true meaning for along time. "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it..." It sounds like magic to me. Or it sounds like the power of positive thinking, or voodoo. But that is the farthest from the truth. What is the truth, it is that if you are one with God and His word is in you then you can ask what you want, because what you are asking for is what God wants too. So if God wants it then you know that not matter what you see, hear, or feel, you know through faith that what God promises is not empty because you know He will fulfill His promises. You see believing that you have received your request is showing faith in what God promises. And the Holy Spirit in you heart will reassure you that God will fulfill His promises. It is not magic, voodoo, or the power of positive thinking, it is holding onto your faith in God and His promises, both written and as a whisper in your heart through the Holy Spirit.

Ok, so what is it actually, it is the New human spirit that was given to you when you were "Born again", interacting with the Holy Spirit in your heart. It is because of having a clear and pure heart that the Holy Spirit lives in, and so interacting with your human spirit. Because your heart is clean and pure, having a new human spirit, that there are no evil spirits in your heart challenging your decision to have faith in God, and that no evil spirit is talking doubt into you. Instead you have the Holy Spirit filling you with its fruits, such as faith, love and joy, helping you to keep your decision to have faith in God and in His promises. Galatians 5.

This interaction is most important in that with it you can now believe that you have received it, because the Holy Spirit is always witnessing to your heart of it and Jesus, see John 14, 15, and 16.

In short because you have are being righteous and have a righteous heart, because you are being obedient to the Holy Spirit in your heart, God will do as you have asked; also because your windows to evil are closed, and your doors to God are open.

LK 6:41 "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? [42] How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,' when you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

LK 6:43 "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. [44] Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thorn bushes, or grapes from briars. [45] **The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.**

So as you see, whatever you have in your heart is what you will speak, always remember the spiritual always control the physical. So whatever spirit that is integrating with you spirit is what will control you mouth and your actions—which of course is what makes you righteous or not. So if you have evil spirits stored up on your heart, then you will only speak what the father of the evil spirits wills, likewise, if you have stored up in your heart the Holy Spirit, then you will speak things of your father, God in heaven and doing His will. You will then speak good things because God of the Holy Spirit will come out in your actions, words and deeds.

LK 8:11 "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. [12] Those along the path are the ones who hear, **and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts**, so that they may not believe and be saved. [13] Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. [14] The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. [15] But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

LK 12:27 "Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. [28] If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! [29] **And do not set your heart on what** you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. [30] For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. [31] But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

You set your hearts, by determining which spirit will live in it. You have to make the decision to believe and act on that belief in God and the Kingdom of God, see the manuals on the Kingdom of God. You must keep your heart full or set with the Kingdom of God and the ways of God doing things. That is what you set you heart on.

LK 12:32 "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. [33] Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. [34] **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also**

Note: Remember that whenever you see the command like this of "Do not be..." it is an attitude command. It means to consciously decide to act a certain way, regardless to the way you feel or are told by spirits or other people. You have to decide to have faith in God and in

His promises. This is being righteous. Only a righteous person with a righteous heart can pray what they want and the Lord will do it for them.

LK 24:25 “He said to them, **How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!** [26] Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” [27] And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself.”

How do you believe in your hearts? When your hearts are not set to the things of the Kingdom of God, then it has to evaluate all and work it out with your mind, to try to make the decision to believe. If you have not decided to believe all of the things of the Kingdom of God and the way that God does thing, then you will have to make the decisions when you hear it, because you do not have all of your windows closed and other spirits are causing doubts in your heart. That is not righteous. You must remove them.

Note: This is also how you will know others, in that they cannot or are very slow to believe things of the Kingdom of God and the way of God. Sound like a callous heart, or heard heart. You need to pray and ask God to open your heart, to soften your heart.

AC 1:21 “Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, [22] beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.”

AC 1:23 “So they proposed two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. [24] **Then they prayed, "Lord, You know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen [25] to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs."** [26] Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.”

AC 5:1 “Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. [2] With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet.”

AC 5:3 “**Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?** [4] Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God.”

AC 5:5 “When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened. [6] Then the young men came forward, wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him.

AC 5:7 "About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. [8] Peter asked her, "Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?"

"Yes," she said, "that is the price."

AC 5:9 "Peter said to her, "**How could you agree to test the Spirit of the Lord?** Look! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also."

AC 5:10 "At that moment she fell down at his feet and died. Then the young men came in and, finding her dead, carried her out and buried her beside her husband. [11] Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events.

You can see that God knows everyone's heart, because the Holy Spirit lives there or not, either way, He knows what is going on in all, everyone's attitudes, faith, and treasure.

AC 8:18 "When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money [19] and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

AC 8:20 "Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money! [21] **You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God.** [22] Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps He will forgive you for having such a thought in your heart. [23] For I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin."

AC 8:24 "Then Simon answered, "Pray to the Lord for me so that nothing you have said may happen to me."

AC 13:16 "Standing up, Paul motioned with his hand and said: "Men of Israel and you Gentiles who worship God, listen to me! [17] The God of the people of Israel chose our fathers; He made the people prosper during their stay in Egypt, with mighty power He led them out of that country, [18] He endured their conduct for about forty years in the desert, [19] He overthrew seven nations in Canaan and gave their land to His people as their inheritance. [20] All this took about 450 years.

"After this, God gave them judges until the time of Samuel the prophet. [21] Then the people asked for a king, and He gave them Saul son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, who ruled forty years. [22] After removing Saul, He made David their king. He testified concerning Him: 'I have found David son of Jesse a man after My own heart; He will do everything I want Him to do.'

As you see here that this is God's definition of a righteous man. David was called a man after God's own heart; hence David would do that God wanted, for they were one.

AC 13:23 "From this man's descendants God has brought to Israel the Savior Jesus, as He promised. [24] Before the coming of Jesus, John preached repentance and baptism to all the people of Israel. [25] As John was completing his work, he said: 'Who do you think I am? I am not that one. No, but He is coming after me, whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.'

AC 15:6 "The apostles and elders met to consider this question. [7] After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: "Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. [8] **God, who knows the heart, showed that He accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as He did to us.** [9] He made no distinction between us and them, for He purified their hearts by faith. [10] Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of the disciples a yoke that neither we nor our fathers have been able to bear? [11] No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are."

AC 16:13 "On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. [14] One of those listening was a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who was a worshiper of God. **The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message.** [15] When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us."

RO 2:5 "But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when His righteous judgment will be revealed. [6] **God "will give to each person according to what he has done."** [7] **To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life.** [8] But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. [9] There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; [10] but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. [11] For God does not show favoritism.

RO 10:1 "Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. [2] For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. [3] **Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.** [4] **Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.**

RO 10:5 "Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." [6] **But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'"** (that is, to bring Christ down) [7] "or 'Who will descend into the deep?'"* (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). [8] But what does it say? **"The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in**

your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: [9] That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," **and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead,** you will be saved. [10] **For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified,** and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. [11] As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in Him will never be put to shame."* [12] For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on Him, [13] for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

2CO 8:16 "I thank God, who put into the heart of Titus the same concern I have for you. [17] For Titus not only welcomed our appeal, but he is coming to you with much enthusiasm and on his own initiative. [18] And we are sending along with him the brother who is praised by all the churches for his service to the gospel. [19] What is more, he was chosen by the churches to accompany us as we carry the offering, which we administer in order to honor the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help. [20] We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift. [21] For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men."

2CO 9:6 "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. [7] **Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.** [8] And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. [9] As it is written:

"He has scattered abroad His gifts to the poor;
His righteousness endures forever."*

2CO 9:10 "Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. [11] You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."

EPH 5:15 "Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise, [16] making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. [17] **Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.** [18] Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. [19] Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. **Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord,** [20] always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

EPH 5:21 "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ."

When your heart is full of the Holy Spirit, He will sing in to you, but He lives in your heart, so you will hear Him in your heart. Just like the Holy Spirit will whispers the secrets of God and the Kingdom of God in your heart, so He will sing to you what you like in your heart. But again this only happens when your are being righteous. Or you can think of it as when you

are being righteous, then the Holy Spirit will sing things you like in your heart and into your soul.

EPH 6:5 “Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. [6] **Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.** [7] Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, [8] because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.”

2CO 4:13 “It is written: “I believed; therefore I have spoken.” With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak, [14] because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in His presence. [15] All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.”

2CO 4:16 “**Therefore we do not lose heart.** Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. [17] For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. [18] So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”

To lose heart or to get discouraged and allow the windows of evil spirit are opened because of lose of faith in Jesus and with the decision of losing faith, leads to unrighteousness and the loose of the Holy Spirit and then entrance of evil spirits. This will then start a downward spiral to hell. If you are being righteous, you will not lose heart, for the Holy Spirit will encourage you and the fruits of the Spirit will reward you with satisfactory feeling to keep you on the right track—path. So as long as you continue to desire the Lord and keep Him as your treasure, you will stay righteous and one with God. Then Psalms 91 will be fulfilled in that He will be with you. And knowing this you will have faith that He will take care of all things He has promised.

1TI 3:1 “Here is a trustworthy saying: **If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task.** [2] Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, [3] not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. [4] He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. [5] (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) [6] He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. [7] He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.”

An overseer, a deacon or pastor, must be righteous. Again here is a good definition of how a righteous person acts. We are all called to be priests before God, so we are all called to be righteous, and so as this describes, in verses 2 and 3. But the person must set his/her heart to do act this way. How can you do that if you still have evil spirits in your heart? You cannot, you

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must have a clean and pure heart to be righteous and act according, for you act as the treasure is in your heart. No treasure, no Godly actions or righteousness.

HEB 4:12 “For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. [13] Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.”

HEB 4:14 “Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. [15] For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin. [16] Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”

HEB 10:19 “Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, [20] by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, His body, [21] and since we have a great priest over the house of God, [22] **let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.** [23] Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. [24] And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. [25] Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

So what is the point of all of this, it is that you must protect your heart, you must keep it clean and holy, you must be ever watching and ensuring that your heart is open, soft, and gentle. If not then this will be your result.

MT 13:11 “He replied, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. [12] Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. [13] This is why I speak to them in parables:

“Though seeing, they do not see;
though hearing, they do not hear or understand.”

MT 13:14 “In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah:
“`You will be ever hearing but never understanding;
you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.

MT 13:15 “**For this people's heart has become calloused;**
they hardly hear with their ears,

The Heart

and they have closed their eyes.
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts
and turn, and I would heal them.”

MT 13:16 “But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. [17] For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.”

Your life all functions around the condition of your heart. Always remember that feelings are created by spirits. Many type of thoughts come from spirits. So you must protect your heart, if you do not remember then you really need to go back to Volume 3 and read it again. Its whole purpose is to teach you how to do this.

