

Filling The Heart

“If I know my heart...”

- Gn.6:5...heart – man
- Gn.6:6...heart – God

Our heart may deceive us

“The heart is deceitful above all things,
And desperately wicked; Who can know
it?” – Jer.17:9

The Heart

- **Homer:** heart is seat of emotions (“**loving** w. all one’s heart”)
 - Then, seat of moral and intellectual life, including emotions
 - Later, emphasis falls on reasoning
- **OT:** moral center of one’s being. E.g.: evil heart = overtaken by satan
- **NT:** usually figurative: center of life, thought, feeling, spiritual response

I. How To Fill A Heart?

1. Empty heart of all filth (Mk.7:20-21)

- Glass full of water... Jn.2; Mt.12; 1 Pt.4
- 2 Pt.2:14, *a heart trained in covetous practices*
- 1 Co.6:9-11

Changed heart

Changed
person

1. Empty heart of all filth (Mk.7)

2. Set heart on God

- Dt.24:15
 - “Counts on it”
 - “Lift up soul to anything”: wish for...
- David, 1 Sm.13:14
 - Suits or pleases one perfectly;
someone similar to you
 - 1 Sm.14:7
- David, 1 Sm.16:7

1. Empty heart of all filth (Mk.7)

2. Set heart on God

- David's heart 'struck' him (hurt him)
 - 1 Sm.24:5; 2 Sm.24:10
- Aching heart led him to repent – go to God

1. Empty heart of all filth (Mk.7)
2. Set heart on God

3. Open heart to edifying influences

- Ac.16:9-10
- Direct miraculous call to preachers
 - Paul must speak to Lydia (10). Ac.8
 - Lord (not oratory) opens her heart

Open heart: enable someone to perceive; to rouse in one the faculty of understanding or desire of learning.

Lk.24:31-32 – “open the sense of the Scriptures, explain them” –Th.

1. Empty heart of all filth (Mk.7)

2. Set heart on God

3. Open heart to edifying influences

- If this is a direct opening, why send preachers with gospel (9)?
 - How is gospel His power to save (Ro.1:16)?
 - Why is preaching necessary
 - 1 Co.9:16

1. Empty heart of all filth (Mk.7)

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- Why send preachers with gospel (9)?

Parallels: Ac.2:37

If HS directly opens hearts, does He directly close them (Jn.12:37)? Ac.5:3

- Satan: if impulse was holy, satan came...
- Filled the heart: take possession of...
- Lie to Holy Spirit; stole hearts. cf. Absalom: 2 Sm.15:1-6

1. Empty heart of all filth (Mk.7)

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4. **Develop interest in heavenly treasure**

- Mt.6:19-21 . . .

- Lk.16

1. Empty heart of all filth (Mk.7)
2. Set heart on God
3. Open heart to edifying influences
4. Develop interest in heavenly treasure
5. Think on right things

- Precept proves possibility.
- Ph.4:8
- Col.3:2
- Ro.12:1-2

**People change for the better
because their heart changes**

Saul → Paul

I. How To Fill A Heart?

II. What Must Fill Our Heart?

1. Trust, Prov.3:5

- Full of confidence.
- John 14:1, let not your heart be troubled...

1. Trust, Prov.3:5

2. Purity, Mt.5:8

- 2 Co.7:1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

1. Trust, Prov.3:5

2. Purity, Mt.5:8

3. Forgiveness, Mt.18:...35

- 1 Jn.3:12, not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.
15 Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

1. Trust, Prov.3:5
2. Purity, Mt.5:8
3. Forgiveness, Mt.18:...35
4. Love, Mt.22:37

- Whole heart
- Not partial (Rv.2:4), you have left your first love...

1. Trust, Prov.3:5

2. Purity, Mt.5:8

3. Forgiveness, Mt.18:...35

4. Love, Mt.22:37

5. Obedience, Ro.6:17

- “Obedience” w/o the heart is mere formality
- “Baptized” . . . but it doesn’t “take”

1. Trust, Prov.3:5
2. Purity, Mt.5:8
3. Forgiveness, Mt.18:...35
4. Love, Mt.22:37
5. Obedience, Ro.6:17
6. Peace, Col.3:15

- Not unrest (Ac.8:21-23)

1. Trust, Prov.3:5
2. Purity, Mt.5:8
3. Forgiveness, Mt.18:...35
4. Love, Mt.22:37
5. Obedience, Ro.6:17
6. Peace, Col.3:15

7. Word of God, Col.3:16

- Not unbelief: Hb.3:12, Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God

1. Trust, Prov.3:5
2. Purity, Mt.5:8
3. Forgiveness, Mt.18:...35
4. Love, Mt.22:37
5. Obedience, Ro.6:17
6. Peace, Col.3:15
7. Word of God, Col.3:16

8. Sincerity, Col.3:22

- Not double-life (Ps.12:2)

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2. Purity, Mt.5:8
3. Forgiveness, Mt.18:...35
4. Love, Mt.22:37
5. Obedience, Ro.6:17
6. Peace, Col.3:15
7. Word of God, Col.3:16
8. Sincerity, Col.3:22
9. Good works, Ac.9:...36

- Elymas, Ac.13:10

“To my God, a heart of flame;
to my fellow men, a heart of love; to
myself, a heart of steel”