

Guarding The Heart

Heart idioms

- At heart
- Break one's heart
- By heart
- Change of heart
- Do one's heart good
- Eat one's heart out
- Have a heart
- Have heart in mouth
- Heart and soul
- Heart in right place
- In heart of hearts
- Lose one's heart
- Near one's heart
- Set one's heart
- Take heart
- Take to heart
- To heart's content
- Wear heart on sleeve

I. We Must Guard Our Heart

Prov.4:23

- Context: protection – guard, watch, keep

¹With all
vigilance

³It is vulnerable

²It is valuable

⁴It is vacillating

Prov.4:23

Lk.21:34

- Context: protection
- Context: preparation

Duty: watch yourselves

Lk.12:1

Danger: weighed down

Lk.9:32; Ex.7:14

Prov.4:23

Lk.21:34

Ph.4:7

- Context: protection
- Context: preparation
- Context: prayer

Peace of God: inner serenity (9)

Col.3:15; Jn.14:27

Protection of God: military term

1 Pt.1:4-5

I. We Must Guard Our Heart

II. Why Guard Our Heart?

Prov.4:23

Mark 7

1. Out of it flow springs of life

- Heart is a flowing stream
- It is either pure or polluted
(Gn.6:5; Lk.6:45)
- It determines health of soul
Prov.23:7. Mk.7



2. Polluted heart produces polluted life

I. We Must Guard Our Heart

II. Why Guard Our Heart

III. How To Guard
Our Heart?

1. Rely on God's blessings

➤ Nu.6:22-27

- 24: “keep you” – watch, preserve...in covenant relationship with God
- Deliver from . . .

evil generation, Ps.12:7. 1 T.5:22

apostasy, Jn.17:15

1. Rely on God's blessings
2. Remember God's word

- Dt.4:9
- Lk.8:12, Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. . . .
- ...15, But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience

1. Rely on God's blessings
2. Remember God's word
3. Render whole-hearted service

Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul
– Dt.10:12

When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord – Ac.11:23

1. Rely on God's blessings
2. Remember God's word
3. Render whole-hearted service
4. Recognize danger of sin

➤ Mt.5:27-28

1. Look: *to lust* (with lustful intent, ESV)
1 Pt.2:11
2. Lust: heart thought that is sin, and is more sin if acted upon – Ro.7:23
3. Lesson: avoid attire of harlot – Prov.7:10
4. Liability: . . .

1. Rely on God's blessings
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4. Recognize danger of sin

➤ Mt.5:27-30

1. Look: *to lust* (with lustful intent, ESV)
2. Lust: heart thought that would be sin if acted upon
3. Lesson: may dress attractively, not seductively

4. Liability:

- a. Lust convicts (sin) 1 Pt.2:11
- b. Lust coerces (addicts) 2 Pt.2:14
- c. Lust costs (hell) Mt.5:27-30

1. Rely on God's blessings
2. Remember God's word
3. Render whole-hearted service
4. Recognize danger of sin

5. Realize God is Giver of our blessings

- Ro.1:21; 6:17
 - David – Ps.100:4
 - Paul – 2 Co.9:7

Cheerful – emphatic

Most like God

The Great Contrast

Ph.3:20-21

- Strangers in world
- Citizens of heaven
- Born from above
- New creations
- Beloved children

Mk.3:5, hard hearts

- Barren desert
- Citizens of world
- Unmoved by holy
- Stones
- Aliens

Lk.15:15-17