The Heart Of The Matter

Daniel Baker · Proverbs 4:20–27

INTRODUCTION

- I can't understand why people don't get it. God just wants your heart.
- Why do we miss that God wants our heart?
- We're going to talk about your heart and how to guard it.

1 What Is the Heart?

Luke 24:32

- Did not our hearts burn within us when he talked to us on the road while he opened to us the scriptures.
- It is a blend of conscience, thought, and desire. Which at its core can influence or control judgment or action.
- If you can condition your heart to have the right heart that you should have, the one that God wants, these other things will take care of themselves.

2 Above All Else, Guard Your Heart

Proverbs 4:20–27

- Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flows the springs of life.
- Above all else, guard your heart. For everything you do flows from it.
- So from your heart flows everything you do. So your heart's going to shape your actions, right?
- That river that powers this fountain. If it runs dry, that fountain's just a rock bowl sitting up there.

3 The Hard Heart

Hebrews 3:7–14; Psalm 95

- He had many opportunities to do the right thing, and he never did. He always resisted God.
- Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.
- How much of your heart needs to be hard before Satan owns you?
- God wants your heart. He doesn't want most of it or some of it.
- All it takes is a little bit of your heart to be hard to ruin the finished product.

4 A Faithful Heart

Romans 10:8–11

- You can have all the faith in the world that Jesus Christ did those things and not have it affect your heart.
- If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

- If you believe with your heart, it's going to result in righteousness. It's going to change how you act.
- We're told to, when we're baptized, to put off the old man. Those old things you were doing, that were hard spots in your heart, that were chips in the mortar, to put them away from us.
- So our faith should come from Jesus.

5 A Loving Heart

Deuteronomy 6:4–9; Mark 12:29–30; 1 Timothy 1:5

- You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might.
- Look at the lifestyle that's portrayed here and find the gap for me. Find where this conditioned heart takes a day off.
- You can be doing nothing wrong and be doing something wrong.
- If you work with people and you've worked with them for a given period of time and they don't know that you're a Christian by your actions, something's wrong.
- The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.
- When we're able to control ourselves and exhibit that self-control, that's when we know that we're starting to get our heart where it should be.

THE CHALLENGE

Heaven is our goal. I would ask that you make heaven your goal.

MY NOTES