

A Bible Heart Matthew 15:10-20

Do you believe in heart-felt religion? Think before answering.

There is confusion and discussion of heart-felt religion and many have the idea that Christians do not believe in such

Some believe the heart mentioned in Bible is physical heart & some passages do mention fleshly blood pump

2Samuel 18:14 Then Joab said, I will not waste time here with you. So he took three spears in his hand and thrust them through the heart of Absalom while he was yet alive in the midst of the oak.

2Kings 9:24 And Jehu drew his bow with his full strength and shot Joram between his arms; and the arrow went through his heart and he sank in his chariot.

Most passages have the spiritual heart under consideration

The religion authorized by Lord is a religion involving all the heart

What Is The Bible Heart?

Thayer (kardia) - "the center and seat of spiritual life, the soul or mind, as it is the foundation and seat of the thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, affections, purposes, endeavors" (pg 325)

The heart has intellect:

Matthew 9:4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Why are you **thinking evil in your hearts?**

Matthew 13:15 For the heart of this people has become dull, With their ears they scarcely hear, And they have closed their eyes, Otherwise they would see with their eyes, Hear with their ears, And **understand with their heart** and return, And I would heal them.'

Mark 2:8 Immediately Jesus, aware in His spirit that they were reasoning that way within themselves, said to them, Why are you **reasoning about these things in your hearts?**

Romans 10:10 for **with the heart a person believes**, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

Has emotions:

2Samuel 6:16 Then it happened as the ark of the Lord came into the city of David that Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and **she despised him in her heart.**

Romans 10:1 Brethren, **my heart's desire** and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation.

Matthew 22:37 And He said to him, 'You shall **love the Lord your God with all your heart**, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

Proverbs 3:5 **Trust in the Lord with all your heart** and do not lean on your own understanding.

John 16:6 But because I have said these things to you, **sorrow has filled your heart.**

Acts 2:26 'Therefore **my heart was glad** and my tongue exulted; Moreover my flesh also will live in hope;

Has a will

Exodus 35:5 'Take from among you a contribution to the Lord; whoever is of a **willing heart**, let him bring it as the Lord's contribution: gold, silver, and bronze,

1Corinthians 7:37 But he who stands firm in his heart, being under no constraint, but has authority over his own will, and has **decided this in his own heart**, to keep his own virgin daughter, he will do well.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and **intentions of the heart.**

2Corinthians 9:7 Each one must do just as he has **purposed in his heart**, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Romans 6:17 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became **obedient from the heart** to that form of teaching to which you were committed,

Heart has conscience - will condemn or not condemn

1John 3:20-21 in whatever **our heart condemns** us; for God is greater than our heart and knows all things. Beloved, if **our heart does not condemn** us, we have confidence before God;

The heart can devise, be troubled, broken, rebel and revolt, can sing, meditate, and doubt

Characteristics Of The Bible Heart

Note these characteristics

Hebrews 3:12 Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you **an evil, unbelieving heart** that falls away from the living God.

Hebrews 4:7 He again fixes a certain day, Today, saying through David after so long a time just as has been said before, Today if you hear His voice, **DO not harden your hearts.**

Jeremiah 17:9 The **heart is more deceitful** than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it?

Luke 8:15 But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an **honest and good heart**, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.

Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the **pure in heart**, for they shall see God.

Proverbs 18:12 Before destruction the **heart of man is haughty**, But humility goes before honor.

Hebrews 10:22 let us draw near with a **sincere heart** in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Jeremiah 5:23 'But this people has a **stubborn and rebellious heart**; They have turned aside and departed.

James 1:26 If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but **deceives his own heart**, this man's religion is worthless.

An evil, hard, wicked, haughty, rebellious, deceitful & callused heart needs to be changed or converted into a good, honest and pure heart if it is to please God

How The Bible Heart Is Changed

Heart needs to be converted: (1) intellect (2) emotions, (3) will, and (4) conscience. These all must be changed

The intellect is changed by evidence

Intellect changed from believing error to believing truth, if faith is produced in the heart. Evidence that produces faith - God's word

Romans 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

1Corinthians 15:1-4 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

John 6:44-45 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught of God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me.

John 20:30-31 Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

Emotions changed by God's love for man

Our emotions are changed from a love for the world to a love for God when we learn that while we were sinners God loved us and sent Jesus to die for us

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Colossians 3:2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

Change of will in man is demonstrated by obedience from heart

Man obeys Christ when he is baptized into Christ for remission of his sins

Mark 16:15-16 And He said to them, Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

Acts 2:38 Peter said to them, Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 3:26-27 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

For heart to be changed, intellect, emotions, and will, all must be changed and because of these changes, conscience will approve.

Many change intellect - what they believe, but never obey. Others change emotions, but there is more to heart than just the emotions.

Will needs to be changed also. Faith must change intellect, with love changing emotions, resulting in obedience changing will and then conscience can continue to be trained by God's word to approve behavior that's regulated by God's word and condemn all other.

Whole heart must be changed or converted & until that happens one isn't truly converted, because part of heart hasn't been changed.

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