

And if the bugler doesn't sound a clear call, how will the soldiers know they are being called to battle? 1st Corinthians 14:8 NLV

First Love Ministries, Inc.

PRAYER STUDY #184

WHAT IS YOUR HEART CONDITION?

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Matthew 5:8

This people draw near unto me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

Matthew 15:8

And ye shall seek me and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:13

I will run the way of thy commandment when thou shalt enlarge my heart.

Psalm 119:32

Wait on the LORD; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart.

Wait I say, on the LORD.

Psalm 27:14

And they said one to another, "Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us along the way, and while He opened to us the scriptures?"

Luke 24:32

HUMANS ARE TRI-PART BEINGS: *And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1st Thessalonians 5:23*

1. SPIRIT: the real you, that which is dead in trespasses and sin but is born again by the Spirit of God-The spirit wants what is of God and is God conscious.
2. SOUL: mind, will and emotions-The soul wants what is of self and is self-conscious. It is also the decision making center, making the decision whether to walk in the Spirit or in the flesh.

- a. Mind: imagination, reasoning, thoughts, logic, intellect, understanding
 - b. Will: decision, choice, intent, purpose, desire, determination
 - c. Emotions: Intangible feelings such as hatred, love, anger, etc.
3. BODY: the physical carton we come packaged in, our outer appearance, the flesh which is stimulated by the 5 senses

Generally speaking, the HEART, in scripture, refers to a combination of the SPIRIT and SOUL of a person.

SALVATION (The term *salvation* in the original Greek and Hebrew refers to all the promises of God *YES AND AMEN*, **not** just the born again experience.)

- 1. Salvation for the spirit is instantaneous when you are born again.
- 2. Salvation for the soul comes progressively through the renewing of your mind through reading the Word of God.
- 3. Salvation for the body comes in the future when we gain a glorified body at His Second Coming.

SOULISH RELIGION

*Soulsh religion, that is not properly aligned under the control of the Spirit, is often full of arrogance, haughtiness, opinions, pride, boastings, dominance, pushiness, unbelief, disobedience, self-willed, lack of commitment, unfaithfulness, no punctuality, no reliability, no dependability. It is telling God where you are going and what you are going to do and asking Him to bless it, instead of surrendering your life to God's life and asking Him what He wants done. We must allow the Spirit of the Lord to deal with our soul nature so that we can come out as someone who will glorify Christ and release the Spirit of God to people rather than manipulating and influencing with our personalities, popularity, or good looks, which appeal to soulsh thinking. The soul is the seat or source of most of our problems we have in conforming to the image of Jesus. Since it is also the seat of personality, we should be conforming our personalities to the character of Jesus, the pattern SON. It is not that God wants our personalities dead. He wants us to reckon ourselves dead, meaning no longer independent. When you are born again, you lose the right to be your own God, and your spirit should be your authority over your soul. (From Randy Shankle's *The Merimos*.)*

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER AND THE SOIL

- 1. COLD, UNREGENERATE HEART:** *Those by the wayside are they that hear; then cometh the devil and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. Luke 8:12*
- 2. STONEY OR HARD HEART :** *They on the rock are they who, when they hear, receive the word with joy, and these have no root, who for a while believe, and in time of testing fall away. Luke 8:13*
- 3. DOUBLE MINDED OR DIVIDED HEART:** *And that which fell among thorns are they who, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. Luke 8:14 ALSO-Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners, and purify your hearts, ye double-minded. James 5:8*
- 4. PURE HEART:** *But they on the good ground are they who, in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience. Luke 8:14*

WHAT CHARACTERIZES A COLD HEART?

- 1. IDOLATRY:** *Wherefore, God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their bodies between themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed forever, Amen. Romans 1:24 ALSO- Therefore, speak unto them and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD: Every man of the house of Israel that setteth up his idols in his heart and putteth the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face and cometh to the prophet, I, the LORD, will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols, that I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because they are all estranged from me through their idols. Ezekiel 14:4-5*
- 2. DARKNESS:** *But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a people of His own, that ye should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who in times past were not a people but are now the people of God; who had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy. 1st Peter 2:9-10*
- 3. NO SELF-EXAMINATION:** *Examine yourselves, whether you are in the faith: prove yourselves. Know ye not yourselves how Jesus Christ is in you, unless you are discredited? 2nd Corinthians 13:5*

TEST TO PROVE YOURSELF

1. Do you have compassion? *But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them, because they were faint and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Matthew 9:36* Compassion is your pain in my hurt and is motivated out of a heart of love. *By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. John 13:35*
2. Do you do what the Father does? *I must work the works of Him that sent Me, while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work. John 9:4*

WHAT CHARACTERIZES A STONEY HEART?

1. UNBELIEF: *Afterwards he appeared unto the eleven as they sat eating and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not those who had seen Him after He had risen. Mark 16:14* *Wherefore, as the Holy Spirit saith, Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your heart, as in the day of provocation, in the day of trial in the wilderness, when your fathers put me to the test, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore, I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do always err in their heart, and they have not known my ways, so I swore in my wrath, they shall not enter into my rest. Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. Hebrews 3:7-12*
2. SIN: *But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today, lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. Hebrews 3:13*
3. LACK OF COMPASSION FOR OTHERS: *And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the sojourner, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart. But thy refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear. Yes, they made their hearts an adamant stone... Zechariah 7:10-12a*
4. ANGER TOWARD GOD: *But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry. Jonah 4:1*

WHAT CHARACTERIZES A DIVIDED HEART?

1. TRUSTING IN THE ARM OF FLESH: *Thus saith the LORD, Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. Jeremiah 17:5*

2. DECEPTION CAUSED BY PRIDE: *The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou who dwelleth in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high, who saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground? Obadiah 1:3*
3. DOUBLE-MINDEDNESS: *If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord. A double- minded man is unstable in all his ways. James 1:5-8*

WHAT CHARACTERIZES A PURE HEART?

1. FAITH: (Peter explaining why the uncircumcised Gentile believers should be accepted by the circumcised Jews) *And God, who knoweth the hearts, bore them witness, giving them the Holy Spirit, even as He did unto us, and put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. Acts 15:8-9*
2. REPENTENCE: *And tear your heart and not your garments, and turn unto they LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness...Joel 2:13a*
3. HUMILITY: *He that hath clean hands and a pure heart, who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. Psalm 24:4*
4. FULL OF THE WORD: *Thy Word hath I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee. Psalm 119:11*
5. WAITING ON THE LORD: *Wait on the LORD; be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart. Wait I say, on the LORD. Psalm 27:14*

In the name of Jesus, In the name of Jesus, we have the victory!
 In the name of Jesus, In the name of Jesus, Demons will have to flee.
 When we stand in the name of Jesus, tell me who can stand before us?
 When we stand in the name of Jesus, we have the victory!

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord,
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible, swift sword.
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watches of a hundred circling camps,
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps.
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps.
His truth is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat.
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat.
O be swift, my soul, to answer Him! Be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on!

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me.
As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,
While Our God is marching on.

We can almost hear the trumpet sound, the Lord's return is near.
There are still so many people lost, His message they must hear.
Father, give us one more moment, one more day, just one more year-
With God we're marching on.

CHORUS

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
His Truth is marching on!

