

A Theology of the Heart
Student's Guide

I. Definition of the heart

- A. _____ organ: an organ that is responsible for pumping blood throughout the human body; it is vitally necessary for _____ life
- B. _____ meaning: it is the seat of _____ and _____ (New Nave's Topical Bible)
- C. Application for our study: the _____ heart will be examined in detail

II. Two kinds of spiritual hearts: what kind of heart do you have?

- A. A heart that _____ God's precepts, or
- B. A heart that _____ God's precepts

III. The spiritual heart that rejects God's precepts

A. Characteristics

1. Full of _____ (also defined as _____: evildoing that is not only against humanity, society, others, or oneself, but against God.) Proverbs 6:14, 18; 11:20
2. _____ Ps. 95:10; Jer. 17:5
3. Is a fountain of _____ Matt. 12:34, 35
4. Is _____ and wayward Prov. 12:8; 17:20
5. Is _____
 - a. New Testament applications Rom. 1:21; Eph. 4:18
 - b. Applications from Proverbs
 - 1) 1:7 – Despise _____ and _____
 - 2) 1:22 – Love of simplicity and thirst for scorn
 - 3) 1:29 – Hated _____ and rejected the _____ of the _____

- 4) 1:30 – Rejected God’s _____ and despised His _____
- 5) 4:19 – Blind people do not know what makes them stumble
- 6) 7:7-23 – Deceived by a prostitute because of a lack of _____
- 7) 14:12 – Ways that seem _____ can lead to destruction

6. Is _____ Prov. 18:12; 28:25

a. Defined: attributing to self the honor due to Him; it is the very root and essence of sin (New Bible Dictionary, 3rd edition)

b. Exemplified

- 1) _____ Isa. 14:12-14
- 2) _____ and _____ Gen. 3:5
- 3) _____ Esther 3:5; 5:11-13; 6:6; 7:10
- 4) _____ Dan. 4:30-34; 5:20

7. Is _____ 21:27; Prov. 23:6-8; 26:23-26

8. Is _____ Prov. 1:19; 11:24; 15:27; 21:25, 26; 23:4, 5

9. Is _____ Prov. 1:19; 11:24; 15:27; 21:25, 26; 23:4, 5

B. Application from the foxes that spoil the vine Song 2:15

1. _____: the heart that rejects God’s precepts knows more than God does. God hates pride so much that Lucifer was removed from Heaven. God will not allow pride to be in Heaven, so a heart that is filled with only pride cannot know God as He is intended to be known.
2. _____: this is related to pride very closely; it is going beyond truth so much that it becomes a lie
3. _____ and _____: living for self and wanting for oneself what I cannot have. This characterizes the heart that lives for itself and does not care about others.
4. _____: because the heart that rejects God’s precepts is not subject to follow God’s law, this trap may occur and entrap

the unsuspecting person. Ungodly affections and lusts become a way of life and lead to a life without restraint.

5. _____ and retaliation: when one feels wronged, retaliation may set in by seeking for a way to get back and “straighten the matter out” in unimaginable ways.

C. The question for you: does this describe _____ heart, and your _____ right now?

1. Knowing what to do
 - a. Seek after _____ and what _____ already knows about your heart Prov. 21:2; 24:12
 - b. Desire to have a _____ heart Prov. 20:9; 22:11
 - c. Know that God will judge what is in your heart if you choose to reject His precepts right now Prov. 17:3
2. Knowing when to seek God’s _____: now
2 Cor. 6:2

IV. The heart that _____ God’s precepts

A. Characteristics

1. Graciously _____ of God Prov. 21:1
2. _____ John 3:3-7
3. _____ 2 Cor. 4:6
4. _____ in the Lord Prov. 3:5, 6
5. _____ and _____ Prov. 22:11
6. _____ Ps. 34:18; 51:17
7. _____ Ps. 119:10
8. _____ Prov. 8:10; 10:8; 11:29; 14:33; 23:15
9. _____ Ps. 66:18
10. Full of _____ Ps. 112:7; Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:9, 10
11. Full of _____ Ps. 9:7; 97:11
12. Upright _____ Ps. 97:11; 125:4

B. Application

1. What is the _____ of my heart that seeks after God's precepts?
 - a. Does it seek _____ things? Matt. 6:19-21
 - b. Is it seeking _____ things?
2. Am I seeking God's _____?
 - a. Wisdom defined: the art of being success, of forming the correct plan to gain the desired results. Its seat is the _____, the center of moral and intellectual design.
 - b. Wisdom attributed: wisdom in the fullest sense belongs to _____ (Jn. 12:13; Isa. 31:2; Dan. 2:20-23). His wisdom is not only _____ of knowledge pervading every realm of life, but also consists in His irresistible _____ of what he has in mind. (The New Bible Dictionary)
 - c. Wisdom applied: Biblical wisdom is both religious and _____. Stemming from the _____ (Prov. 1:7; 9:10), it branches out to touch all of life, as the extended commentary on wisdom in Proverbs indicates. Wisdom takes gleaned insights from the _____ of God's ways and _____ them in the daily life.
3. How do I seek God's wisdom?
 - a. _____ God's Word Prov. 3:3; 4:4, 21
 - b. _____ God's Word Prov. 6:21
 - c. Be diligent to _____ your heart Prov. 4:23
 - d. _____ your heart to wisdom Prov. 22:17; 23:19
 - e. Give God _____ of your heart Prov. 21:2; 24:12

f. Let God try your heart of _____ motives and intents Prov. 17:3

g. Desire to maintain a pure heart Prov. 22:11

h. Keep God's _____ Prov. 3:1; 4:4, 21

4. Attitudes to keep out of our heart

a. _____ Prov. 13:12

b. _____ Prov. 12:20

c. Wickedness/wicked thoughts Prov. 6:18; 10:20; 11:20; 17:20; 26:23

d. Worldly _____ Rom. 12:1, 2

e. _____ I Tim. 6:11

f. _____ and _____
Numbers 11; Ph. 2:14

5. Attitudes to cultivate in our heart

a. _____ Prov. 15:13, 15, 30; 17:22

b. Spirit of _____ Prov. 4:23

c. _____ and _____ Prov. 3:3

d. _____ Prov. 22:11

e. _____ to the Lord Prov. 23:26

f. _____ in the Lord Prov. 3:5, 6

C. _____ our hearts Prov. 4:23; Eph. 6:10-18

1. Preparation for the _____: putting on the armor

a. The _____: this truth is what Christians live by and keeps every part of our life all together and functioning smoothly as a unit. _____ make our life fall apart; _____ keeps it together.

b. The _____ of _____: this piece protects the _____, and is one of the most important parts of the armor. Since we are measured by what's in our heart, these intentions must be kept righteous and holy. If our heart is _____ to protect against unrighteousness, then

our hearts will stay _____ even when an unrighteous desire or temptation comes our way.

- c. The _____ covered with the Gospel of _____: if a person cannot stand, then he cannot fight, and therefore becomes totally _____ against the onslaughts of the enemy. Our feet light up the well-defined pathway as we journey to God's Kingdom and enable us to walk down the pathway of life without stumbling or faltering.
 - d. The _____: this protects against all that Satan hurls toward us. The shield is used to block out desires and temptations to commit sin. It is _____ that our faith in God and His Son be trusted to overcome the enemy. It's not a matter of how much faith you have, but in what object/person you are placing your faith.
 - e. The _____: worn to protect the head from mortal danger, this pictures our _____ or consciousness. The helmet protects our minds from spiritual destruction and keeps it safely in God's presence.
 - f. The _____ of the _____: the Word of God, our only offensive weapon. We use this _____ in battle against Satan; it also gets to the root of our own _____, when it is properly applied.
 - g. The act of _____: our direct _____ with God, at any time, for any reason.
2. Plans for a heart aflame: preparing for a spiritual revolution (A.W. Tozer's *Formula for a Burning Heart*)
- a. Get thoroughly _____ with yourself. Complacency is the deadly enemy of spiritual progress. The contented soul is the stagnant soul. When speaking of earthly goods, Paul could

say, “ I have learned ... to be content”; but when referring to his spiritual life, he testified, “I press toward the mark.”

- b. Set your face like a flint toward a sweeping _____ of your life. Timid experimenters are tagged for failure before they start. We must throw our whole soul into our desire for God. “The Kingdom of God suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.”
- c. Put yourself in the way of _____. It is a mistake to expect God’s help to come as a windfall apart from conditions known and met. There are plainly marked paths which lead straight to the green pastures; let us walk in them. To desire revival, for instance, and at the same time to neglect prayer and devotion is to wish one way and walk another.
- d. Do a _____ job of _____. Do not hurry to get it over with. Hasty repentance means shallow spiritual experience and lack of certainty in the whole life. Let godly sorrow do her healing work. Until we allow the consciousness of sin to wound us, we will never develop a fear of evil. It is our wretched habit of tolerating sin that keeps us in our half-dead condition.
- e. Make _____ wherever possible. If you owe a debt, pay it, or at least have a frank understanding with your creditor about your intentions to pay, so that your honesty will be above question. If you have quarreled with anyone, go as far as you can in an effort to achieve reconciliation. As fully as possible make the crooked things straight.
- f. Bring your life into accord with the _____ and such other New Testament Scriptures as are designed to instruct us in the way of righteousness. An honest man with an open Bible and a pad and pencil is sure to find out what is wrong with him very quickly. I recommend

that the self-examination be made on our knees, rising to obey God's commandments as they are revealed to us from the Word. There is nothing romantic or colorful about this plain downright way of dealing with ourselves, but it gets the work done.

- g. Be _____. You can well afford to see fewer comedy shows on TV. Unless you break away from the funny boys, every spiritual impression will continue to be lost to your heart, and that right in your own living room. The devil's ideals, moral standards, and mental attitudes are being accepted by you without you knowing it. You wonder why you can make no progress in your Christian life. Your interior climate is not favorable to the growth of spiritual graces. There must be a radical change in your habits or there will not be any permanent improvement in your interior life.
- h. Deliberately narrow your _____. The Jack-of-all-trades is the master of none. The Christian life requires that we be specialists. Too many projects use up time and energy without bringing us nearer to God. If you will narrow your interests, God will enlarge your heart. "Jesus only" seems to the unconverted man to be the motto of death. But a great company of happy men and women can testify that it became to them a way into a world infinitely wider and richer than anything they had ever known before. Christ is the essence of all wisdom, beauty and virtue. To know Him in growing intimacy is to increase in appreciation of all things good and beautiful. The mansions of the heart will become larger when their doors are thrown open to Christ and closed against the world and sin. Try it.
- i. Begin to _____. Find something to do for God and your fellow men. Refuse to rust out. Make yourself available to your pastor and do anything you are asked to do. Do not insist upon a place of leadership. Learn to obey. Take the low place until such

time as God sees fit to set you in a higher one. Back your new intentions with your money and your gifts, such as they are.

j. Have _____. Begin to expect. Look up toward the throne where your Advocate sits at the right hand of God. All heaven is on your side. God will not disappoint you.

k. Closing thoughts: If you will follow these suggestions, you will most surely experience revival in your own heart. And who can tell how far it may spread? God knows how desperately the church needs a spiritual resurrection. And it can only come through the revived individual.

3. Jesus' place in your heart: the _____ or the _____ of your heart? (Robert Boyd Munger's *My Heart, Christ's Home*)