

Lesson 9

Title: "The Heart"

There are a lot of people in the world today who say we must judge things according to the feelings in our heart. They say "let your feelings be your guide." They would have us judge someone as a very holy individual simply because that is the way they appear on the outside. There are people who believe their way is right simply because it seems to be right to them. Some would tell us that we must find our way from within ourselves. Are they right? Is the heart to be trusted? Can we trust our feelings? What does the Bible say?

1. 1Samuel 16:6-7

- a. Did Samuel judge Eliab to be God's anointed based on his appearance? _____
- b. Did God tell Samuel he shouldn't trust in outward appearances? _____
- c. Did God reject a person who appeared to be God's anointed? _____
- d. Does God look at people the way man does? _____
- e. What do people usually look at? _____
- f. What does God look at? _____

I. Read 1Thessalonians 5:22-23; Matthew 23:25-26

- a. Should we flee from all appearance of evil? _____
- b. The very God of peace sanctify (declare to be holy) you wholly (completely); and I pray God your whole _____ and _____ and _____ be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- c. If your heart is right with God, will your outward appearance show it? _____

Although we do not judge people on their outward appearance, we have learned from Jesus that if you clean up your inside the outside will show it. Therefore to present your body blameless before the Lord, how you dress your body will matter. Galatians 6:8a For he that

soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption. Romans 8:6a For to be carnally minded is death.

2. Jeremiah 17:9-10

- a. How deceitful is the heart? _____
- b. Is the heart something good or wicked? _____
- c. Can a person understand the heart? _____
- d. Can we trust in something that is wicked? _____
- e. Who knows the heart of man? _____
- f. On what basis does God reward us? _____
- g. Does God reward us according to what feels right in our hearts?

3. Jeremiah 13:1-10

- a. From verse 10, what does God call people who walk in the stubbornness of their hearts? _____
- b. Are those who walk according to their hearts useful to God? _____

4. Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 20:24

- a. Is a man's way to be found within himself? _____
- b. Who directs a man's steps? _____

5. Proverbs 16:1-5

- a. Are the plans of the heart from God or man? _____
- b. Where do we get our answers from? _____
- c. What will happen to those who are proud in heart?

6. 2Kings 5:1-14

- a. What was Naaman stricken with? _____
- b. From verse 10, was Naaman told to do something very specific?

c. From verses 11-12, was Naaman very angry when he was told what to do in order to be healed by God? _____

d. Did Naaman have his own thoughts on how God was going to heal him? _____

e. Was Naaman healed prior to doing God's will? _____

f. Must we do things God's Way in order to receive His blessings? _____

g. When was Naaman finally healed? _____

h. If Naaman would have gone to a different river, would he had been healed? _____

i. If Naaman would have dipped 4 times, would he had been healed? _____

7. Isaiah 55:7-11

a. Is it necessary for us to forsake our ways and thoughts in order to receive mercy from God? _____

b. Does God pardon freely those who forsake their own way? _____

c. Are our thoughts the same as God's thoughts? _____

d. Are our ways the same as God's ways? _____

8. Proverbs 28:26

a. What does God call those who trust in themselves? _____

b. Who will be kept safe or delivered? _____

9. John 12:48

a. Will we be judged according to how sincere we were or by the Word of God? _____

10. Proverbs 16:25

a. Can a man's way seem right to him? _____

b. Where does that path lead to? _____

c. Is it possible that a person who thinks they are doing right, could actually be doing wrong? _____

11. Galatians 1:13-16; Acts 26:9-15

- a. Was Paul a faithful follower of the Jewish Law? _____
- b. Did Paul persecute the church of God and try to destroy it? _____
- c. Was Paul zealous for what he thought was right in God's sight?

- d. However, was Paul wrong in persecuting the Christians? _____
- e. Although Paul sincerely thought he was doing right, was he wrong in the sight of God? _____
- f. Was Paul actually persecuting God? _____
- g. Therefore, does being sincere automatically make you right with God? _____

There is an old saying that says: "the road to hell is paved with good intentions."

12. Luke 8:4-15: The parable of the sower

- a. From verse 15, those with an honest and good heart will hear and _____ the word, and bring forth _____ with _____.

13. Hebrews 4:12

- a. The Word of God is a discerner of the _____ and the _____ of the _____.

A person who really loves God and His Word will obey what it says without fighting against it and getting mad. How a person responds to the Word of God, in either obedience or disobedience, determines whether or not they truly love God.

14. Read Psalms 18:2, Psalms 37:3-9

- a. Who should we put our trust in? _____
- b. What shall happen to the righteous that wait upon the LORD?

- c. What should we do about anger, wrath, and worry? _____

Jesus tells us in Mark 12:30-31; thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

There is a great difference between loving and following God with all of our heart, and loving and trusting in ourselves with all of our heart. We are to trust God and His word with our hearts, and not to put our trust in our hearts. It isn't in the heart a man believes, resulting in righteousness; it is 'with the heart' a man believes, resulting in righteousness" (Rom. 10:10)

Proverbs 2:1-15

- 1 My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;
- 2 So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding;
- 3 Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding;
- 4 If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures;
- 5 Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.
- 6 For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.
- 7 He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.
- 8 He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints.
- 9 Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path.
- 10 When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;
- 11 Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:
- 12 To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things;
- 13 Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness;
- 14 Who rejoyce to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked;
- 15 Whose ways are crooked, and they froward in their paths:

What has the Lord taught you in this Bible Study?