



The Heart is one organ that is given the most importance than any other organs. The word 'Heart' has also been used to symbolize many other things i.e. love, importance, center etc...

In the Bible too the word is used to represent many things, which we will learn about.

In the Gospel of Matthew, the Pharisees (*Priest*) and teachers of the law from Jerusalem come to Jesus to protest against Him. The Jews were and are people who follow the Word of God without understanding. They make it more of physical practices than a spiritual worship / relation with God. These practices gave birth to many traditions which were followed very sincerely and any one breaking it had to bare the consequence of it. This is today also followed not only by the Jews but even many Christians specially the Catholics.

Matthew 15

⁷*You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:*

⁸*"These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.*

⁹*They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men."*

¹⁰*Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen and understand. ¹¹What goes into a man's mouth does not make him 'unclean,' but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him 'unclean.'* "

¹²*Then the disciples came to him and asked, "Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this?"*

¹³*He replied, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots. ¹⁴Leave them; they are blind guides. If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit."*

¹⁵*Peter said, "Explain the parable to us."*

¹⁶*"Are you still so dull?" Jesus asked them. ¹⁷"Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? ¹⁸But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean.' ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. ²⁰These are what make a man 'unclean'; but eating with unwashed hands does not make him 'unclean.'* "

Here Jesus projects the heart as a place where evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander and other evil dwell.

So what is a heart?

The word 'Heart' is mostly associated with the following:

- 1) **The organ of the body (*pump*).**
- 2) **The center of any thing, situation or discussion.**
- 3) **Love.**

We all know that the heart is an organ which pumps blood to various parts of the body. Many people think that life is in the heart or in the brain which is wrong. Life is neither in the brain nor in the heart. As the Bible says and which is very true; life is in the blood.

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Leviticus 17pt

¹¹ *For the life of a creature is in the blood,*

The main constitution of the human blood consists of Red Blood Cells and White Blood Cells.

The Red Blood Cells live for maximum 120 days and the White Blood Cells live for an even shorter time. Human blood cells are generated in the Bone Marrow.

Therefore, if life is in the blood and the blood changes regularly, than life has to be an on coming process. We can be visualized as baby in his mother's womb that gets his nourishment, oxygen supply and all other supply from his mother through the umbilical cord. We too are all connected to God through our own umbilical cords, which is our spirit.

Hebrews 4

¹² *For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

The bone marrow symbolizes the spirit and life comes from there. Therefore the umbilical cord is like this; God gives life to the spirit - the spirit gives life to the blood - the blood gives life to the body.

Since the heart pumps this life giving blood through out the body it is the center of our lives. Giving your heart to someone means giving the center place of your life to that person, making that person the king in your life. There is only one center, therefore only one person can occupy this place. If you give man (*could be your husband, wife, friend, children, idol etc...*) this place, then man will be the center of your life and your life will evolve around him or her, he or she becomes your god or king. If the main importance of your life is your love for things of this world, than those things have become king of your life and have taken that center place. If you give God this center place, then your life should evolve around God, God's Word and His Kingdom.

So see who is taken the center place in your heart?

Let us study more on the heart.

1 Corinthians 12

³ *Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.*

By the above scripture we understand that if a person says 'Jesus is Lord', that means the person has received the Holy Spirit and also means that the person is saved. Because a person baptized by water and Spirit is saved.

Saying these words verbally does not mean you are saved or have received the Holy Spirit. The scriptures means, these words must come from your heart with faith (*believing God's Word*).

Romans 10

⁹ *That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.*

How can we test these words are coming from our hearts? If we can say these word 'Jesus Christ is Lord' not only when things are okay around us and within us, but also when things are against us and our heart is not at peace. At this time if we can still say 'Jesus Christ is Lord' then we can be sure that these words come from our hearts. If you pass this test, than surely you are saved. For your faith too is in your heart.

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Mark 11:23

"I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him.

Let's also reflect on some other scriptures.

Proverbs 16

²³ *A wise man's heart guides his mouth, and his lips promote instruction.*

By the above scripture we understand that if a person is wise in heart, he will help others by instructing them to good things. **Psalm 49:3** says if our heart has understanding, then only words of wisdom come from our mouths.

Psalms 49

³ *My mouth will speak words of wisdom; the utterance from my heart will give understanding.*

So in our heart also does wisdom and understanding dwell. This wisdom and understanding, manifests through our mouths. Does that mean every person that speaks well has wisdom and understanding in their hearts?

Proverbs 16

²⁴ *Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.*
²⁵ *There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.*

If you understand both these scriptures together, it say that pleasant words may seem sweet to our minds and may even pacify our stubborn worldly character. But these words which we find as good, will ultimately lead us to spiritual death. This is one thing I warn people about, if a person comes and praises you once in a while it is okay, but if that person comes regularly and keeps praising you then be careful of such people, keep away from them.

There are times when people try to speak God's Word and things of the Kingdom of God without the understanding in their hearts. These people made Jesus very upset for they are the people who misguide other to destruction.

Matthew 12

³³ *"Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. ³⁴You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. ³⁵The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.*

Luke 6

⁴³ *"No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. ⁴⁴Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. ⁴⁵The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.*

These people who do not have the understanding yet try to lead others do so, because they have deceit in their hearts. Jesus called them 'brood of vipers'. A viper is a poisonous snake that moves on the ground in a zigzag direction. It ways are never straight. Like the poison of the viper is very dangerous so also the poison of these people, which is their evil tongue, is very dangerous.

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Psalms 140

¹ *Rescue me, O LORD, from evil men;
protect me from men of violence,
² who devise evil plans in their hearts
and stir up war every day.
³ They make their tongues as sharp as a serpent's;
the poison of vipers is on their lips.
Selah*

The wisdom and understanding that needs to be in our hearts should be not only of this world, but also of the Kingdom of God. So like faith, wisdom and understanding of God's Kingdom too dwells in our hearts. It is not only bad things, but also good things can dwell in our hearts.

Before we go more into the good things let us concentrate more on the bad things that can dwell in our hearts. For then we can cleanse our hearts for the good things to remain.

Hurts also dwell in your heart. Most people call it due to un-forgiveness. If you really understand forgiveness, than you will understand hurts and be able to overcome them.

Matthew 6

¹⁴ *For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.*

Does that mean we need to forgive everyone who has sinned against us? What if that person does not repent then still do we need to forgive that person? If 'Yes' than why did Jesus say the following in **Matthew chapter 18**?

Matthew 18

¹⁵ *If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. ¹⁶ But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' ¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.*

Here Jesus speaks about, when a person has sinned against you what you need to do. We need to show that person his fault and if the person repents, forgive that person. If he does not repent then take the matter further with two or more witnesses, if he still does not listen then take the matter to Church (*means to the men and women of God / elders*). After all this, still if the person does not repent, then treat him or her as a pagan or a tax collector.

Treating a person as a pagan or tax collector does not mean to hate them or ignore them but still love them mercifully as God does.

All this efforts got nothing to do with you or you're hurt, when the person has sinned against you, but to do with saving that person from death (*spiritual*). Forgiveness is not between you and the person but between that person and God, you can be a mediator in the process. If you refuse to be a mediator, then God will refuse to mediate between you and your eternal death (*which we were destined due to sin*).

To get a clearer understanding, you need to firstly understand sin. A person sins when he or she disobeys God. Sinning against you does not mean disobeying you, it means disobeying God with you being a victim who gets hurt. Which means the person hurts you in the process of sin (*he or she also hurts God*) and this hurt you should not keep against that person.

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Mark 2

³Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. ⁴Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on. ⁵When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

⁶Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷"Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

⁸Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? ⁹Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins . . ." He said to the paralytic, ¹¹"I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." ¹²He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

What the teachers of the law said was true that only God has the right to forgive the sins of any person. But they did not know this authority was given to Jesus by God. Today we too get this same authority to forgive the sins of a person when the person repents. We do this as representative of Christ, when we are in Christ.

Matthew 18

¹⁸"I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

Forgiveness is given when a person repents, not when the person does not repent. When did our lives change? Even God forgave us only when we repented (*God does bring us to repentance but the decision to repent is ours*).

With regards to your hurt, you can easily overcome all hurts when you remove 'I' from your life. Like I explained earlier, our life is a continuous flow from God, if this flow stops then, where is the 'I' going to be?

God is our provider, although we work yet the strength comes from God, our supply comes from God. Man is just a vessel that God uses to supply. If everything comes from God, where is the 'I'?

When we walk in the righteousness of God then automatically the 'I' does not exist in all that we do. When you realize that you are just a mediator and not the source then you will never be hurt. A postman will never feel bad if you do not receive the letter he brings you, he may be sad a little while for the efforts that were wasted, but he will soon forget. But if you take your own letter and the person rejects it, you will surely feel very bad for a long time.

Hurts are the roots of many problems and at times things get so complicated that you can not understand that the person is behaving so evil just because of hurts.

Hurts also cause sorrow to grow in one's heart. Sorrow due to hurt is bad but sorrow by its self may not be bad.

Ecclesiastes 7

² It is better to go to a house of mourning
than to go to a house of feasting,
for death is the destiny of every man;
the living should take this to heart.

³ Sorrow is better than laughter,
because a sad face is good for the heart.

⁴ The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning,
but the heart of fools is in the house of pleasure.

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In the book of Ecclesiastes Solomon writes; that man should be aware of his purpose in this world and should also be aware of his ability and his capacity of been saved. He should realize that there are many people who will die a spiritual death. Keeping this in ones heart and to have sorrow is not bad. For this sorrow will bring about humbleness and willingness to surrender to the Lord to receive His grace and strength, to work for His people.

2 Corinthians 12

⁷To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

But the other kind of sorrows that come due to loss of things of this world or due to disconnect between people of this world is bad.

Once I was teaching the Word of God to a congregation. I was sharing about how beautiful revelations were, as the Lord had shown me. The Lord had shown me a revelation as a beautiful diamond in the shape of a tear. This diamond was very beautiful, but the shape had one difference. Tears have one point on the top, but this shape had three points on the top. This symbolized that revelations are tears of joy that God (*the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit*) put into our laps and they are very, very precious.

As I was sharing this, there was a sister present there whom I spoke to afterwards, after a very long time. This teaching had struck the heart of this sister and she was thanking me for sharing this with her. But to my amazement the Lord had taught this sister a different aspect of this teaching which I too just loved!

The Lord showed her that tears are like precious diamonds and they are not to be wasted for this world. They should be given as a sacrifice only for the Lord. The world is not worthy of your tears. So do not shed your tears for this world or for the things of this world but only for the Lord, when you cry out to the Lord to worship Him and for the forgiveness of His people.

There is also a sorrow that God gives, when the person goes against His Word. He does it for He loves us and wants to change us or set us as an example of the others.

1 Samuel 2 (*Man of God speaks to Eli the High Priest*)

³¹ The time is coming when I will cut short your strength and the strength of your father's house, so that there will not be an old man in your family line ³² and you will see distress in my dwelling. Although good will be done to Israel, in your family line there will never be an old man. ³³ Every one of you that I do not cut off from my altar will be spared only to blind your eyes with tears and to grieve your heart, and all your descendants will die in the prime of life.

A Man of God in 1 Samuel 2, prophesied about the destruction of Eli's family line. Eli was a good person but he did not take sufficient efforts to change his evil sons. He should have done more than just instructing them.

1 Samuel 2

¹² Eli's sons were wicked men; they had no regard for the LORD. ¹³ Now it was the practice of the priests with the people that whenever anyone offered a sacrifice and while the meat was being boiled, the servant of the priest would come with a three-pronged fork in his hand. ¹⁴ He would plunge it into the pan or kettle or caldron or pot, and the priest would take for himself whatever the fork brought up. This is how they treated all the Israelites who came to Shiloh. ¹⁵ But even before the fat was burned, the servant of the priest would come and

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say to the man who was sacrificing, "Give the priest some meat to roast; he won't accept boiled meat from you, but only raw."

¹⁶ If the man said to him, "Let the fat be burned up first, and then take whatever you want," the servant would then answer, "No, hand it over now; if you don't, I'll take it by force."

¹⁷ This sin of the young men was very great in the LORD's sight, for they were treating the LORD's offering with contempt.

²² Now Eli, who was very old, heard about everything his sons were doing to all Israel and how they slept with the women who served at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. ²³ So he said to them, "Why do you do such things? I hear from all the people about these wicked deeds of yours. ²⁴ No, my sons; it is not a good report that I hear spreading among the LORD's people. ²⁵ If a man sins against another man, God may mediate for him; but if a man sins against the LORD, who will intercede for him?" His sons, however, did not listen to their father's rebuke, for it was the LORD's will to put them to death.

There was a person, a sister I knew, who had a very rare disease. In this disease a virus eats up the nerves of the person, paralyzing them. She had got this incurable disease a few years after marriage. Because of this disease she was paralyzed waist downwards. It was very bad for she had to live her life sleeping on her chest. If she slept on her back, she would get a burning sensation. Even while sleeping on her chest she used to get these sudden burning attacks.

Her husband really took care of her, for she was like a half vegetable. Her life was very sad, she lived in diapers; someone had to feed her and be near her at all times. They also had two small children from their marriage.

This sister used to cry to the Lord, why He had given her such suffering. She was a good person, she had not harmed anybody and she was a teacher (*teaching piano*), who loved everybody. When I went to meet her (*this was more than 2 years back when I just came into the Lord*), she became friendly with me and she used to cry her heart out to me.

Many anointed people came and prayed over her and her husband got every thing done that he could to set her free from this suffering, but all this was of no success.

I too prayed for her (*at that time I was not so spiritually grown*) and I knew that, when I prayed from my heart the Lord answered my prayer. Even after I prayed she was not healed, but the Lord did not disappoint me. There was some improvement in her situation. She could sleep on her back and even sit. I was very happy to see her progress and when I last saw her, there was a smile on her face. I thought this was the start and the job will get completed, but this did not happen. After a few months I heard that the situation was bad and she used to cry and fight with the Lord as to why she was not getting healed? What she had done for which she was punished such a way?

In between I met another brother who I knew before and had got the same disease and was healed by prayers. This miracle was a proof that God does work through prayers, but in her case it was not happening. This went off my mind for a long time. Just a few days back she expired and I asked the Lord what was the reason of her suffering?

The message was very clear. She was a person whom the Lord had called to work in Lord's vineyard. She had a calling of an evangelist (*music ministry*) and was gifted. But she was suborn and refused the call. She was a very suborn person in heart, although she was good on the outside. The promise which would have been her blessing became her curse. But she was used by the Lord even though she did not listen; she became a testimony that will bring fear in people who disobey the Lord, like the curse on Eli's generation.

Evilness too has made its dwelling place in man's hearts ever since sin entered man. The child of man who is in sin and who's curse is not broken by the sacrifice of Christ on the cross; this child too is born with evil.

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Genesis 8

²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. ²¹ The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of man, **even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.**

To break this evil from been pass from generation to generation, we need to repent for our sins, acknowledge God and His authority, Jesus Christ His Son, His sacrifice on the cross and the salvation that is in store for us.

Galatians 3

¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." ¹⁴ He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

This sounds easy but most people have a big problem doing it. It is not that they do not know, even Satan knows God and also knows his own destiny. It is the hardness of his heart that keeps him and us away from God. This hardness comes due to the stubborn nature.

There is a brother who is very gentle and loving in heart. When he just came into the Lord, he used to think in his heart. 'The cause of all the problems in this world is Satan let me pray for him. If he changes all the problems will end'. But we know that Satan's heart is such that it will never change.

Even the people with a hard heart are used by God for his glory. God will make their heart even harder and set them as an example in their destruction.

Exodus 4

²¹ The LORD said to Moses, "When you return to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders I have given you the power to do. **But I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go.**

Exodus 7

¹⁰ So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did just as the LORD commanded. Aaron threw his staff down in front of Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a snake. ¹¹ Pharaoh then summoned wise men and sorcerers, and the Egyptian magicians also did the same things by their secret arts: ¹² Each one threw down his staff and it became a snake. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs. ¹³ **Yet Pharaoh's heart became hard and he would not listen to them, just as the LORD had said.**

¹⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is unyielding; he refuses to let the people go.

The magic done by the Egyptians was allowed by God to harden the heart of Pharaoh.

God will at times allow things to happen that are contradictory to His Word. God does it to test if you rely on His Word or on your sight and your understanding.

Deuteronomy 13

¹ If a prophet, or one who foretells by dreams, appears among you and announces to you a miraculous sign or wonder, ² and if the sign or wonder of which he has spoken takes place, and he says, "Let us follow other gods" (gods you have not known) "and let us worship them," ³ you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. **The LORD your God is testing you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all your soul.**

Other things that keep us from surrendering our hearts to the Lord are our pride and greed.

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When you think of pride think of the puffer fish. It is a small fish but it blows it self full of air and makes its self look many times its size. It is one of the most poisonous creatures on earth. Pride and greed are the most dangerous things that destroy a person fully.

Proverbs 16

⁵ *The LORD detests all the proud of heart.
Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished.*

¹⁸ *Pride goes before destruction,
a haughty spirit before a fall.*

Greed in the lust that people have for things, they may even be for good things. But if the thirst to have it is more than your love for God, this can lead you to destruction. In the start Satan too lusted for things that were good and of the Kingdom of God, but his greed was uncontrollable.

If you lust for good things without control it can harm you. Then imagine what lust for bad things can do to you.

Deuteronomy 17

¹⁶ *The king, moreover, must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself or make the people return to Egypt to get more of them, for the LORD has told you, "You are not to go back that way again." ¹⁷ He must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray. He must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.*

Solomon was an anointed man of God, who had great knowledge and understanding of the Kingdom of God. This understanding did not help him when the lust for women got into his heart.

These are only a few of the wrong things that can get into your heart; therefore we need to guard our hearts well. But to guard our hearts we need to know what a heart is.

A heart as defined in the Word of God is:-

- 1) **The Pump:** The organ that pumps blood to different parts of the body
- 2) **The Center of your life:** The place in your life around which your whole life evolves. This center is only one, so there is only one place, therefore only one person can take this place. Give this place to the Lord and you will be saved.
- 3) **Conscience:** The place where your spirit communicates with the Lord. It is also the place where evil spirits communicate with you, by tempting you and attacking your spirit.

Psalm 4

² *How long, O men, will you turn my glory into shame?
How long will you love delusions and seek false gods?
Selah*

³ *Know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;
the LORD will hear when I call to him.*

⁴ *In your anger do not sin;
when you are on your beds,
search your hearts and be silent.
Selah*

- 4) **The Human Nature:** It is the store house of the good and bad things (*character*) that you hold. What you hold here defines your being and your destination.

The Heart

Mark 7

²⁰And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man.

²¹For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,

²²Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness:

²³All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

- 5) **The Mind:** It is the place where the knowledge, wisdom and understanding dwell. It is also the place in you where the Word of God too dwells.

Romans 10

⁵Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." ⁶But the righteousness that is by faith says: "**Do not say in your heart**, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷"or 'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

Coming to the good things that can also be in your heart, like we studied before; faith, wisdom, knowledge & understanding.

The others good things include fear of the Lord, your love for God and determination to walk in God's ways

Deuteronomy 10

¹² And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

Your determination to walk according to God's way will only be there if you have the Word of God and the Commandment of God dwelling in your heart.

When the Lord gave Moses the Ten Commandments, the Lord put them on two stone tablets. Was it because the Lord had large hand writing that it did not fit in one tablet therefore needed two?

Exodus 24

¹² The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and commands I have written for their instruction."

Exodus 25

¹⁸ When the LORD finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two tablets of the Testimony, the tablets of stone inscribed by the finger of God.

Exodus 32

¹⁵ Moses turned and went down the mountain with the two tablets of the Testimony in his hands. They were inscribed on both sides, front and back. ¹⁶ The tablets were the work of God; the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets.

Why is it written as the tablets of Testimony?

Even the second time the Ten Commandments were given, it was still on two tablets.

Exodus 34 [KJV]

¹And the LORD said unto Moses, **Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first: and I will write upon these tables the words that were in the first tables, which thou brakest.**

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⁴And he hewed two tables of stone like unto the first; and Moses rose up early in the morning, and went up unto mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand the two tables of stone.

The tablets of Testimony or the Ten Commandments were two; one represented God and the other man. In the Commandments the word 'shall' is used, this is not a coincident.

For example the first Commandment

Exodus 34 [KJV]

¹⁴For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:

The word shall (*shalt*) as defined in the Oxford Dictionary

Shall

• **modal verb** (*3rd sing. present shall*) **1** (*in the first person*) expressing the future tense. **2** expressing a strong assertion or intention. **3** expressing an instruction or command. **4** used in questions indicating offers or suggestions.

— USAGE Strictly speaking **shall** should be used with **I** and **we** to form the future tense, as in *I shall be late*, while **will** should be used with **you**, **he**, **she**, **it**, and **they**, as in *she will not be there*. This, however, is reversed when strong determination is being expressed, as in *I will not tolerate this*, and *you shall go to school*. In speech the distinction tends to be obscured, through the use of the contracted forms **I'll**, **she'll**, etc.

The word **shall** is suppose to be used with **I** and **we**. The Ten Commandments was a testimony of a covenant between two persons; the Lord and man, therefore **shall** is considered with **we**.

Exodus 34 [KJV]

¹⁰And he said, Behold, I make a covenant: before all thy people I will do marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation: and all the people among which thou art shall see the work of the LORD: for it is a terrible (marvelous) thing that I will do with thee.

The Commandments were given to Moses by the Lord (*the Son of God*) and the Commandments were binding for both. God the Father is God even for the Lord (*the Son of God and His Holy Spirit*). When '**shall**' is used in any scripture, realize this; since it is between the Lord and man then the Lord will enable you to do it. You do not need to put a lot of efforts to do it; you need to just be party to it by surrendering to the other entity; which is the Lord.

So every promise that has the word **shall** consider it done, for the Lord is party to it (*that's one reason I love reading the KJV*).

Now, the tablets were two; before Jesus, God was separate and man was separate. But after Jesus, when we receive the Holy Spirit, God comes in us and we become one with the Lord. Since it is not seen, the joining is from the inside.

If you take the two tablets and join them down at the bottom at 90 degrees (*right angle or Righteous angle*, one running up and other parallel) than you get the shape of a heart. Now cover it with the precious blood of Jesus, for it was because of His sacrifice that we received new life. Now you will get a living heart. So the Commandments are now written not on any stone but in your heart, that too by the finger of God (*the Holy Spirit*).

The Heart



Therefore when you keep bringing up scriptures to you mind (*heart*) and keep reflecting on them. And you start putting them into your life; you will grow in the understanding of them.

Deuteronomy 10

¹² And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

You need to have the fear of the Lord, love for God, willingness to surrender to God and desire to serve Him. All these should also dwell in your heart.

Joshua 2

¹⁰ We have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. ¹¹ When we heard of it, our hearts melted and everyone's courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.

Since the hearts of these Israelites were right they entered the Promise Land which their fathers did not (*leaving for two*).

Coming to another beautiful aspect of the heart.

Genesis 24

⁴² "When I came to the spring today, I said, 'O LORD, God of my master Abraham, if you will, please grant success to the journey on which I have come. ⁴³ See, I am standing beside this spring; if a maiden comes out to draw water and I say to her, "Please let me drink a little water from your jar," ⁴⁴ and if she says to me, "Drink, and I'll draw water for your camels too," let her be the one the LORD has chosen for my master's son.'

⁴⁵ "Before I finished praying in my heart, Rebekah came out, with her jar on her shoulder. She went down to the spring and drew water, and I said to her, 'Please give me a drink.'

Abraham's servant was given a task to do, of which he did not have any idea. So he prayed to the Lord for help and immediately the Lord answered. This pray he made in his heart.

If you pray and your heart is not part of that prayer then, you prayer will not be answered. Even if you are opening your mouth and praying aloud, your prayer has to be said in or should come from your heart, for God dwells in your heart.

Exodus 3

¹ Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. ³ So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."

The Heart

⁴ *When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!"*

And Moses said, "Here I am."

⁵ *"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."* ⁶ *Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob."* At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

When Moses stood on the ground where God's presence was there, Moses was told to remove his sandals. Why did God tell Moses to remove his sandals, was he physically dirtying the place?

This place was in the mountain region, where Moses had taken his sheep to feed. Moses must have had the same mud or sand under his feet, that was there in the place where there was a fire in the bush. Having the sandals on or removing them off would not have made any hygienic difference to God. For even when Jesus ate food, He was not so concerned about the hygiene of body (*washing of hands; it does not mean you do not wash your hands before you eat*), but of the heart.

When the priest entered the Tabernacle or came before the altar they were supposed to wash their hands and feet or else they would die.

Exodus 30

¹⁷ *Then the LORD said to Moses, ¹⁸ "Make a bronze basin, with its bronze stand, for washing. Place it between the Tent of Meeting and the altar, and put water in it. ¹⁹ Aaron and his sons are to wash their hands and feet with water from it. ²⁰ Whenever they enter the Tent of Meeting, they shall wash with water so that they will not die. Also, when they approach the altar to minister by presenting an offering made to the LORD by fire, ²¹ they shall wash their hands and feet so that they will not die. This is to be a lasting ordinance for Aaron and his descendants for the generations to come."*

Even today our Islamic and Jewish brothers do the same thing before worship without understanding the meaning. Washing of hands and feet has nothing to do with hygiene it has to do with sins.

Washing your hands means, giving up your sinful ways of living. Before you come before the Lord to worship Him you have to make a decision of giving up your sinful ways of life. As for the washing of the feet it was for getting your sins forgiven. When a person walks through life he picks up sins knowingly or often unknowingly. That means you need to repent for the sins that you know you have committed, reconcile with the being you have sinned against (*God or man*). And you also need to get the sins that you have committed without your knowledge, forgiven by the Lord. How does one ask for forgiveness for some thing that they are not aware of?

For this the Lord gave us the 'Sacrifice of Guilt' or the 'Sacrament of the Holy Communion' and also called the 'Daily Sacrifice'. When we receive the Holy Communion or the Body of the Lamb of God, we do so as sinners with repentance in our hearts for the sins we do not know we have committed (*do not abuse it but do it with respect or else you pay a heavy price*).

During the Last Supper, Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. But washing of hands He did not. They had to do the washing of hands themselves.

Moses was told to remove his sandals, as a symbolic gesture of leaving his sinful nature behind, before coming in the presence of the Lord. Our hearts are like a temple in which the Lord dwells and where we can worship Him. But before we come into His presence to worship Him we have to get rid of our sinful nature, wash our hands and feet, to really feel the Lord's presence.

Your heart is the most precious thing that you can give to the Lord, where He can dwell in and work. The choice and decision over your heart is given to you by the Lord. If the Lord has called you His child and you do not change your heart unto Him, then He will touch your circumstances and bring you to a testimony.

The Heart

There is a preacher (*a jovial person*) who teaches in a lighter way. He with another brother was talking about testimonies.

Brother said to the preacher: You know this man has a great testimony, a great miracle has happened in his life. He fell of the second floor balcony and still did not receive any serious injuries, God saved him and now he testifies the Lord as his God.

Preacher: That is nothing I have a greater testimony.

Brother: What! Did you fall from the third floor?

Preacher: No.

Brother: Was it the fourth floor?

Preacher: No.

Brother: Then, which floor was it?

Preacher: I did not need God to push me off any floor, to testify Him as my Lord and God. That is a greater testimony.

There are three types of testimonies: **'Blessed'**, **'Saved'** and **'Set as an Example'**.

'Blessed' testimonies are when your heart is with the Lord (*or the Lord is in the center of your heart*) and the Lord is in-charge of your being and your surrounding. Here everyday great things will happen with you and around you which will testify the Lord is with you.

'Saved' testimonies are when the Lord has called you 'His child' but you do not recognize Him as your Father and follow Him. He then has to touch your circumstances and bring a change of heart. Most of us have started with this testimony.

'Set as an example' testimonies are when, due to the hardness of your heart you refuse to listen to the Lord and the Lord hardens your heart even more. Then the Lord will make an example of you by bring destruction in your life, to bring fear in the hearts of others to prove Himself as 'Living' and 'God'.

Your testimony will be good or bad will be based on your decision over your heart.

Every thing the Lord has done and will do for you to receive your salvation. But there is only one thing which the Lord asks of you to do which is; to keep your heart good. This means to keep God as the King of your heart, keep His Word in your heart, meditating on it, understanding it and live according to the understanding. Every thing else howsoever difficult it may be, the Lord will help you to overcome. Even with these, the Lord will help you with but yet it's you who needs to take the initiative.

God Bless