

Pastor Ron Case
8/18/24

“Heart Condition”

“Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the heart.” (Proverbs 21:2)

What Matters to God

1 Samuel 16:7 – “But the LORD said to Samuel, ‘Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.’”

1 Peter 3:3-4 – “Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel— rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.” (NKJV)

Mark 3:5 – “And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, ‘Stretch out your hand.’ He stretched it out, and his hand was restored.”

Hazardous Hardness of Heart

Hebrews 3:12-14 – ¹² “Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴ For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.”

Mark 16:14 – “Afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.”

Terminal Heart Conditions

Genesis 6:5-7 – ⁵ “The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶ And the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. ⁷ So the LORD said, ‘I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them.’”

2 Timothy 3:1-4 – ¹ “But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. ² For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴ treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God”

Heart-Health Checklist:

(1) Guard Your Heart

Proverbs 4:23 – “Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.” (NLT)

(2) Be Aware of & Counteract Heart Drift

Proverbs 23:19 – “Hear, my son, and be wise, and direct your heart in the way.”

(3) Get Some Help

Psalms 62:8 – “Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.”

Psalms 141:4-5 – ⁴ “Do not let my heart incline to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with men who work iniquity, and let me not eat of their delicacies! ⁵ Let a righteous man strike me—it is a kindness; let him rebuke me—it is oil for my head; let my head not refuse it...”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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