

GOD IN THE INNER LIFE OF MAN - THE HEART AND ITS ISSUES

The book of Proverbs has much to say about the heart of man, and the things which come out of it. Read the following to discover some of these things:

A. The Heart As the Center of Man's Life:

1. What is God's basic command to man concerning his heart? Proverbs 4:23

2. What does the Lord do to the heart of man? Proverbs 17:3b

3. What does the Lord use in doing this? Proverbs 20:27

B. The Issues of the Heart in Thoughts and Actions:

1. What do a man's thoughts reveal about him? Proverbs 23:7a

2. What is found within the righteous man? Proverbs 12:5, 14:33

3. What does this cause him to do? Proverbs 10:8

4. What is found in the heart of the wicked man? Proverbs 12:20, 6:14a

1. What does this cause him to do? Proverbs 6:14b, c, 18

C. The Issues of the Heart in Words:

1. What determines what a man says? Proverbs 16:23, 15:7

2. Who will be able to speak as he should? Proverbs 16:23, 21, 22:11, 15:2, 10:31-32

3. What will be the results of wise words? Proverbs 15:4a, 10:11a, 12:18b, 14:3b, 12:14a, 10:21a

4. To what are such words compared? Proverbs 25:11, 20:15b, 16:24a

5. Who will not speak as he should? Proverbs 15:7b, 14b, 24:-12, 10:11b, 32b

6. What will be the results to such people? Proverbs 10:13b, 31b, 13:3b

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7. Is it possible to speak too many words? Proverbs 10:19, 17:28

8. What four rules should one follow in giving answers? Proverbs 18:13, 15:28a, 1:23b

9. What kind of words does God especially speak against? Proverbs 29:5, 28:25, 26:28, 20:17, 10:18

10. From what kind of words should one refrain? Proverbs 27:2, 25:27

D. The Issues of the Heart in Attitudes and Feelings:

1. What can a man's heart help him to do? Proverbs 16:32, 15:18, 14:29, 19:11, 17:27

2. What does a man's heart sometimes cause him to believe? Proverbs 14:12, 12:15, 16:2

3. What is the cure for this? Proverbs 3:5-6 (See also 28:26)

4. What qualities does God want man to cultivate in his heart? Proverbs 18:12b, 16:19, 3:34b, 22:4

5. What will the opposite of this cause? Proverbs 16:18, 18:12, 29:23, 11:2, 21:4, 24

E. The Effect of the Heart on Health and Happiness:

1. What will be the effect of a merry (or glad and cheerful) heart? Proverbs 15:13, 15, 17:22a

2. What will be the effect of a sorrowful, heavy heart, and a broken spirit? Proverbs 15:13b, 12:25a, 17:22b

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Is there anything I think, do, say, believe, or feel which does not begin in my heart? Proverbs 4:23

2. Are my heart and all that comes from it pleasing to God? Why, or why not?

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