

The Hearing Heart

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INTRODUCTION

“Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled” (Titus 1:15).

“But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience. No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light. For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad. Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have” (Luke 8:15-18).

This booklet deals with the reality of God’s provision to counteract the tremendous impact

of Satan's government, which we encounter every day.

The principles presented here offer to every individual the possibility of a life without emotional problems, free from the onslaught of moods, insecurity, fear, and guilt. As we grow in the reality of it, we can experience a life full of happiness, poise, and peace; a life that can wait upon God and not be anxious or reactionary. We have the possibility of a life of never lusting, a life that doesn't have to go back to sublimating with alcohol or drugs.

Through the Word of God you will see why some people never experience real peace, even though they are part of a Finished Work ministry, or why some can't stop criticizing and complaining. You will see how a person can be overwhelmed with the work of God, only to become distracted and eventually withdraw.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. As our hearts are established in the ways of God and His thoughts toward us, we will be victorious and will "bring forth fruit with patience."

Chapter One

THE PROCESSES OF THE HEART

The essence of a man—who he is—is not defined by outward characteristics (what he looks like or what he does). Rather, it is found in the inward man where thoughts are received, processed, and established. Physically, these operations occur in the left and right lobes of the human brain. For our purposes in spiritual application we will refer to channels A, B, and C.

Channel A is located in the left lobe. This channel is the perceptive area, the staging area where thoughts are received, and we become aware of information and stimulated by knowledge and events. Here, information is processed for future decisions and is the basis for determining self-essence.

Channel B is in the upper part of the right lobe. It contains the human spirit, the part of a Christian that makes him God-conscious and gives him the content and substance of God's

mind when he mixes faith with the objective Word of God (Ezekiel 36:26-27). Here, natural thoughts are crucified (Galatians 5:24).

Channel C, in the lower part of the right lobe, contains the heart and the soul with its five parts. The heart is the premise for all motivations, the basis for all operational behavior, and the supreme communication center for all thoughts, feelings, and decisions. It is the totality of man's inward and outward nature and characteristics.

For the unsaved, the human spirit is non-functional, due to Adam's Fall. However, even the unsaved man has a measure of God-consciousness through moral light (John 1:9; Romans 1:21). Everything he receives goes directly from channel A to channel C, which determines who he is in his self-essence, without the benefit of input from the Holy Spirit in channel B.

People constantly receive stimulation from many directions. These stimuli determine, guide, and produce their effects in the heart. Scores of believers have processed many messages from the Word of God in channel A, but have never gone beyond that channel to appropriate truth in practicing Christian doctrine. They are aware of truth. They have the stimulation of truth, the

information of knowledge. But, these people do not experience the application of truth in life through a spiritual IQ (Matthew 13:13). They may be privileged in the sequence of their methodical understanding of human realities without the finalization of God's viewpoint. Their wisdom is from below (James 3:15).

On the other hand, every Christian can experience a beautiful process of thinking. First of all, he has the indwelling Holy Spirit. Secondly, his human spirit has been quickened and now functions in channel B. When the Word of God enters into channel A, he mixes with it a living faith in God's person, humility toward His Word, and meekness toward the Spirit, making it possible for knowledge and information to penetrate his human spirit (Hebrews 4:2). His human spirit, which makes him conscious of God's thoughts and gives the content of God's mind, then brings into his heart the wonderful provision that he has received. His heart is the substance for the mentality of his soul.

Being Made Whole

Every person can be made whole. One day, I heard that I was a sinner. I knew it because my heart said it was so. My conscience, through

moral light, revealed to me that I was a sinner. Then, I heard the Gospel. I heard that Jesus Christ died, shed His blood, was buried, rose again and went to heaven. At first, I was only aware of these truths. Then, the Holy Spirit brought in conviction. I perceived it.

Next, I said, "Lord, I am weak and frail, but I accept you as my personal Savior." I mixed faith with what I heard and, for the first time, it was transferred from channel A to channel B. My human spirit was quickened (Ephesians 2:1) and the Holy Spirit began to witness with my human spirit, bringing new life into my heart, in channel C. Then, my heart was ready to process all of God's thoughts into the mentality of my soul.

When a person receives Christ, he becomes a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17) and walks in the newness of life (Romans 6:4). *New* is *kainos* in the Greek, the word means that there is not one single thing that is old in it.

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4).

Chapter Two

THE CAPACITY OF THE HEART

“My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways” (Proverbs 23:26).

“Having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart” (Ephesians 4:18).

The heart is where the entire process and operation of human life prevails. It takes over the structure and mentality of the soul and produces a capacity for progressive thinking in the mind.

The emotions would have no capacity at all, except to reflect and respond to what the heart feeds them. They have no capacity in themselves; they respond to what the heart feeds them. Is it any wonder that Proverbs says, “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life” (Proverbs 4:23)? *Keep* is a Qal imperative. In the Hebrew grammar, the Qal is the simplest form of the verb. Here in this context, it means

to guard. The imperative is a command for the believer to keep or guard the precise categories of truth that have been processed by his human spirit into his heart. This begins to produce a capacity for the emotions and the body to become completely whole.

“The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge” (Proverbs 15:14a).

“The heart knoweth his own bitterness; and a stranger doth not intermeddle with his joy” (Proverbs 14:10).

“O ye simple [those who cannot think with God], understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart” (Proverbs 8:5). In the original language, the last part of this verse commands us to be of an understanding heart, which produces a divine experience. Truly, out of the heart proceeds every issue of life!

The Structure of the Conscience

“Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled” (Titus 1:15).

The conscience is made up of a memory and a vocabulary based on experience with information and knowledge. The conscience defines a

person's self-image. It measures the guilt, fear, or happiness experienced in the soul.

I have had many calls and letters from people who have been molested, raped, and abused. They tell me they cannot get victory over the effects of these terrible experiences. They feel defeated. What has happened to them? The incident of being abused entered into channel A. It rushed into the memory of their consciences and began to determine how much value they placed on themselves and on others. The incident became an experience, through which they formed a negative vocabulary.

The Gospel came into the lives of many of these people. They received Christ and sensed His forgiveness. They were aware of forgiveness and perceived cleansing from God positionally. But, because their human spirits were not activated by faith, categories of doctrine were not able to convert their souls. So, for those who had been molested, the experience of being molested remained in their consciences, bringing fear, pain, sorrow, and guilt. Because of this kind of experience, some turned to drugs and liquor, which affect the chemicals of the body and defile the emotions. This produces a demand for even more chemical stimulation to handle future

problems.

Others entered into self-condemnation. Still, others entered into intellectual pursuits, taking on the challenges of life with their high IQ's, while a poor self-image remained with them.

Many of these people are saved and attend church faithfully, but for years they have lived only in partial victory. Their consciences have never been dealt with to bring new experiential processes in their hearts.

A young man, who is now healed from his experiences, gave me permission to tell his story. He was abused, beaten, and molested by his brother and his conscience was filled with memories of being beaten and molested. His soul took on infections. The sorrow of his heart, which was the wrong kind of sorrow, began to curse his soul (Lamentations 3:63-66).

When a person is cursed by this type of sorrow, it affects his self-image. His heart is filled with unhappiness, his emotions have no capacity to respond to truth. He can strive in his emotions and try to live up to someone else's Christian standards—entering into a works program. He can try any number of things, but the experience remains in the memory of the conscience. Then, what is in the conscience is reflected in

channel C, so that the mentality of his soul takes on the continual experience of being abused. It may be suppressed in the subjective part of the mind, but the experience is still there, locked up in the subjective part of his self-essence.

As a man thinks in his heart, so is he (Proverbs 23:7a). In this verse, God is not only referring to the conscious part of the mind. He's also speaking of the unconscious mind and its undefinable stimulation, processed in the mentality of the soul. Counselors try to address the unconscious; wisdom from below attempts to change it. Many avenues, including education, are explored in an effort to produce a change. While this stimulation may make a difference for a time, it can never change the heart. A person rushes into works and human good, but without a changed heart, the past is still there as a part of the self-image.

A woman once called me and said she was raped by her father, her brother, and her uncle. Father, brother, and uncle! What tragic things she must have encountered. She was born again, but still infected and very deeply hurt. *Her heart needed to hear and be healed.*

There are those who have had secret affairs. Others have fallen into homosexuality and les-

bian activities. But there is something locked inside of their subjective minds. It is deep in their memory. No matter how liberal they become, they cannot erase it because God didn't design them to be immoral or perverted. We are designed to be healthy, well, and free.

God's Design for Deliverance

Here's the way a person can be delivered. When Word of God is preached, it enters the mind, then the Holy Spirit transfers it into the heart, by way of the human spirit. It is God's perfect, categorical design for illuminating a man's soul (Psalm 119:105). Suddenly, the person confesses his sin, and he's instantly forgiven because Jesus bore that sin upon His body at Calvary. This is the glorious Gospel! The Word becomes quick and powerful in his life. One moment he's aware of some truth; the next moment he is mixing it with his faith in Jesus Christ. When this happens, Truth goes into his human spirit, enters the heart, and begins motivating and energizing him to live by every word of God.

What has happened? The heart has become the seat of God's viewpoint, where He is present in the process of the operation of grace. It has

become a place where the believer can begin to initiate faith, respond in mercy, and apply God's nature in the reality of the details of life.

Chapter Three

THE FIXED HEART

“He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD. His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies” (Psalm 112:7-8).

“My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise” (Psalm 57:7).

“The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes” (Psalm 19:7-8).

A person hears that God loves him. He perceives it, he's aware of it, and he mixes faith with it. Oh, how he needs it! The Holy Spirit then brings in the character and power of that love through his human spirit. It goes down into his heart. The very motive of his heart now becomes loving himself. There is no condemna-

tion, for the blood of Jesus Christ has gone into his conscience and changed his frame of reference. Jesus Christ now becomes his point of reference and the Word of God becomes his frame of reference through grace, with mercy and love. The experience in this person's heart is now forgiveness, his vocabulary now consists of praise and words of faith toward God. He has faith in the promises of God for the future. His conscience has been cleansed and purged (Hebrews 9:14).

This is way beyond theology. It is, indeed, a living relationship with Jesus Christ, who's made the soul alive with a new covenant. He is now a new creation in a new dimension of human experience. That individual begins to have an abundant life. The heart then controls the soul: the volition, mind, emotions, conscience, and self-consciousness. The heart has begun to understand; it's been fixed, made totally new. The memory and the motives are new, and the content of the soul is thinking with God in grace from above.

The Conversion of the Soul

Is it any wonder that in the original Hebrew, Psalm 19:7 says the doctrine of God is perfect, making the man whole. *It is perfect!* Converting

the soul speaks of making a person's self-essence whole—not partially whole, but whole. It converts the soul. His heart rejoices. That means it always relaxes.

If I have been made whole, then I no longer have to sublimate with drugs. My heart now feeds my emotions, which begin to respond and appreciate what the heart is feeding them. The emotions begin to sing and to praise God, for they have been wonderfully healed. My feelings correspond to how I think with God.

God continues to communicate with my heart, saying, "Now that I've cleansed you, keep on receiving categories and let doctrine after doctrine go into your human spirit. Let them be communicated to your memory center, and I promise you that the Holy Spirit will bring into your thinking everything you've allowed me to objectively teach you."

There's a woman whose husband continually beat her. I have a letter on file that she wrote to me. She prayed, wept, and trusted God, and one night that vile, wicked, corrupt husband heard a message on the prodigal son, and came forward to receive Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit brought the Word into channel A. He heard that God loved him and sent Jesus Christ to die for

sinners. He heard that Jesus' blood was shed on his behalf to pay for his vile, wicked habit of beating his wife. The man mixed faith with what he heard, and the Holy Spirit took that Good News, established new life in him, and raised up his human spirit. As a result, his heart became brand new with God. Today, his wife, once beaten so hard and so often, says of him, "He's a model husband—I'd put him up against anyone in the world!"

The Quick and Powerful Word

What Jesus Christ does with His Word is quick and powerful. He who made us can cleanse, purify, and purge the conscience. He brings in a brand new self-image of love, a reflection of the new nature, and a revelation of Christ through the Holy Spirit.

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that he shall speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you" (John 16:13-14). This is the beautiful part of being led by the Spirit: the Holy Spirit takes the things of the Finished Work and the glorified

Christ and shows them to you (Romans 8:14-15). These things become ours; we possess them, and they become a part of our self-essence (Mark 4:20).

There are those who hear the Word of God with an honest and good heart. Having heard the Word, they keep it and bring forth fruit with patience (Luke 8:15). *Honest* is *kalos* in the Greek text, a very unique word in its origin. It means something that has been beautified by God; something that's been made so whole that it's transparent and beautiful in God's eyes. It's the new heart.

Then, the word *good* in the Greek, *agathos*, speaks of something more than good. It means upper righteousness. This speaks of a believer who has been given a brand new heart of integrity because the content of his thinking is God. He's been given a righteousness above what men can produce, a derived righteousness and a derived life. And it's beautiful, and it's good, because it's his new heart. This believer brings forth fruit with amazing patience.

Think of what this does in a woman when she is confronted with a problem in her marriage. She treasures the privilege and potential of her marriage and is enabled to wait until God

works in her husband. She brings forth fruit with patience! She reveals Christ to him, even though he doesn't deserve it. She loves mercy, she loves God, she loves herself, and she loves him. It isn't something she does in self-effort, it's something being produced in her heart by the Holy Spirit. She possesses a divine derivation of life with a brand new refreshed heart that controls everything about her mind and feeds her emotions. Her conscience reveals the vocabulary of grace. Her memory is what Christ does, and what He can do, and what He has done for her, and what He can do through her. She's always feasting and meditating upon these thoughts. The problem she is having with her husband just gives her an opportunity to put these things into practice and to see her living faith work as she totally trusts in God.

Obscuring the Light

“No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel...” (Luke 11:33). This is what a woman does when she fights and argues. She rolls up her sleeves and tells her husband off. Regardless of who is at fault, she has taken the Light, that precious provision of life that God has

given to her and has hidden it under a bushel. The privilege of living in theantric action—God’s divine nature combining with her human nature to bring the government of heaven into the situation—is lost to her. God says, “This is not what I intended for you to do. Don’t cover your lamp. Put your lamp on a hill so it can shine in every direction, even toward your husband.”

This is what happens with some Christians: They get up in the morning and go to work, they become overwhelmed with the cares of this life, but they’re OK. The human spirit has stopped functioning for that day. They dwell on their finances, or some other detail of life. They go to work and look at another man or woman, all the while their consciences are not receiving the right reflections from the heart. So, the devil starts in with his projections and the old sin nature is given permission to communicate its subjective evaluations. The mouth begins to confess what the emotions are experiencing. Even though they are Christians, they become a representative of the cosmos: Instead of thinking with God, they think with Satan’s world system. They are not happy and they are seeking shortcuts to deliverance, rather than accepting their co-crucifixion with Christ in their human spirit.

God comes in and says, “Draw near. Come to me. Come directly to me—just as you are—and let me fill you and revive your new heart. Through meekness and humility, the Word will quicken your spirit. Just come! Come in that condition, whatever it is, and the Word will renew your heart in a moment of time, and you’ll be able to live according to the Word in divine viewpoint. Your conscience will bring in grace, and you will experience newness of life in a moment by the miracle of grace through faith. But, do not tarry, come, and guard your heart (Isaiah 57:15)!”

I want to tell you about some people who were very close to suicide. One of them, after hearing the message “He Looked Beyond My Fault and Saw My Need,” came to God in tears and didn’t take his life.

Another person had survived three overdoses—the third one should have killed her. A relative called her and asked her to listen to *The Grace Hour*, our radio talk show. She didn’t get anything out of the program the first time and turned it off. But out of desperation, she listened again and heard a message entitled “Mercy Rejoices Against Judgment.” She sent for a copy of the tape, listened again and was completely set

free. Today, she continues to follow after the mercy message.

Another woman was very deep into alcoholism and drug abuse. She was miserable, hanging out in barrooms. Now, she's one of the most beautiful Christians in the world. She hasn't had a drink for two-and-a-half years. She heard a message that said God will accept you just as you are. In that message I said, "He loved you and died for you when you were living in sin, and He loves you, loves you, loves you! I'm not asking you to do anything but receive His love and respond to Him." She did! What happened? The message became a part of her self-essence.

She began to understand the Word sown in her heart (Matthew 13:23). She dug up the information, meditated upon it, received it, and applied its true meaning. In that desperate condition, she began to live in the true meaning of the Gospel. She now makes sure to hear one or two taped messages every day. "I don't dare not to," she says. "For some people, it's going to self-help groups; for me, it's the Word of God."

Giving Him Your Heart

Is it any wonder that, in Proverbs 23:26a, the Bible says, “My son, give me thine heart.” The Father is crying out for your heart. He knew that when a heart is given to Him, He will fix it, change it, and transform it. He will make it new and give a new beginning. God will give your heart a brand new point of reference and frame of reference, with new motivation, energy and power. There is no condemnation, no frame of reference to sin, no frame of reference to fear, guilt, or failure. The subjective mind is healed because when the Blood comes into the conscience, the first place it goes is to the subjective realm. The Blood cleans up the involuntary, uneducated part of the mind, and whispers, “You’re whole, Jesus just came through.”

CONCLUSION

The Word of God makes it clear that every revelation of grace is experienced in the heart. Here, mercy is realized, love is enjoyed, and the promises become real. It all comes down to guarding the heart. The believer who has a hearing heart has the mind of God controlling the mentality of his soul. His emotions are quiet and calm. He has a capacity for the Word, prayer, faith, soul-winning, and missions. A capacity for forgiveness and for life in the Body of Christ is established, because the mind of Christ came in to create a new heart.

This, indeed, is God's viewpoint for every person's problem. The answer isn't another counselor; it isn't some course promoting wisdom from below, with God tucked in at the end. No, the answer is coming to grips with Jesus Christ and saying, "You created me. You died for me. You love me. Your Word is pure, forever settled in Heaven. And though heaven and earth

will pass away, your Word will never pass away. It's quick and powerful, and it alone can pierce my soul and spirit. It's become the wonderful motivating critic of my heart."

We have an eternal purpose. "For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name" (Psalm 33:21). When our hearts are rejoicing, it means our thoughts, capacities, meditations, reflections, and vocabulary are based upon a new, living experience that derives life through perception and awareness of grace and mercy in the conscience. Once we have learned of the love of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit can shed that love abroad in our hearts and we will love Him with all of our hearts and minds and we begin to love ourselves and others.

Trust God to supernaturally change your heart in a relationship, in your marriage, with your family. Trust Him to change your heart toward finances and other hindrances. Wives, trust God to become helpmates to your husbands, instead of picking them apart because of circumstances. Husbands, pray with your wives; fast with them. Have your hearts changed. Let's trust Him! May our love help mold others into a capacity to receive what they need: a hearing heart.