

THE HEART-GUARDS

Establishing Our Hearts

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Part 1

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FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES

Proverbs 4:23

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life. [NKJV]

Keep and guard your heart with all vigilance and above all that you guard, for out of it flow the springs of life. [AMPC]

Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life. [NLT]

James 5:8

You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. [NKJV]

So you also must be patient. Establish your hearts [strengthen and confirm them in the final certainty], for the coming of the Lord is very near. [AMPC]

You, too, must be patient. Take courage, for the coming of the

Lord is near. [NLT]

Matthew 24:4-14

And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. (5) For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. (6) And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. (7) For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. (8) All these are the beginnings of sorrows. (9) Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. (10) And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. (11) Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. (12) And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. (13) But he who endures to the end shall be saved. (14) And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

IDENTIFYING THE TREASURE

- WHO IS THE TREASURE

The treasure is Christ in us, working through our personalities, our gifts and our abilities. The indwelling Christ

(the Holy Spirit) is our instructor who is training and forming our character to represent the King and His kingdom.

2Cor. 4:6

Verse 6: "For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our **hearts** to give **the** light of **the** knowledge of **the** glory of God in **the** face of Jesus Christ." [emphasis added]

- WHERE IS THE TREASURE

2Cor. 4:7

Verse 7: "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us."

Prov. 20:27

"The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly." [KJV]

"The Lord's light penetrates the human spirit, exposing every hidden motive." [NLT]

Luke 6:45

"A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." [NKJV]

THE VALUE OF THE TREASURE

- THE BEST OF THE BEST

"...the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us."

a. Fully Developed, World-overcoming Faith (to believe God no matter what); 1John 4:4 "Greater is He..."

b. Supernatural Strength (to withstand every attack of the enemy); Phil. 4:13 "I can do all things..."

c. The Hope of Glory (the promise of manifested Goodness); Col. 1:27 "...Christ in you..."

d. Integrity of Christ (intentionally the quality of life being led by the Holy Spirit); Gal. 4:19 "...Christ be formed in you."

e. Desires Are Fully Met (abiding in the Vine brings pure desires); John 15:4 "Abide in me..."

f. Guilt-free Life (freedom from the past; the enemy has nothing in you that belongs to him); Rom 8:1 "There is therefore no..."

THE HEART DIAGNOSIS

1. SPEAKING – Luke 6:45 "For out of the **abundance** of the heart his mouth speaks."

You can locate a person's heart by what they say particularly under pressure. Turning up the heat exposes the true contents of the heart.

2. BELIEVING – Romans 10:10 "For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

3. EXAMINING – Proverbs 21:2 "People may be right in their own eyes, but the Lord examines their heart." [NLT]

1Samuel 16:7 "People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." [NLT]

4. PRESCRIBING – Psalm 119:11 “Your word I have **hidden** in my heart, that I might not sin against You.”
- Deut. 30:14 “But the word is very near you, in your **mouth** and in your **heart**, that you may do it.”
- Psalm 45:1 “My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the king; my **tongue** is the pen of a ready writer.”
- Psalms 103:5 “Who satisfies your **mouth** with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

THE FRAILNESS OF THE HEART

Jeremiah 17:9-10

“The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is? (10) But I, the Lord, search all hearts and examines secret motives. I give all people their due rewards, according to what their actions deserve.” ^[NLT]

PROTECTING THE HEART

THE HEART-GUARDS:

1. The Word of God (Meditated) – Psalm 119:11
2. Tithes & Offerings – Malachi 3:10-11; 2Corinthians 9:7
3. Forgiveness – Mark 11:25; Matthew 6:14-15
4. Praise – Psalm 8:2

5. Thanksgiving – Psalm 100:4; 141:3
6. The Word of God (Spoken) – Psalm 103:5; Proverbs 4:20-22; Psalm 45:1
7. The Blood of Christ – Hebrews 9:14
8. Wisdom – Proverbs 4:5-13
9. The Peace of God – Philippians 4:7

HEART-GUARD

GUARDS AGAINST

The Word of God (Meditated Upon)	→	ERROR/SIN
Tithe & Offering	→	GREED
Forgiveness	→	OFFENSE/BITTERNESS
Praise	→	ACCUSATIONS/CONDEMNATION
Thanksgiving	→	MURMURING/DELAY
The Word of God (Spoken)	→	SICKNESS/DISEASE
The Blood of Jesus	→	DEAD WORKS/DOUBT & UNBELIEF
Wisdom	→	IGNORANCE/DESTRUCTION
The Peace of God	→	WORRY/FEAR/NEGATIVE THINKING

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