



## What Is On Your Heart?

Hebrews 8:10 (NKJV) *"... I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts..."*

### Words of Ministry

When I was young, my mother always instructed me to "follow your heart". Later when I became a Christian I was warned that following my heart was wrong even dangerous. It is rather common place for Christians to be instructed in this manner because of Jeremiah 17:9. Many of us have been taught that we cannot trust our hearts because, *"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked..."* not knowing that Jeremiah was referring to the heart of a man who had not received the life of God.

Those who believe what Jeremiah says about the wicked condition of the human heart need to read further to see what God's promise is under the New Covenant. Ezekiel the prophet proclaimed God's promise when God said through him, *"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh"* (Ezek 36:26). Here God is saying that He would put His own spirit (life) into His people and change their heart so that it would be soft, intuitive and sensitive to His promptings and laws.

If you are a Christian, and you have Christ living in you, then your heart is trustworthy because of the work of Jesus. Yes, the heart can still be influenced by the world, the flesh and the devil, but deep inside there is something stronger and more powerful than these influences. There is the life of God inside your spirit and that life is constantly flowing into your heart each time you turn towards the Lord. His life is always adjusting, correcting and guiding your heart in ways that make your desires line up with His own.

I find this need to trust what is in the heart absolutely essential if a believer is ever going to know the Lord's guidance. God's guidance is a highly intuitive thing. It takes the heart to search out itself with a child-like trust and faith that God is there... working, directing, and speaking.

Many Christians feel uncertain about what God would have them to do with their life, with serving, with functioning in their gifts. They feel that God has not clearly said anything. Yet if you were to ask them what is on their heart, they would tell you many things of interest and desire to do for the Lord. But they are still "waiting" for something to happen for them. Beloved, quit "waiting" and pay attention to your heart. There is a whole novel of God-prompted urges, desires and interests going on inside that new heart of yours. God's life keeps bubbling up in there and you need to pay attention to your heart in these things.

"But the desire comes from my heart. How do I know if it is of God?" you might ask. Beloved, once you are saved, you have a brand new spiritual heart (Ezekiel 36:26), and you can trust the promptings of your heart because God life dwells in you and He leads you from there. And don't worry because His promptings will always align with His Word and even if you make a mistake God will lead you through that into success if you will just stay with His inner promptings.

It would be a good spiritual practice for us to ask more frequently than we do, *"What is on my heart today? What is my heart saying?"* It would do two important things for us. First, it would turn our heart to the Lord in inward communion and open us to His Spirit. Second, it would build that inward trust relationship with our heart that is so often missing from professing Christians. So many believers have been taught to mistrust their own heart so much that they find it hard to rest and work with their own inner experiences of guidance. They are afraid that what they find in their heart is "just me" or "just my own desire". But with closer examination you might be surprised at how much of what you thought was "just me" might just turn out to be some wonderful communion from the Lord about what He is leading you into.

Beloved, because God has given you a new heart, He will write His desires on it. And as you fulfill these desires, you will bring forth spiritual fruit, and not wither and die. Some of your greatest dreams are just waiting to come out of your heart and be fulfilled!