

WITH ALL MY HEART

STUDY

INTRODUCTION

“...With all my heart”. A familiar phrase or figure of speech often used to emphasize the deepest of love or affection toward a person or thing. It also may suggest a strong level of commitment that one may give to another. Our heavenly Father Yahweh has required this thing of us, to love Him, to serve Him with all of our heart (Deut.10:12). Sometimes we cannot give Him all because someone or something has part of it as well. This study is a guide to help us find within ourselves how committed we are to our Father and how much of our hearts we have given to Him.

THE (NATURAL) HEART

We hear a lot about *heart health* these days. Medical professionals have long known that the human heart is a tireless workhorse, pumping the blood that nourishes and cleanses every cell in our bodies. One of the most vital parts to the human body, the heart is the center of the circulatory system.

THE (SPIRITUAL) HEART

The heart, in context used in scripture is the Hebrew word ‘lebab’ meaning the inner person, the seat of thought and emotion. The life of any creature is in the blood. Therefore, spiritually, it is the heart of a man that will determine the quality of his/her life. The content of the things within the heart will determine the spiritual health of an individual.

Key Verse:
DEUTERONOMY 11:13

Study Text:
II CHRONICLES 15

EXAMINE
PROVERBS 4:23

*WHAT ARE SOME
THINGS THAT ARE
IN YOUR HEART?*

REFERENCE TEXT:
I KINGS 9
I KINGS 11

*WHAT ARE YOU
PUTTING BEFORE
YAHWEH?*

HARDNESS

UNCIRCUMCISED

EXAMPLE

King Solomon, the son of David, considered to be the wisest king to ever live had all the blessings from spiritual to natural. He gave all to Yahweh until Solomon found someone(s) else to give his heart to. The man who had everything, lost everything because he put the love of women before the love of Yahweh.

CONDITIONS IN THE HEART

Potentially many different conditions may be in our heart that can leave us dirty, lonely, and unhappy with our relationship with Yahweh. We must be aware and careful of the natural wicked disposition of man (Jer.17:9).

Heart specialists have identified a rare medical condition that they call *restrictive cardiomyopathy*. This condition occurs when the walls of the heart stiffen, resulting in a heart that is unable to do its job effectively. A person with this condition will have poor circulation and an overworked heart. This person often will be tired all the time and not be able to tolerate even minor physical activity. In the modern medical world, such a person may become a candidate for a heart transplant.

Restrictive cardiomyopathy is a rare condition. However, a hardened spiritual heart is not rare. The spiritually hard heart is a tragic part of Israel's history. The hard heart has aligned itself against the Creator. It is the unclean lives that we live daily; the malice that we keep weekly; the anger that we have monthly; the jealousy, bitterness, slander, hate, pride, sloth, immorality and many more things that expose their dreadful form every year in our lives. This plaque gradually accumulates in the heart layer after layer resulting in death.

Yahweh uses other figures of speech to describe this condition. The people of Israel were accused of being "uncircumcised in the heart" (see Jeremiah 9:26; compare Acts 7:51). The people had ears that were "uncircumcised" (Jeremiah 6:10). They were often chastised for being "stiffnecked" (see 2 Chronicles 30:8).

CLEANSING OF THE HEART

When Yahweh makes a promise, it is a promise. He declared in Ezekiel 36:26, "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh." Asa, the king of Judah, took heed to the words of Yahweh through Azariah the prophet and cleaned out his jurisdiction. He put away the idols, the abominations that were within his land and renewed his commitment to give all of his heart to Yahweh. From that point, Asa and the people's hearts were ready to seek El of Israel.

COMMITMENT

Commitment is difficult to define adequately and tricky to evaluate initially. Sometimes, we have no idea of the breadth or the depth of a commitment until it is put to the test, for in the end commitment must be demonstrated rather than simply verbalized. The groom who is truly committed to his bride will honor his vows of fidelity to her. The woman who is committed to her children will sacrifice her time, her comfort, and even her personal happiness to see them thrive. The believer committed to his church will give time, spiritual gifts, talents, and resources to it in significant ways.

CONCLUSION

Ultimately, the moment we accept Yahweh into our lives and make the public vow of commitment through water baptism, we enter into the greatest marriage a person can ever have. Married to the one who loves you unconditionally and is committed to you for eternity. He loves you with all of His heart; can you do the same?

**REFER TO:
II CHRONICLES 15:8**

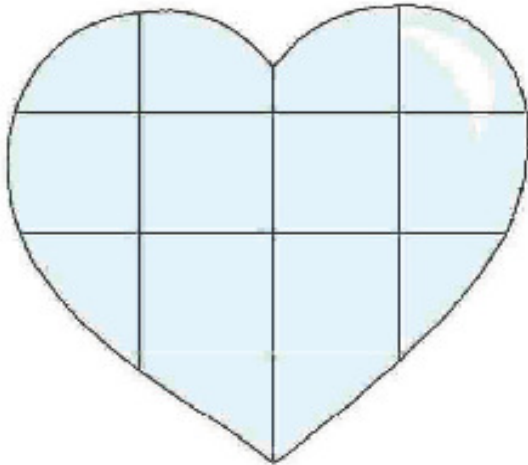
Create in me a clean heart, O Yahweh, and renew a right spirit within me.

(Ps. 51:10)

*What can I give Him,
poor as I am? ... I give
my heart."*

- Christina Rossetti

Whole-Hearted or Part-Hearted?



Yahweh appeals to His people to approach Him wholeheartedly (Deut. 30:2,5)

Look at your own commitment to His Word and will, and use the heart to the left to shade in how much of your heart you give to Him daily. In the squares, briefly write in the elements of your life you still need to commit to Him.

Hardening of the Heart

Hearts become hardened when "layers" of sin surround them, making them resistant to the Word of Yahweh. What are the "layers" you see as most difficult to remove so that one may be "cut to the heart" by the Word? (See Heb. 4:12) Which of those layers is still on your heart?

