

THE BIBLE WORD SERIES

A Brief Study of those Important Words found in the Bible that we need to understand, not just skip over.

THE HEART OF MAN

*The Hebrew word for "heart" is "where you think, have emotions, & make decisions"
The Greek word for "heart" is "origin of thoughts. Passions, desires, appetites, affections, and purposes".*

This is just
your opinion.

1. Just to what your thinking, could the "heart" be our "soul"? Yes No
2. Could the "heart" be our **personality & character**? Yes No
3. Maybe the "heart" is "our **mind, our emotions, & our will**". Yes No

Proverbs 27:19 As in water face reflects face, so a man's heart reveals the man.

4. What does a man's heart reveal? _____
5. How would you define a man? How is a man put together? What makes him work?

Professionals in psychology say that "**the heart**" contains "intellect, emotions, will".
They also say that "**the mind**" contains "intellect, emotions, will".

6. Could the "**heart**" (not the pump) and the "**mind**" be the same in the Bible? Y N
7. Do you think this is a good definition of "**personality**"? Yes No
"Combination of the qualities, attitudes, and behavior that makes a person distinct from others."
8. Do you think this is a good definition of "**character**"? Yes No
"Set of moral & mental qualities & beliefs that makes a person different from others."

LET'S NOT FORGET. WE ARE CREATED IN THE IMAGE & LIKENESS OF GOD.

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;"

Let's assume for the moment that the "heart" = "Intellect, Emotions, Will". If we are wired like God, then, does God demonstrate these areas?

9. Match the qualities of **God's Intellect** with the verses.
 - a. Psalm 139:4 He has deep **thoughts**.
 - b. Psalm 147:4-5 He **knows** the heart of man.
 - c. Psalm 92:5 He **know** me.
 - d. Job 12:13 His **understanding** is infinite.
 - e. Proverbs 3:19-20 He has unsearchable **thoughts**.
 - f. Acts 15:8 He is **wisdom, counsel, and understanding**.
 - g. Romans 11:33-34 He **knows** altogether all about everything.

10. Match the qualities of **God's Emotions** with the verses.

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|--------------------|-------|---|
| a. Psalm 7:11 | _____ | He hates evil behavior. |
| b. Psalm 135:14 | _____ | He is angry at the wicked. |
| c. Genesis 6:6 | _____ | He has joy just thinking about us. |
| d. 1 John 4:8 | _____ | He has grief for creating mankind. |
| e. Proverbs 6:16 | _____ | He has compassion for His people. |
| f. Exodus 20:5 | _____ | God is jealous about our idolatry. |
| g. Zephaniah 3:127 | _____ | He loves us through Jesus Christ. |

11. Match the qualities of **God's Will to Act & Choose** with the verses.

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|----------------|-------|---|
| a. Job 42:2 | _____ | If God wanted to show His wrath ... |
| b. Isaiah 41:4 | _____ | His purposes cannot be stopped. |
| c. Acts 15:7 | _____ | God chooses people & purposes. |
| d. 2 Peter 3:9 | _____ | God is not willing that people perish. |
| e. Luke 22:42 | _____ | God performs His plans & will. |
| f. Romans 9:22 | _____ | God is willing for the crucifixion. |

NEEDLESS TO SAY, YOU AND I ALSO HAVE INTELLECT (WE KNOW THINGS), EMOTIONS (WE FEEL THINGS), AND WILL (WE CHOOSE & ACT).



"WHAT IS THE HEART"? (An Introduction)

Since there are **other words** in the Bible that could mean "**the heart of man**", let's look at them.

The word "**heart**" could mean "inward self where feelings, emotions, & thinking occurs".

The word "**soul**" could mean "the entire inner person".

The word "**mind**" could mean "the inward parts where thinking occurs".

*It could be that since these words are **mentioned separately** in the same verses,*

- These parts of man do separate things (and, therefore, are different).*
- These parts of man basically have the same function, and are mentioned separately to emphasize what those parts really so (to be clear to the reader).*

WHATEVER THE CASE, LET'S LOOK AT SOME VERSES.

12. **Match the word combinations with the verses.** Which verses contain these words paired with these other words.

- Heart & Mind
- Heart & Soul
- Heart & Soul & Mind

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|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| _____ Deuteronomy 6:5 | _____ Proverbs 3:5 | _____ Mark 12:30 |
| _____ Joshua 22:5 | _____ Jeremiah 17:10 | _____ Luke 10:27 |
| _____ Psalm 24:4 | _____ Ezekiel 11:19 | _____ Acts 4:32 |
| _____ Psalm 26:2 | _____ Ezekiel 36:26 | _____ Philippians 4:4 |
| _____ Psalm 51:10 | _____ Matthew 11:29 | _____ Philippians 4:7 |
| _____ Psalm 51:17 | _____ Matthew 22:37 | _____ 1 Peter 3:3-4 |

I would suggest you do your own study with a concordance. We cannot cover it all here.

Please also notice that "Heart" & "Spirit" also appear together in the following verses:

Psalm 51:10, 17; Ezekiel 11:19; 36:26; 1 Peter 3:3-4

"Soul" & "Spirit" appear together in: Hebrews 4:12

"Heart" & "Conscience" appear together in: 1 Timothy 1:5; Hebrews 10:22

In these verses below, the word "body" is added to the mix.

"Soul" & "body" appear together in: Matthew 10:28.

"Flesh" & "Heart" appear together in: Psalm 73:26

"Body", "Soul" & "Spirit" appear together in: 1 Thessalonians 5:23

SUMMARY: FROM THE BIBLE IT APPEARS THAT THE MAN IS MADE UP OF THREE PARTS:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| a. Man's physical body | (the "flesh & bones") | connects to earth |
| b. Man's inner self | (the "heart", "soul", "mind") | connects to self |
| c. Man's spiritual nature | (the "spirit") | connects to God |

1 Thessalonians 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify (set you apart) you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

WE ARE CONCENTRATING ON THE "HEART" (INNER SELF) OF MAN IN THIS LESSON. HOWEVER, REMEMBER THIS:

- The condition of my "heart" will affect the way I treat my body.
- The condition of my "heart" will affect the way I treat God.



"WHAT IS THE HEART"? (How important is it?)

13. Match the statement with the Bible verse. (How is the "heart" important?)

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|----------------------|--|
| a. Proverbs 4:23 | ___ My hidden person is in my heart. |
| b. Matthew 12:34 | ___ My purposes & plans are in my heart. |
| c. 1 Peter 3:3-4 | ___ There is sin in my heart. |
| d. 1 Samuel 16:7 | ___ Everything I do flows from my heart. |
| e. Hebrews 4:12 | ___ My thoughts are continually meditating in my heart. |
| f. Psalm 19:4 | ___ My heart contains my treasures & dreams & hopes. |
| g. Psalm 44:21 | ___ My heart can be very different than what you see. |
| h. Matthew 6:21 | ___ The things I say comes from my heart. |
| i. Psalm 66:18 | ___ My heart stores all my personal secrets. |
| j. 1 Corinthians 4:5 | ___ All my thoughts, intentions & plans are in my heart. |

This is scary. If my "heart" is screwed up & out of balance, then, my entire life (body, soul, & spirit) is out of balance, unstable, unreliable & ungodly.

14. What kind of unbalanced "heart condition" could I have? (Match the columns.)

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| a. AFRAID | ___ Proverbs 28:14 |
| b. BROKEN | ___ Jeremiah 17:9 |
| c. CROOKED | ___ Hebrews 3:12 |
| d. DARKENED | ___ John 14:27 |
| e. DECEITFUL | ___ Proverbs 11:20 |
| f. DOUBTFUL | ___ Proverbs 22:15 |
| g. DULL | ___ Matthew 13:15 |
| h. FOLLY | ___ Ezekiel 36:26 |
| i. FOOLISH | ___ Romans 1:21 |
| j. HARDENED | ___ John 14:27 |
| k. STONY | ___ Psalm 34:18 |
| l. TROUBLED | ___ Romans 1:21 |
| m. UNBELIEVING | ___ Mark 11:23 |

Let's look at these heart conditions. You won't like these. We have all been there.

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|----------------------|--|
| <i>"Afraid"</i> | <i>You are afraid of everything, petrified, and a serious introvert.</i> |
| <i>"Broken"</i> | <i>You are bursting like a balloon; it's all falling apart. You can't go on.</i> |
| <i>"Crooked"</i> | <i>You live a perverse, vulgar life - your words, thoughts, plans.</i> |
| <i>"Darkened"</i> | <i>You are a shady person always wanting to do it the wrong way.</i> |
| <i>"Deceitful"</i> | <i>You are a fraud, a fake; you never do it the honest way.</i> |
| <i>"Doubtful"</i> | <i>You withdraw from everyone; you trust no one & don't need anyone.</i> |
| <i>"Dull"</i> | <i>You feel heavy & pressed down; everything is a big deal to you.</i> |
| <i>"Folly"</i> | <i>You are not serious about much; everything's a joke; you blow it off.</i> |
| <i>"Foolish"</i> | <i>You tune out intelligence. You don't want the facts; you know it all.</i> |
| <i>"Hardened"</i> | <i>You come across as tough, mean & dense to push people away.</i> |
| <i>"Stony"</i> | <i>Your life needs some serious improvement, but you refuse to do it.</i> |
| <i>"Troubled"</i> | <i>You are agitated most of the time about just about everything.</i> |
| <i>"Unbelieving"</i> | <i>You refuse to consider faith and you are hurtful to people who do.</i> |

15. Pretty painful, right? Pick out three. How do they apply to you?

- a. _____

- b. _____

- c. _____

How can I feel good about my life when my heart is this condition?

How can I make good decisions when my heart in this condition?

How can I get myself to do anything positive when my heart is in this condition?

How can I speak to people with respect and courtesy when my heart is like this?

How can I try to approach God when my heart is fighting against me?

How can I make changes in my life when the devil has control of my heart?



"WHAT IS THE HEART"? (What can my heart do?)

Our heart (the center of thinking, feeling, and doing) is capable of incredible things.

16. They could be bad, destructive things. Match the verse & the statement.

- a. Ecclesiastes 8:11 ___ Adultery, murder, lewdness, theft, evil eye
- b. Hebrews 3:10 ___ We actually can plan to do evil things.
- c. Mark 7:21-23 ___ We deliberately go the wrong way.

Mark 7:21-23 What comes out of a man (the heart), that defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of man proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within & defile a man.

This is the life-style that comes naturally to a man. No!! Not everyone does these things. However, we are surrounded by it. We are capable of all these things. Don't be a holy Joe and fool yourself. Unbelievers can do these things; no surprise, right? Believers can also do these things & they do.

17. They could be good, constructive things. Match the verse and the statement.

- a. Romans 10:9 ___ I can trust God with my entire being.
- b. 2 Cor. 9:7 ___ I can decide to the right things.
- c. Psalm 37:4 ___ I can choose to get good thing done.
- d. Proverbs 3:5 ___ I can have good, positive desires & wants.
- e. Jeremiah 17:10 ___ I can believe what God has promised.

How is this possible?

Psalm 139:23-24 Search me, oh God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me and lead me in the everlasting (long-term & productive) way.

- 18. Is it possible that God could point out the wrong things? ___Yes ___No
- 19. Could God actually show us the correct (better) way? ___Yes ___No
- 20. Even better. His Holy Spirit could lead us to that right way. ___Yes ___No
- 21. He could love us by helping us avoid those bad choices. ___Yes ___No

Ezekiel 36:26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you heart of soft flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My choices (statutes); and yes, you will keep them and do them.

- 22. Can God change the way my heart (desires & thoughts) does things? ___Yes ___No
- 23. Can God take my stubborn & selfish heart & mold it His way? ___Yes ___No
- 24. God could refresh & restore a complete right way of thinking. ___Yes ___No
- 25. He could put a willingness in me to please & honor His ways? ___Yes ___No
- 26. Could God encourage me that His way for my life is right? ___Yes ___No

God could do all this for me & in me. My heart still has the choice. I can open my heart to Him & say "Lord, do what you need to do" OR I could say "NO".

18. Look at these additional **constructive** things I could do. Match.
- a. Joshua 22:5 ___ I could be careful what I do or just not care.
 - b. 1 Peter 3:15 ___ I could be honest & good or just say why bother.
 - c. Proverbs 3:1-2 ___ I could obey God's commands or just refuse.
 - d. Acts 15:9 ___ I could serve the Lord or just serve myself.
 - e. Proverbs 23:19 ___ I could learn God's Word or just live a life of crap.
 - f. Proverbs 20:9 ___ I could decide to live pure or continue dirty living.
 - g. Psalm 119:11 ___ I could honor Christ or live the way I want to.
 - h. Luke 6:45 ___ I could practice faith in God or just give up.
 - i. Luke 1:15 ___ I could make good things happen or enjoy evil.

How is it possible that I could make the right decisions?

Is it hopeless?

Jeremiah 17:9 My heart is deceitful above all things and incredibly wicked & evil. No one knows how bad it is except God.

No, it is not hopeless!

Jeremiah 17:10 I, the LORD, do the searching in your heart; I know what's in there. I will do the testing; I will do the cleaning.

19. What can God do? (Match the statement with the verse).
- a. Acts 15:9 ___ I will strengthen your heart every day.
 - b. Phil. 4:7 ___ I will pour love into your heart every day.
 - c. Romans 5:5 ___ I will clean your heart every day.
 - d. Hebrews 13:9 ___ I will guard your heart with peace every day.



"WHAT IS THE HEART"? (What does God want?)

What does God want from me? "WITH MY WHOLE HEART"

20. Write out the phrase in the verses that include "with my whole heart".
- a. Psalm 119:10 _____
 - b. Psalm 119:34 _____
 - c. Psalm 119:58 _____
 - d. Psalm 119:145 _____
 - e. Psalm 138:1 _____

God wants us with all of our heart to want God in our lives.

God wants us with all or our heart to talk to Him.

God wants us with all of our heart to seek after him and please Him.

When our heart pleases God, our desires & dreams please God.

When our heart pleases God, our thoughts & intentions please God.

When our heart pleases God, our emotions & feelings will please God.

When our heart pleases God, our choices & actions & behavior please God.

Psalm 51:10 Create in a clean heart, O God.

Renew a consistent & healthy relationship between my heart & Yours.

21. What kind of "heart health" maintains that good connection with God?
- | | | | |
|----|----------------|--------------------|--|
| a. | Proverbs 15:13 | ___ Sound Heart | Living a balanced life |
| b. | Psalms 51:10 | ___ Cheerful Heart | Choosing to do things the right way |
| c. | Psalms 112:7 | ___ Diligent Heart | An example for others to follow |
| d. | Proverbs 17:22 | ___ Joyful Heart | Someone who brightens up the room |
| f. | Matthew 5:8 | ___ Pure Heart | Maintaining a clean life & behavior |
| g. | Proverbs 14:30 | ___ Wise Heart | Prefer God's way of doing things |
| h. | Hebrews 10:22 | ___ Stable Heart | Leaning on God for life's struggles |
| i. | Psalms 119:7 | ___ True Heart | Being truthful & upfront |
| j. | Proverbs 4:23 | ___ Clean Heart | Keeping away from sinful stuff |
| k. | Proverbs 10:8 | ___ Upright Heart | Choosing the right side & not riding the fence |

We can live a balanced life because God renews our balanced heart every day.

*Psalms 51:10 Create in a clean heart, O God.
Renew a consistent & healthy relationship between my heart & Yours.*

We can have healthy "spiritual hearts" only because the Holy Spirit convicts, prunes, corrects, fine tunes, strengthens, and "pats us on the back" everyday.

"Lord, with Your incredible power, take over my life each day - yes, today. Take over my heart because it affects what I think, what I feel, and what I do.

22. How has this lesson caused to think differently about your attitudes, inner feelings, and behavior? _____

23. What things in your life have negatively affected your relationship with God, your feelings about yourself, and the way you treat others?

24. What qualities in your life are good. With God's help, of course, what areas of your mind, emotions, & will ("the heart") are on track?

Remember to focus on the health of your heart (inner self). Proverbs 4:23 says that everything I do flows from the heart.