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The contents of a person's heart Pt 3. Examine your heart

In our previous study on this topic we looked at the contents of a "pure" heart and establish – (1) The meaning of the word "pure" from the scriptures is – undefiled before God, (2) a pure heart has not lifted up his soul to vanity, and pure of sin, (3) the pure in heart are blessed, and shall see God!. In this our third & final study we establish (1) The Lord tries our heart, (2) Christians have purified their souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit, (3) we will know we have called on God out of a pure heart as we will flee youthful lusts, follow righteousness, charity and peace, (4) whereas unbelievers may draw near to God but their heart will be removed

Our four points as established from the scriptures –

1. The Lord tries our heart

"Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; try my reins and my heart" (Ps.26: 2).

2. Christians have purified their souls in **obeying the truth through the Spirit**

"Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, [see that ye] love one another with a pure heart fervently" (1 Pet.1: 22).

3) We will know when we have called on God out of a pure heart – we will flee youthful lusts, follow righteousness, faith, charity and peace

"Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Tim.2: 22).

4. Whereas unbelievers might draw near to God, but they do so with their mouth, but have removed their heart far from God

"Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men" (Is.29: 13).

Illustration

Sometimes you can get a sense about a person, sometimes that can be a mile away from the truth, so we bide our time and see who is real, whose actions match their words. It can take a while to prove the content of another's heart – whether pure or evil. But when a person has been deceived by the devil and they come to God with their heart far from Him they will only ever seek to deceive others without remorse.

Question to think about.

Having proved our heart, how do we prove what is in another man's heart?

Answer from the scriptures

* They will invariably sin against the Holy Ghost – Acts 5:3, resist the Holy Ghost – Acts 7: 51, have no fear of God – Is.29: 13, and likely to be hypocrites – Matt.22: 18.

Let us be true before our God who tries our hearts, and may He give us discernment of spirit to know the contents of another man's heart, that we may discern the wolves in sheep's clothing. Be "wise as serpents, and harmless as doves" (Matt.10: 16). For there are many deceivers entered into the world (2 Jn 1:7).