

Mark 4

*⁹Then Jesus said, "He
who has ears to hear
let him hear."*

e Heart

He Who Has Ears to Hear
- *Part 3*

Guard your Heart

The Gathering Place

17th January 2021



Review



Part 1

Lessons from Elijah

1 Kings 19:9-13

Lessons from Samuel

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Lessons from Joseph

Matthew 1:18-21, 2:13-15

The Parable of The Sower

What Kind of
SOIL
Are You?



What Kind of SOIL Are You?

The Parable Of The Sower –

Matthew 13:3-23; Mark 4:3-20; Luke 8:4-18

- ▶ How different types of hearts receive God's Word
- ▶ Jesus demonstrates why some reject the word of God and others accept it.
- ▶ The power the Word has in our lives & the fruit it produces depends on the condition of our hearts!

What Kind of SOIL Are You?

SOIL #1 — The Wayside Hearer



- ▶ *hodos* (ὁδός - "A road, highway, street, way" (
- ▶ The seed of the gospel could not penetrate the hard surface .
- ▶ This was the condition of the majority of the Jewish leadership of Jesus' day.

What Kind of SOIL Are You?

SOIL #2 — Rocky Ground Hearer

■ The Undeveloped Believer



- ▶ Seed will germinate in such soil but the underlying rock prevents a deep root system.
- ▶ Receives with joy, BELIEVES, had LIFE thus saved – but does not endure persecution & temptation – (Mat 13:13; Luke 8:13)
- ▶ Intellectually & emotionally affected by the word - but lacks the commitment to grow & develop

What Kind of SOIL Are You?

SOIL #3 — Thorny Ground Hearer



- ▶ Had to compete for sunlight and nutrients.
- ▶ Weeds will choke healthy plants by sapping them of their sources of nourishment, leaving them weak and stunted.

Though one is made alive by the gospel, his/her faith is suffocated by temporal concerns and pleasures — Thus the believers faith does not produce the fruit required due to a divided heart - (James 1:18,21-25)

Jesus said...

- People hear the word;
- but the worries of this life,
- the deceitfulness of wealth
- and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.



What Kind of SOIL Are You?

SOIL #4 — Good Ground Hearer

■ **Good Ground (Fruitful Christian)**

- ▶ Hears & understands - recognizes the value
- ▶ Receive God's Word -
- ▶ Keeps God's Word & perseveres -
- ▶ Bears fruit

What Kind of SOIL Are You?

SOIL #4 — Good Ground Hearer



Psalm 1:1–3 (NKJV)

¹ Blessed *is* the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; ² But his delight *is* in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. ³ He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

We Determine Condition of Our Heart

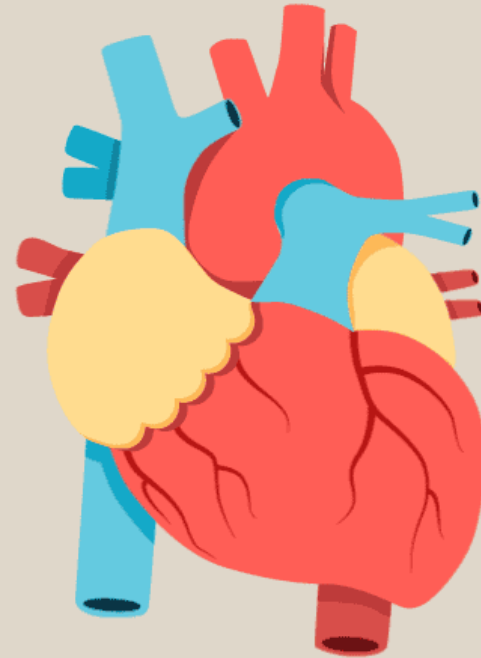


The seed is the
same

The sower is the
same

Only the soil is
different

HEART



We Determine Condition of Our Heart

Proverbs 4:1-27

Proverbs 4:20–27

²⁰ My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. ²¹ Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; ²² For they *are* life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. ²³ Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it *spring* the issues of life. ²⁴ Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you. ²⁵ Let your eyes look straight ahead, And your eyelids look right before you. ²⁶ Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways be established. ²⁷ Do not turn to the right or the left; Remove your foot from evil.

We Determine Condition of Our Heart

Mat 13:9-17; Isaiah 6:9,10; Ezekiel 12:2; 18:30-32

Matthew 13:13–15 (NKJV)

¹³ Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. ¹⁴ And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: *'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive;* ¹⁵ For the hearts of this people have grown dull. *Their* ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with *their* eyes and hear with *their* ears, Lest they should understand with *their* hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.'

We Determine Condition of Our Heart

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HOW ARE “HEARTS” DESCRIBED?

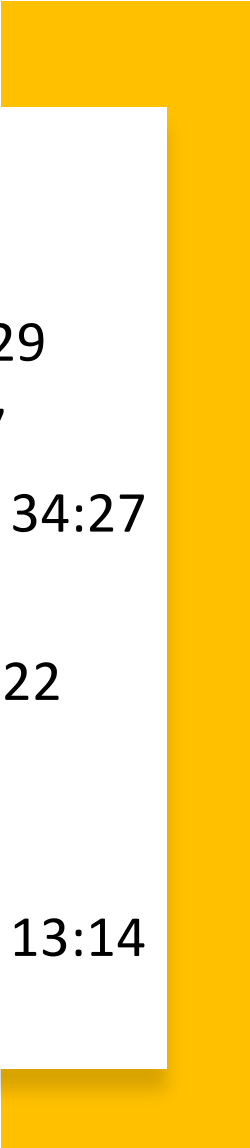
THERE ARE BAD HEARTS:


- Proud heart - 2Chronicles 25:19;
- Idolatrous heart - Ezekiel.14:4, 7
- Turned away (from God) heart - Isaiah 29:13
- Hardened heart - 2Chronicles 36:13;
Isaiah 63:17; Hebrews 3:8,15; 4:7
- Embittered heart – Psalms 73:21
- Stubborn heart - Psalms 81:12
- Deceitful heart – Jeremiah 17:9



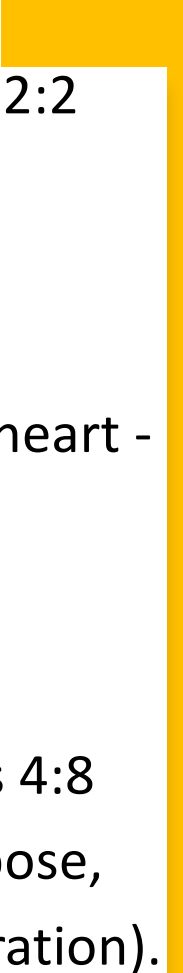
HOW ARE “HEARTS” DESCRIBED?

THERE ARE GOOD HEARTS:

- ✓ Clean heart - Psalms 51:10
 - ✓ Heart to fear the Lord - Deuteronomy 5:29
 - ✓ Broken and contrite heart - Psalms 51:17
 - ✓ Tender heart - 2Kings 22:19; 2Chronicles 34:27
 - ✓ Steadfast heart - Psalms 57:10
 - ✓ Joyful or glad heart - Proverbs 15:13; 17:22
 - ✓ Tranquil heart - Proverbs 14:30
 - ✓ Upright heart - Psalms 32:11
 - ✓ A heart after God's own heart - 1Samuel 13:14
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The heart is
capable of
varying degrees
of strength,
commitment or
intensity

- Divided / Double / Deceitful heart -
1Chronicles 12:33; Hosea 10:2; Psalms 12:2
 - Heart wholly (fully) devoted –
1Kings 15:14 (heart was perfect - KJV),
whole heart - 1Chronicles 28:9 (perfect heart -
KJV)
 - Pure heart –
Psalms 24:4; 73:13; Matthew 5:8; James 4:8
(purity of heart means there is one purpose,
one devotion with no mixture or adulteration).
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2 Chronicles 25:1-2

Amaziah was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem.

² And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, but not with a whole heart.



Proverbs 4:23

Guard your heart with all
diligence, For out of it
spring the issues of life.

Proverbs 4:23

“Guard your heart with all diligence, for it is the source of life”

What: Guard your heart

Keep your heart , watch over your heart

How: With all diligence

With all vigilance , with all diligence ,above all else

Why: It Is the Source of Live

From it flow the springs of life , It is the wellspring of life