



God sees the heart of men, as Jer 17:10 says, “I, the LORD, search the heart and examine the mind.”

The very reason why the Lord said in 1Samuel 16:7, “For *the LORD does not see as man sees*; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

In essence, there is nothing God doesn’t see in our life. Whether it be our actions, words or even thoughts, God sees it all.

Here are more scriptures about this:

Heb 4:13: “And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account.”

1Chron 28:9: “For the LORD searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever.”

Pro 16:2: “All the ways of a man *are* pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirits.”

For the same reason Paul said in Rom 10:10 concerning salvation, “For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Our heart either entertains the truth and righteousness of God, or is drawn by the world’s desires of the flesh.

Let’s pause and as 2Cor 13:5 says, “Examine yourselves *as to* whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves.”

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Deception is perhaps the most evil tool that the enemy of our faith uses to draw us away from God. It is found in religions, politics, in business, and it always starts with attempts to fill our hearts with desires that are in complete opposition to what the Word of God teaches us.

Here's how Jesus warned us:

Mat 6:21: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Mat 12:34: "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks."

Luke 16:15: "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

Why?

In Mat 13:14-15, Jesus highlighted Isaiah's prophecy concerning the deceived saying, "Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; 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."

To the deceivers and deceived, James 4:8 gives this solution: "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *you* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *you* double-minded."

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# THE CONSEQUENCES OF A DECEIVED HEART

*“A good man out of the good treasure  
of his heart brings forth good things,  
and an evil man out of the evil  
treasure brings forth evil things.”*

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Mat 12:35

We all know that there are consequences to our actions, whether it involves the law of man or the Word of God. As such, the Word of God tells us to guard our hearts so we don't fall into sin.

Jesus declared in Mark 7:21, “For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders.”

James 4:17 warns us, “Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do *it*, to him it is sin.”

If we allow the world's attractions to draw our hearts, scripture warns us:

Pro 28:14: “Happy *is* the man who is always reverent, but he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity.”

Rom 1:21: “Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.”

Jer 17:10: “I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.”

James 4:1,4: 1 “Where do wars and fights *come* from among you? Do *they* not *come* from your *desires for* pleasure that war in your members?” 4 “Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”

What are we harboring in our hearts right now?

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Pro 4:23 tells us, "Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it *spring* the issues of life."

How is this however accomplished?

First, Mat 22:37: "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."

Rom 12:2: "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

2Tim 2:22: "Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

James 4:8: "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *you* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *you* double-minded."

Philip. 4:6-7: "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

1Thess 2:4: "But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts."

Heb 10:22: "Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith."

As scripture enjoins us, let's focus our hearts on God and Christ.

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# DOES CHRIST REIGN IN OUR HEART?

*“Your Word I have hidden in my heart,  
that I might not sin against You.”*

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Ps 119:11

Will we ask God, as scripture says?

Ps 51:10: “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.”

Ps 19:14: “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.”

Ps 26:2: “Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my mind and my heart.”

Why?

Ps 34:18: “The LORD *is* near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit.”

Ps 37:4: “Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”

Ps 73:26: “My flesh and my heart fail; *but* God *is* the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

Ps 24:3-4: “Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully.”

Ps 119:2: “Blessed *are* those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart!”

And finally Jesus:

Mat 5:8: “Blessed *are* the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”

John 14:27: “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

Need more reasons to make God’s Word and Christ’s lordship be the focus of our hearts?

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