

THE HEART OF MAN

12 BIBLE STUDIES ABOUT THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE HUMAN HEART

TEACHER'S EDITION

Pastor Jeremy Markle



Walking in the WORD Ministries
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12 BIBLE STUDIES
ABOUT THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION
OF THE HUMAN HEART
TEACHER'S EDITION

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SECTION 1

THE CLEANSING OF THE HEART

Lesson 1

The Wickedness of a Man's Heart
(Man's Sin)

Lesson 2

The Worth of a Man's Heart
(God's Payment for Man's Sin)

Lesson 3

The Weeping of a Man's Heart
(Repentance for Salvation)

Lesson 4

The Washing of a Man's Heart
(Confession & Forgiveness)

Psalm 51:7, 10, 12

*Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean:
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*

*Create in me a clean heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit within me.*

*Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation;
and uphold me with thy free spirit.*

Lesson 1



The Wickedness of a Man's Heart

The Wickedness of a Man's Heart

(Man's Sin)

The wickedness of man's heart began at the very beginning of time. For it was in the garden of Eden that man chose to serve self and seek selfish pleasure. In Genesis chapter 3, we find the source of all mankind's wickedness and pride. When Eve "**saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat**" (Genesis 3:6). The very beginning of man's sinfulness was conceived in the perfect environment of God's creation, but was sourced in mankind's desire to fulfill personal desires. How wicked mankind is to rebel against the God who has created, preserved, and loved him (I John 2:15-17)! (*Question # 1*)

Do not jump so quickly to judge Adam and Eve before you take into account your own life. The Bible says, "**For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God**" (Romans 3:23, I John 3:4). And Isaiah 53:6 says, "**All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way ...**" The Bible is clear, each person has chosen to rebel against God. And how wicked and vile man really is! He has rudely turned his back to the face of his own Creator and chosen to follow self. (*Questions # 2, 3*)

Make no mistake, if man is to have fellowship with his Creator, he must be perfect like his Creator (I Peter 1:15-16, I John 1:5-8). In Psalm 5:4-6, King David said, "**For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee. The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity. Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.**" Because of mankind's fall from his created perfection, God has had to separate himself from mankind. And, sinful man is required to pay the penalty of his sin, which is death (Romans 6:23). (*Questions # 4, 5*)

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Nothing man does can ever make him perfect. Even man's attempt to do right ends in sin according to Isaiah 64:6, which says, ***"But we are all as unclean, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."*** Consider the simple list of the Ten Commandments God gave the Israelites to obey. Have you kept them perfectly? Can you go through one day without breaking, at the very least, one of them? According to James 2:10, ***"whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."*** This is not referring to just one day of your life, it is referring to your entire life. Can you honestly say that you have never sinned one single time in your whole life? I John 1:8 says, ***"If we [you] say that we [you] have no sin, we [you] deceive ourselves [yourself], and the truth is not in us [you]."*** According to Psalm 58:3, even children ***"go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies."*** ***"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God"*** (Romans 3:23). Each one of us must come to the conclusion that we cannot meet God's level of perfection because we are sinners and God is holy (Jeremiah 17:9-10). (*Questions # 6, 7, 8*)

God has demanded holiness, and mankind has failed. Oh, how wretched we are! Man has no choice but to cry out as the prophet Isaiah did when he said, ***"Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips ..."*** (Isaiah 6:5). Isaiah did not stop at expressing the truth concerning his wickedness, but he also found a solution to that wickedness through the forgiving and cleansing power of God. Isaiah 6:6-7 says, ***"Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged."*** You can also have your sin taken away if you will have faith in Jesus Christ alone (John 3:15-17, Romans 10:9-10, Ephesians 2:8-9, Philippians 3:4-9, I John 1:9, I Corinthians 15:1-4). (*Questions # 9, 10, 11*)

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Romans 3:23
*For all have sinned,
and come short of the glory of God;*

Romans 6:23
*For the wages of sin is death;
but the gift of God is eternal life
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Review Questions

1. Genesis 3:1-6 (6), I John 2:15-17 - How was Eve's temptation similar to the three sources of temptation given in I John 2:15-17?
Lust of the flesh - Saw that the tree was good for food
Lust of the eyes - That it was pleasant to the eyes
Pride of life - A tree to be desired to make one wise
2. Romans 3:23 - Who has given in to temptation and has sinned? Everyone
I John 3:4 - What is sin? The transgression of the law
Have you ever committed a sin? _____
3. Isaiah 53:6 - Have you ever done your will rather than obeying God? _____
4. I Peter 1:15-16, I John 5:5-8, Psalm 54:6 - Can God have fellowship with a sinner? No

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5. Romans 6:23 - If you earn \$400 per week from your employer for the 40 hours you have worked, we would consider that your wages or what you deserve. What do you deserve because of your life of sin according to the Bible? Death
6. Isaiah 64:6 - Name the best “GOOD WORK” you have ever done. _____

Compared to God’s holiness, what is that “GOOD WORK”? Filthy rags
How good do you have to be in order to be equal with God? Perfect
7. James 2:10 - How much of God’s perfect law are you guilty of violating? All of it
8. I John 1:8, Psalms 58:3, Romans 3:23 - Have you ever sinned? Yes
9. Isaiah 6:5 - Are you a sinner? Yes
Have you ever sinned with your mouth? Yes
(Also see Jeremiah 17:9-10)
10. Isaiah 6:6-7 - Are you interested in God’s cleansing for your sins? _____

*If have answered yes to answer #10,
follow through with answering #11.

The Wickedness of a Man's Heart

11. John 3:15-18, Ephesians 2:8-9, Philippians 3:4-9, I John 1:9 - You must have faith alone in Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection as the only payment for your sins in order to receive God's forgiveness and eternal life (I Corinthians 15:1-4). Will you accept God's free gift right now by simply telling God you are trusting Him alone? Your statement of trust must be meant from the heart and not just words from your mouth (Romans 10:9-10).

If you have told God that you want His cleansing, why not write down your request to Him on the next page.

Dear God,

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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