THE HEART

1. Definition: The Bible takes the physical body and relates it to the soul to aid us in understanding how the soul functions.

A. The physical heart is an intricately woven muscle of the body which rhythmically contracts and causes circulation of the blood.

B. It pumps five quarts of blood in a minute; 75 gallons of blood in an hour; 70 barrels a day, 18 million barrels in 70 years.

C. The heart is a double pump for it has two valves, the auricle and the ventricle.

D. These pumps and valves in them circulate the blood in the same manner as doctrine is circulated in the right lobe of the soul.

E. Therefore the word “heart” is used in the Bible for that part of the soul which processes thoughts, Proverbs 23:7, “For as he thinks within himself (heart) so he is. He says to you, ‘Eat and drink!’ But his heart (thinking) is not with you.”

2. The “heart” is part of the human soul.

A. The Greek word, KARDIA, means the thinking part of the soul. The Bible does use the word “heart” in the physical sense only twice (both times in Song of Solomon), but it NEVER uses the word “heart” to mean that the physical pump in our chest cavity as the place where God lives, or where our emotions reside; nor does the physical heart have any spiritual value.

B. The KARDIA is associated with the thinking process of the soul in Scripture, such as:

   Genesis 6:5, “the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”
   Genesis 8:21, 20:5; 24:45; 45:26.
   Exodus 7, hardening Pharaoh’s heart means his thoughts were continually against God and Moses.
   Numbers 15:39, the heart can be discouraged.
   The Bible has numerous references like the ones above such as:
   Proverbs 2:2; 3:3; 4:4; 7:3; 14:10-14; 15:7; 16:1; 17:16; 18:2; 20:5.
C. In conclusion, it is safe to say the “heart” in the Bible is the organ for thinking.

D. The heart in the soul is the place where doctrine from the Word of God resides, Proverbs 2:2; 3:3; 15:14; 18:15; Psalm 119:11, 161 and Job 38:36.

3. Essence of the Heart (KARDIA or Right Lobe):

A. Frame of reference—this is the entrance into the soul’s right lobe, Proverbs 4:4.

B. Memory Center—is a pump which circulates doctrine into various areas of the right lobe.

C. Vocabulary—storage area for formation of thoughts.

D. Conscience—is part of the right lobe, norms and standards, Romans 2:15; 9:1; 1 Corinthians 8:8; 2 Corinthians 4:2; 5:11; Titus 1:15; Hebrews 9:14.

E. Launching pad—source of all application to life. If Biblical teaching is not heard then believed by faith then it never reaches the launching pad into the heart. The result is that the Christian cannot grow spiritually.

4. The Biblical content believed and applied resides in the heart or right lobe of the soul. It dominates the soul, and dominates emotion, volition, self-awareness, mentality. Proverbs 2:2, 10; Psalm 119:11, 14; Job 38:36.

5. Facets of heart function:

A. The heart can function in rejecting Bible doctrine, Proverbs 5:12-13.

B. The heart can be a source of discord and troublemaking, Proverbs 6:14, 18.

C. The heart of the prostitute is subtle and she can spot a man filled with pride, therefore she appeals to his pride and makes him think he is really something when she really knows he is an arrogant jerk that can be deceived. She seduces him, takes his money, and leaves him hungry for more, Proverbs 7:10.
D. The heart suffers disappointment when promises are not kept, Proverbs 13:12.

E. The heart can be the source of mental attitude sin such as:
   - Bitterness, Proverbs 14:10
   - Sorrow and disappointment, Proverbs 14:13
   - Pride, Obadiah 1:3
   - Worry, Proverbs 21:4
   - Hate, Ecclesiastes 2:23
   - Rebellion, Proverbs 6:16, 11:20, Jeremiah 5:23

6. Women use the heart to trap uninterested men by pretending to care for them, entice them, promise them a good time, and love.

Ecclesiastes 7:26, “And I discovered more bitter than death the woman whose heart has snares and nets, her hands are bonds. He who is a good man (good man in fellowship with God) shall escape from her, but the sinner will be captured by her.”

7. The frantic search for happiness is related to the heart, Ecclesiastes 1:13, “And I gave my heart to see and to investigate by wisdom, concerning all which are done under the heavens, it is an evil task God hasn’t given to the sons of men to be afflicted by it.”

8. Reversionism is described in terms of the heart:
   A. Wicked heart, Jeremiah 17:5-9.
   B. Heart of flint, Zechariah 7:12.
   C. Darkened heart, Romans 1:21.
   D. Prone to error, Psalm 95:10.
   E. Unbelieving heart, Hebrews 3:12.
   F. Blind heart, Ephesians 4:18.
   G. Uncircumcised heart, Acts 7:51.
   H. Deceived heart, Psalm 1:26.
   I. Double heart, Psalm 12:2.
   J. Hard heart, Romans 2:5, Mark 10:5
   K. Haughty heart, Proverbs 18:12.
   L. Carnal heart, Romans 8:7.
   M. Covetous heart, 2 Peter 1:14.
   N. Despiteful heart, Ezekiel 25:15.
O. Foolish heart, Proverbs 12:23.
P. Froward heart, Psalm 101:4.
Q. Idolatrous heart, Ezekiel 14:3.
R. Mad heart, Ecclesiastes 9:3.
S. Proud heart, Psalm 101:5.
T. Perverse heart, Proverbs 12:8.
X. Destructive heart, Proverbs 24:2.
Y. Prosperous heart, Daniel 5:20.


11. The heart of man is renewed by the gospel, Hebrews 3:10; Acts 15:9; 8:37; Romans 10:10.

12. Man’s heart can be cleaned up when a person orients to God’s will and plan for his life, Psalm 119:161; Jeremiah 32:40; 12:35; 2 Thessalonians 3:5.

13. The heart is related to thinking and perception, Deuteronomy 29:4.

A. Corrupt heart can lead to atheism, Psalm 14:1.

B. Heart can be filled with rationalism, humanism, evil, and the deceives others, Ecclesiastes 1:13-18. Godless, secular education does not make you wise rather it introduces the philosophies of man to the soul. When a person knows the Word of God then he gains true wisdom. Then he can appreciate his education for he sees all academic disciplines as God’s handiwork.

C. Rationalization of mental attitude sin is accomplished through the heart, Isaiah 47:12.

D. False teachers communicate deceit from their heart, Jeremiah 14:14.
E. Heart is used for the meditation of Bible doctrine, Luke 2:19.

F. Heart is used for thinking superiority, Luke 9:46-47.

14. Heart is involved in right man/right woman analogy.
   A. Heart is used as right man, and emotions used as right woman, Psalm 26:2; Jeremiah 11:20; 17:10; 20:12.

15. Heart is related to the capacity for life. All capacity for life lies in the heart. Some capacities for life are:
   C. Happiness, Psalm 19:8; 28:7.
   D. Sorrow, Leviticus 26:16; Nehemiah 2:2.
   E. Pressure, Psalm 34:18.
   F. Cowardice, Joshua 14:8.

16. Therefore, the heart is the basic area for happiness in life. Judges 18:20; 1 Samuel 1:13; 1 Kings 8:66 ff the glad heart.

17. The heart can be the area for cursing and misery, Deuteronomy 28:47-48.

18. The heart is the area of growth in the spiritual life.
   A. Proverbs 24:17, grace function
   B. Exodus 23:9, grace orientation
C. 1 Samuel 2:1, happiness.

D. Psalm 112:7-8, stability in a crisis.


20. The heart is related to positive volition at salvation, Romans 10:10.

21. The heart in Scripture is used as an anthropopathism for God. The heart of God in 1 Samuel 2:35; Psalm 78:73; Jeremiah 30:24.