

MAN'S REAL PROBLEM

A redraft "Hatred in the heart":

By Pastor Del Wray

"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Proverbs 4:23

The crime rate is continually increasing; thefts, murders, rape is triple what it was a year ago. There is no end. The law enforcement agencies can't keep up, every step forward in crime prevention brings three steps backward. Every prosecution of a felony is followed by ten more being committed. Human kind has been fighting and warring since creation's fall and no one seems to know what to do about it other than building larger and more prisons, starting more wars. Every ten years the United States has to get involved in another conflict to keep the economy going. America's young boys are sent off as mercenaries to kill innocent victims under the pretext of fighting for freedom. Now she's involved in a Middle Eastern war she'll never get out of. War is not man's worst enemy. A holy God is! All the problems that mankind has could be solved in less than a day if he would only pay attention to and follow what has been laid out in the blue print of the holy Bible. The Blessed Book that God has put before man! Why, can't we see man is the problem? There's something wrong with man! We were "born in sin" a preacher friend of mine said "man was born wrong and needs to be born again. That's what Jesus told, Nicodemus, he needed a new heart!

What is meant by the word heart according to the Bible?

I've lived to be in my seventies now and during all those many years my greatest desire has been to know my heart, to really know myself. That I might better put on Christ in death to the old man. What a failure! I've longed more than anything else to understand human nature and why we behave the way we do. In the Universities, the Colleges, seminars and libraries across this nation I've sought to be made aware of, to know **WHO I AM**. Men do not know themselves as they should! Men would rather "live in darkness" Jesus said. Would you like to know your own self? Most men wouldn't! Because they know to do so would hold them accountable to a Moral Supreme Being. Conscience! Men know right from wrong and still choose to do evil. Do you know why? The HEART! Do you know your heart? Do you know the person living inside you? If you did it would produce such terrific fear that you would be driven to flee for safety or go mad. Men refuse and don't won't to know themselves, the truth about their hearts! That's why men are trying to replace the Bible with so many false perversions. That's the reason the majority of humanity rejects the Bible. That's why men refuse to turn to God for answers. It wasn't until I turned to the Bible, believed God did He open my eyes to the wickedness of my own heart. It drove me to Christ! I'm ashamed to say that too many in the church today decline to hear from Christ right here! Men's consciences are seared! Their brains baked! Minds poisoned by evil spirits. One preacher years ago called the conscience "the hound of hell." Without the conscience God turns man over to reprobation.

Conscience in man says: "Thou shalt," and "Thou shalt not," "I ought," and "I ought not." These mandates are not self-imposed. They imply the existence of a Moral Governor to whom we are responsible. Conscience,--there it is in the breast of man, an ideal Moses thundering from an invisible Sinai the Law of a holy Judge. "Were it not for the voice speaking so clearly in my conscience and my heart, I should be an atheist, or a pantheist, on my way to hell. When I look into the world." Some things are wrong, others right: love is right, hatred is wrong nor is a thing right because it pleases, or wrong because it displeases. Where did we get this standard of right and wrong? Morality is obligatory, not optional. Who made it obligatory? Who has a right to command my life? We must believe that there is a God, or believe that the very root of our nature is a lie. The conscience proves the existence of a moral God.

Another desire of mine is the yearning for the day when Jesus Christ will be magnified and glorified in His written and spoken Word. I won't be able to say "I told you so" but I will have a Baptist fit, you better believe that! And that occurs when Christ returns and makes an end to SIN. I know that will not happen until Jesus Christ comes and makes war on this fallen race of sinful men, when our Creator re-creates a new heavens and a new earth, His present creation in waste and ruin, where sin has made its entrance with total devastation and the undoing of human kind, this earth and its heavens in totality included. "*We wait for a new heavens and a new earth...*" During all those seventy years one question has plague my mind, why? WHY? I wish I had a nickel for every time that word "why" crossed my mind. I would be a multi-millionaire! God gave man the answer in His Word over 6000 years ago. WHY SIN? Why death? Why are men so evil? And still men will not believe God. Look at the massive destruction SIN has brought upon this world. Just recently in Washington, DC one man took four hostages, a wealthy family and their maid at home in their mansion, tortured them for eighteen hours, killed them and set the mansion ablaze, stealing forty thousand dollars. Tragedy! Still today as down through history man refuses to accept this matter of God's estimation of SIN and its consequences upon the human heart. What hatred lies hidden in the depths of the human heart?

One Sunday morning I questioned one of the prominent deacons in my home church after a Sunday school class, I had him read Jeremiah 17:9 "*The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked who can know it.*" I told him what I thought it meant and that was exactly what it said! I've never forgot his response, he said, Del, "Oh, it doesn't mean that, the heart is not that bad." Even then I knew that man had a problem but because of his position in the church, he being my senior and out of respect I turned and walked away confused and honestly upset that he did not believe God's Word. Men today will not believe God. He must have had stupid written across his forehead, I knew there were fools in the church but not him I said to myself. Only a fool will refuse to take God at His Word! I looked up to him you see his daughter was my high school sweetheart. Perhaps, because of his wealth and prominence in the First Baptist Church of Newport News and owning one of the largest real estate and insurance companies in Hampton Roads he was blind to the condition of his own heart. He died so young, it was so sad.

Man will never really know his true condition "why wrong exist" "why there is evil in the world" until he's ready to accept God's answer! Men refuse to believe God, Christians won't believe God, and our churches are in a mess today because men don't believe the Bible! "Why are ye of so little faith?" Jesus asked. We will not accept God's answer to the reason for evil

being in the world. His answer gets right down personal, it comes home, and WE ARE THE REASON! WE ARE THE GUILTY PARTY! We deny responsibility! God's why? Oh! We claim to believe God and take Him at His Word when in reality we call Him a liar. Eighty-five percent (85%) of church members deny God's Word right here! We go along with the Bible critics and change God's Word to suit our own fancy, just smiling at God, when God knows the heart of every man, searches the hearts of men to find out what is in man and still we go on refusing to agree with God, refusing to accept God's diagnosis when it comes to the condition of man's heart! THE HATRED IN THE HEARTS OF MEN! And what to do about it! My war is with the hatred in man's heart! Prisons, sanatoriums, hospitals, nursing homes, armed forces, wars, treaties, laws, judges, lawyers, police departments, asylums, doctors, nurses, social entities and much more exist because of the hatred in man's heart! If we could cure the hatred in man's heart there would be no need for any of the vocations just listed. The economy would collapse! Do you think men want a cure for man's hatred? Not on your life or mine, "men love darkness, rather than light, because their deeds are evil." We are the culprits, we are the guilty ones and we reject God's estimation, condition of our own hearts rather choosing to live in darkness.

"Hearken unto me now therefore, O ye children, and attend to the words of my mouth. Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths. For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her. Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death." Prov. 7:24-27

One preacher friend asked years ago if I would trust him. And when I told him "no" he hasn't spoken to me in twenty years. Even after many attempts to rectify my rationale for saying no. He just would not accept my explanation, "man's heart departs from the Lord."

"Thus saith the LORD; CURSED be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD." Jeremiah 17: 5 God doesn't trust you, me or anyone! Get that settled right now!

Some time back I preached a revival in Graham, NC, on a Monday night, I delivered a message on Brokenness and the Human Heart the Sure Way to Revival. After services several of the men cornered me and ask why I hated human nature so much, not even giving me a chance to reply. So I just said because God hates it! God hates the heart of fallen man! He's at war with the heart! There can never be any peace between God and the flesh, your fallen heart. You may offer God your heart but He would never accept it! It's corrupt, vile, wicked and incurable. He does offer to replace it with a new one to all who will believe, yes, He does! So what is meant by the heart in the Bible? I'm glad you ask.

What is the heart, what is meant by the heart in the Bible?

First, I'll state the obvious: this article is not about the heart as a vital organ, a muscle that pumps blood throughout the body. Neither is this article concerned with romantic, philosophical, or literary definitions.

Instead, I'll focus on what the Bible has to say about the heart. The Bible mentions the human heart almost 300 times. In essence, this is what it says: the heart is that spiritual part of us where our emotions and desires dwell. In the Bible the heart is the term used for the "center of man's

thinking”, emotions and will. Man “thinks” in his heart, Gen. 6:5, Prov. 23:7. Man “understands” with his heart, Prov. 2:2. He “deviseth his way” with his heart, Prov. 16:9. He “meditates” with his heart, Ps. 19:14. He “considers” Deut. 4:39, “purposes” Dan. 1:8, “reasons” Luke 5:22, “desires” Rom. 10:1 has “intents” Heb. 4:12. From the heart proceed all the actions and motivations of man, Prov. 4:23, Matt. 15:18-20, Mark 7:21-23.

Before we look at the human heart, we’ll mention that, since God has emotions and desires, He, too, can be said to have a “heart.” We have a heart because God does. David was a man “*after God’s own heart*” Acts 13:22. And God blesses His people with leaders who know and follow His heart (1 Samuel 2:35; Jeremiah 3:15).

The human heart, also called the soul in the Bible, in its natural condition, is evil, treacherous and deceitful. Jeremiah 17:9 says, “*The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*” In other words, the “fall” has affected us at the deepest level; our mind, emotions and desires have been corrupted by sin—and we are blind to just how all-encompassing that sin is, how comprehensive the problem, the total ruin of man. The deceitful heart! Even in believers “there is none good, no not one” we all still carry around the sinful nature, the old man, that dirty heart that has been corrupted by the fall. The only difference between the natural man and the saved man is the Holy Spirit. God the Holy Spirit who has moved in and desires complete control; He is the Preacher, the Soul-winner the very life essence Himself.

We may not understand our own hearts, but God does. He “knows the secrets of the heart” (Psalm 44:21; see also 1 Corinthians 14:25). Jesus “knew all men, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man” John 2:24-25. Based on His knowledge of the heart, God can judge righteously: “*I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.*” Jeremiah 17:10.

“But the LORD said unto Samuel, look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7

Jesus pointed out the fallen condition of our hearts in Mark 7:21-23: “*For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.*” Our biggest problem is not external but internal; all of us have a heart problem. It’s been said that we all were born wrong!

In order for a person to be saved, then, the heart must be changed. This only happens by the power of God in response to faith. “With the heart one believes unto righteousness” (Romans 10:10). In His grace, God can create a new heart within us (Psalm 51:10; Ezekiel 36:26). He promises to “revive the heart of the contrite ones” Isaiah 57:15.

God’s work of creating a new heart within us involves testing our hearts (Psalm 17:3; Deuteronomy 8:2) and filling our hearts with new ideas, new wisdom, and new desires (Nehemiah 7:5; 1 Kings 10:24; 2 Corinthians 8:16).

The heart is the core of our being, and the Bible sets high importance on keeping our hearts pure: *“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.”* Proverbs 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

In every one of us, there is someone inside of us looking out at the world around them, looking out by way of the eyes of our body, the eyes of the soul. “The eye is the entrance to the soul”, by which that someone sees the world around them and that someone is the real you, the heart. Actually no one has really seen *Del Wray* they see the body in which he lives. You’ve never seen me a day in your life! No you haven’t! I’m inside my body looking out at you. Let me put it this way scripturally:

“No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.” John 1:18

“If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.” John 14: 7-10

It may seem contradictory but it’s not when understood as a trichotomy.

The soul and the spirit are the two primary immaterial aspects that Scripture ascribes to humanity. It can be confusing to attempt to discern the precise differences between the two. The word “spirit” refers only to the immaterial facet of humanity. Human beings have a spirit, but we are not spirits. However, in Scripture, only believers are said to be spiritually alive (1 Corinthians 2:11; Hebrews 4:12; James 2:26), while unbelievers are spiritually dead (Ephesians 2:1-5; Colossians 2:13). In Paul's writing, the spiritual was pivotal to the life of the believer (1 Corinthians 2:14; 3:1; Ephesians 1:3; 5:19; Colossians 1:9; 3:16). The spirit is the element in humanity which gives us the ability to have an intimate relationship with God. Whenever the word “spirit” is used, it refers to the immaterial part of humanity that “connects” with God, who Himself is Spirit (John 4:24).

The word “soul” can refer to both the immaterial and material aspects of humanity. Unlike human beings having a spirit, human beings are souls. In its most basic sense, the word “soul” means “life.” However, beyond this essential meaning, the Bible speaks of the soul in many contexts. One of these is humanity’s eagerness to sin (Luke 12:26). Humanity is naturally evil, and our souls are tainted as a result. The life principle of the soul is removed at the time of physical death (Genesis 35:18; Jeremiah 15:2). The soul, as with the spirit, is the center of many spiritual and emotional experiences (Job 30:25; Psalm 43:5; Jeremiah 13:17). Whenever the word “soul” is used, it can refer to the whole person, whether alive or in the afterlife.

The soul and the spirit are connected, but separable (Hebrews 4:12). The soul is the essence of humanity’s being; it is who we are. The spirit is the aspect of humanity that connects with God.

The soul and the heart may be considered as one and the same, vile, corrupt and evil apart from Jesus Christ! The real you!

Visiting a missionary friend of mind several years ago in Virginia, she was in her late nineties, on her dying bed in the living room of her sister's home, after having spent her entire adult life on the mission field in Africa. This dear woman had granted her library to me and we went by to thank her. We, my wife and I talked with her for hours, her mind and speech was clear as any fifty year old. She told us something that I'll never forget as she described the heart of man. She said, "In every one of us there is a serpent that's out to kill us and that serpent is the heart." She knew human nature very well. And the crux of this article is just this:

We do not know our own hearts! Human nature!

We who are believers do not know the depths to which SIN has taken and befallen the Human Race. Our hearts deceive us! We deceive ourselves! The human race is its own worst enemy! And if I've learned anything during the last seventy-two years it's to hate myself. I don't even trust myself "*The fool trusteth in his own heart.*" (Prov. 28:26) "*The fool hath said in his heart there is no God.*" (Psalms 14:1) My own heart has deceived me so gravely and dangerously. Ninety-eight percent 98% of sin in this sin cursed world and in the individual life comes from the heart of man. Only two percent 2% is caused by the temptation of the world, flesh and the devil. Only a fool will not believe what I'm writing here! Let me give you a perfect example and I do not wish to be callas as I write of the most recent death of Robin Williams the Hollywood comedian, who was found dead two nights ago from hanging as he committed suicide. Robin Williams they say took his own life because of depression. He had everything a man could want, money, fame, popularity, lived in a mansion with a wonderful family. Still he committed suicide; his heart got the best of him. Nothing could fill the void in his life even after all he had acquired. Folks, only Jesus Christ can fill the void and empty longing in a man's heart. Speaking for myself, I'm afraid to act, to speak without the power of God on me and certainly it hast to be within the confines of God's precious holy Word! Knowing one day I will give an account to Him! I take it very seriously! Let me quote William Tyndall:

"I call God to record against the day we shall appear before our Lord Jesus Christ to give a reckoning of our doings that I never altered one syllable of God's Word against my conscience."

Until we who make up His visible, local church come to grips with this matter of the depravity of the human heart we only bring derision and scorn upon ourselves and His church.

"Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not high minded, but fear: For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee."
Rom. 11: 20-21

America is in the condition that it's in right now because believers won't believe God when it comes to the condition of our own hearts. The poison from the serpent, "hatred in the human heart" has affected us all".

Why does a ten year old boy walk into his father's bedroom with a shotgun and murder his father while he's sleeping? How can a mother drown her five children in a bath tub blaming it on voices in her head? What possesses a mother to strap her two children in car seats and then push the car into a lake in NC while watching them drown? It's happening hundreds of times every day right here in America. I'll tell you why; "hatred in the human heart." That's why! And we Christians think we are better than other folks. God have mercy on us! Every preacher in America, every Christian here in America as well as around the world, you stray far enough away from God the potential is there in you to do the same thing as above. I know and independent Baptist preacher whose son profess to have gotten saved and for years was devoted to his father's church, married got away from church and out of jealousy bludgeoned his wife to death with a hammer, she was un-recognizable. Buried his wife a year ago and he now sits in prison in West Virginia, still awaiting trial for murder. America will never be saved from the trash dump of nations until us Christians do business with God over the wickedness in the human heart! God knows my heart, He knows your heart, and He knows I love people! I love you! And that's the only reason for this document. The greatest need of mankind is victory over the hatred in the human heart!

I'm not trying to be mean spirited or hateful towards anyone, I have no axe to grind, we've just gone down the road the wrong way for far too long and I'm afraid there's no way back except for those individuals who come to Jesus Christ before it is too late! How can I overcome this hatred in my heart? You say there's no hatred in my heart and after reading this paper. Yes there is! You wait to someone offends you or crosses you the wrong way. Just wait! Open up your Bible and read what God says we are to do! Read it yourself!

WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

*"For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a **contrite** and **humble spirit**, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."* (Isaiah 57:15)

"For all those things hath mine handmade, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word." (Isaiah 66:2)

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise." (Psalms 51:17)

"The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit." (Psalms 34:18)

Entire chapter of Isaiah 66

"Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? And where is the place of my rest?"

For all those things hath mine handmade, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man; he that sacrificeth a lamb, as if he cut off a dog's neck; he that offereth an oblation, as if he offered swine's blood; he that burneth incense, as if he blessed an idol. Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations.

I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not.

Hear the word of the LORD, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the LORD be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed.

A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the LORD that rendereth recompence to his enemies.

Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.

Who hath heard such a thing? Who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? Saith the LORD: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? Saith thy God

Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her:

That ye may suck, and be satisfied with the breasts of her consolations; that ye may milk out, and be delighted with the abundance of her glory.

For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees.

As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

And when ye see this, your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb: and the hand of the LORD shall be known toward his servants, and his indignation toward his enemies.

For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many!

They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the LORD.

For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.

And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.

And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD.

And I will also take of them for priests and for Levites, saith the LORD.

For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.”

A part from God the Holy Spirit man is a helpless, hopeless ship, wrecked on the shores of time, with only a moment between him slipping beneath the waves of sin and drowning in the endless seas of eternity having his destiny fixed in the torments of Hell with no relief and no exits! No hope, empty and lost! The only answer being the presence of Jesus Christ in the new heart God promise to those who will believe Him!

“For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.” Rom. 5:10 Saved by HIS LIFE!

One is truly saved by God’s grace and sanctified, spiritually grows, thru God’s grace ALONE! Because of the very indwelling presence of God, Jesus Christ in his life! Not my life, not how I

live but He lives thru me! I'm not the preacher, He is! I'm not the soul winner, He is! I'm not the Christian present, He is! Preacher's who stand behind the pulpits and deliver the greatest oratorios ever, even a thousand powerful sermons eloquently. They are committing high treason against the very throne of God if Jesus Christ is not the preacher, the One doing the preaching and the only One who can transcend time and space dealing, doing business with the hearts of His listeners!

*"To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory.**" Col 1:27*

Do you have Jesus Christ in you?

If not or you're not sure here's how:

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ..." Acts 16:31

Look it up in your! Bible!

"But as many as receive Him..." John 1:12

Read it from God's own Word yourself!

"...God be merciful to me a sinner..." Luke 18:13

Read it! Try it! God will work it out in you!

Your heart can deceive you but God's own Word will never! He cannot lie.

Believe it!

If I can help please feel free to contact me: biblerays.com

"In every one of us there is a serpent that's out to kill us and that serpent is the heart."