

ON BEING A PERSON "AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART"

1 Samuel 13:8-14

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THE GREATNESS OF CHARACTER THAT DISTINGUISHED DAVID FROM SAUL WAS NOT IN DAVID'S OUTWARD CIRCUMSTANCES OR EVEN HIS INBORN ATTRIBUTES, BUT IN THE CHOSEN DISPOSITION OF HIS HEART.

"He was a man "after God's own heart."

What attributes are suggested by this remarkable phrase?

ON BEING A PERSON "AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART"

We must genuinely respect God's will.

We must reverently repent of sin.

We must refuse to give up seeking God.

"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21)

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The Heart Can Help

"The king shall have joy in Your strength, O Lord; And in Your salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!" (Psalms 21:1)

"Do not sorrow, for the joy of the Lord is your strength" (Nehemiah 8:10)

There is no stronger person than the one who fully feels the joy that can be found in God.

"for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross" (Hebrews 12:2)

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Head and Heart

"He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him" (1 John 2:4-5)

God is not only the "what" of love; He is also the "why."

"He who does not love does not know God, for God is love" (1 John 4:8)

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Head and Heart

"This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome" (1 John 5:3)

Our obedience to God must be grounded in our love for Him.

Our love must be determined by our knowledge of God.

When all is said and done, that is why we want to go to heaven.

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True Heart, Brave Heart

"Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus" (Mark 15:43).

HOW DANGEROUS A JOURNEY ARE WE WILLING TO UNDERTAKE IN ORDER TO GET TO GOD?

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True Heart

The faith needed to seek God is a faith that must be sincere.

"Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith" (Hebrews 10:22)

Singing: Ephesians 5:15-21, Colossians 3:16

Drinking: 1 Timothy 5:23 & Ephesians 5:18 "Do not get drunk" Galatians 5:16-21

Assembly: Hebrews 10:24-25; Romans 10:1-2 & Acts 17:11

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Brave Heart

"count the cost" Luke 14:25-33

Revelation 21:8 are the "cowardly"

"Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ" (Philippians 3:8)

"Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart" (Psalms 27:14)

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The Prepared Heart

"For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel" (Ezra 7:10)

OUR "NATURE" IS GIVEN TO US BY GOD, BUT OUR "CHARACTER" IS CREATED BY OUR CHOICES

Ezra is said to have "prepared his heart."

We also see that in Abraham (Hebrews 11:8) "Not knowing where he was going"; (James 2:21-23) "Friend of God"

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The Prepared Heart

- (1) seek God's will,
- (2) do whatever he learned, and
- (3) teach to others the things that he had both learned and lived.

Seeking, doing, and teaching ... the will of God

What kind of people do we intend to be?

The devil is eager to test how well prepared our hearts really are.