

# “Keep Your Heart”

Prov. 4:23-27

Introduction: In our reading, Solomon said, “Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.” Solomon seems to be implying that our hearts determine our actions. Jesus would agree (Mark 7:21-23). So what is the heart that we must learn to keep it?

I. Our heart is not...

- A. Our conscience (Rom. 2:14-15).
- B. Our soul (Matt. 22:37).

II. The heart is that part in us that...

- A. Thinks (Matt. 9:1-4; Acts 8:18-22).
- B. Reasons (Mark 2:6-8).
- C. Understands (Matt. 13:15).
- D. Knows (Eccl. 7:21-22).
- E. Believes (Rom. 10:10).
- F. Trusts (Prov. 3:5-6).
- G. Loves (1 Tim. 1:5).
- H. Hates (Psm. 105:25).
- I. Wills (Ex. 35:29).
- J. Condemns (1 John 3:20-21).

III. Our heart is our inner most being. It’s the real you.

- A. It’s the part of you no one but God can see (Heb. 4:12).
- B. It is what defines us as a person.
  - 1. It manifests our emotions (Isa. 65:14; Psm. 69:20; 2 Cor. 2:4).
  - 2. It displays our attitude (1 John 3:17).
  - 3. It determines our words (Eccl. 5:2).
  - 4. It reveals our thoughts and actions (Matt. 15:18-19).

IV. Those that control their hearts will see God. “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God” (Matt. 5:8).

Conclusion: Interestingly, the reason there are wicked people in this world is because they believe in their heart that they are not accountable to God (Psm. 10:13). The truth is we are all accountable to God (Heb. 4:13). So our hearts can deceive us as well. We must diligently keep our hearts right with God. Are you diligent in keeping your heart?