

1 **A Theology of Heart Change .Part 1**

Mark 7:5-23

2

3

"Perhaps in this up-beat age of positive thinking and self esteem, we squirm and fret at such a 'gloomy assessment' of ourselves. However, would any of us deny that we have a more than nodding acquaintance with Pogo's wisdom?"

--Jim Owen, professor, Master's College, author of: *Christian Psychology's War on God's Word: The Victimization of the Believer* --

4

"Sin and corruption would bubble out of my heart as naturally as water bubbles out of a fountain."

--John Bunyan --

5

■1) Are people (in general) basically good or basically bad.?

– 77% said man's basic nature is good.

■2) Are you depending exclusively on Christ for your salvation?

– Only 56% said they relying on Christ alone!

6

"The centrality of the Christ and His cross is being replaced by a preoccupation with ourselves-our happiness, our problems, our rights and our worth. Both the uniqueness of the gospel and its integrity are being compromised."

--Jim Owen--

7

"Such a state of compromise has led many Christians into lives filled with

desperation and shame, self-abuse and endless guilt, sinful habits and bondage to lust. For many professing Christians there is no new creation, no victory, no joy, no praise. Why not? Because there is no reality of the living Christ, whose grace is more than sufficient.”

--Jim Owen--

8  **I. Man is Not Basically Good!**

9  **A. What the Bible says about Man’s Heart Condition**
Genesis 6:5 (NASB)

Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that **every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.**

10 


11 

12 

13 

14  **II. How We Got There**
A. The Medical Model

15 


 Pastor Bunyan has poor self-esteem and is filled with self-loathing and apparently depressed.


He is mentally ill. We must write him a prescription.

16 

17 

18  **A Clear Contrast**

 In Psychology man is seen as a victim in need of therapy.

 In Scripture man is seen as a sinner in need of a Savior.

19 

20 

“...sees man’s fundamental problem as ignorance of himself and his psychic injuries, rather than deliberate disobedience to and ignorance of the living and true God...

“Man’s primary need becomes esteeming himself more highly, rather than

dying to self and living for God through faith in Christ.”

--Jim Owen--

21 **III. A New Hermeneutic**

A. A hermeneutic centered on the pathology of the flesh has been substituted for a hermeneutic based on the historical grammatical method.

■ The result is a man-centered theology whereby Scripture is seen through the lens of psychology.

22 

23 **Matt. 22:37-39**

- 1 ■ Old Interpretation
- 1) Love God
 - 2) Love Your Neighbor

- 2 ■ New Interpretation
- 1) Love Yourself
 - 2) Love God
 - 3) Love Your Neighbor

24 **B. Man-three parts or two?**

- 1 ■ Dichotomy
- Physical (material)
 - Soul & Spirit (immaterial)

- 2 ■ Trichotomy
- Physical (material)
 - Mind/Soul (immaterial)
 - Spirit (immaterial)

25 

26 **Psyche**

- Strong's
- 2a) the seat of the feelings, desires, affections, aversions (**our heart**, soul etc.)
 - 2c) the soul as an essence which differs from the body and is not dissolved by death (distinguished from other parts of the body)

27 

28 

29 **IV. Defining the Heart Biblically**

- Thayers-kardia
- 2b1) kardia-the soul or mind, as it is the fountain and seat of the thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, affections, purposes, endeavours 2b3) of the will and character 2b4) of the soul so far as it is affected and stirred in a bad way or good, or of the soul as the seat of the sensibilities, affections, emotions, desires, appetites, passions

30 ☐ Jay Adams

"Heart, in the Bible, does not mean emotions or feelings, as it does today in Western society. **Rather, it encompasses everything that goes on inside a person**...the heart is the mind, soul, or spirit thought of as opposed to what one sees and hears (the outer person) In other words, the whole of the inner person."

31 ☐ John Frame

"The heart is the 'center' of the personality, the person himself in his most basic character. **Scripture represents it as the source of thought, of volition, of attitude, of speech. It is also the seat of moral knowledge.** In the Old Testament, heart is used in contexts where **conscience** would be an acceptable translation."

32 ☐ John MacArthur

"The 'heart' commonly refers **to the mind** as the center of thinking and reason, but also includes the **emotions, the will** and thus the whole inner being. The heart is the depository of all wisdom and the source of whatever affects speech, sight and conduct."

33 ☐