

Heart-Felt Religion

TEXT: Matt. 15:8-9

INTRODUCTION:

- A. OUR HEART SHOULD BE IN OUR RELIGION.
- B. EVERYONE CLAIMS HEART-FELT RELIGION.
- C. IN A BIBLICAL SENSE, **WHAT IS HEART-FELT RELIGION?**

I. WHAT IS THE HEART OF THE BIBLE? WHAT DOES IT DO?

- A. INTELLECTUAL PROCESSES(**Heb.4:12; Mar.2:8; Mat.13:15; Rom.10:10**).
- B. EMOTIONAL PROCESSES(**Matt. 22:37; 2 Sam. 6:16**).
- C. PROCESSES OF THE WILL(**2 Cor. 9:7**).
- D. THE **HEART** IS THE **ENTIRE MIND!**

II. THE HEART MUST CHANGE TO PLEASE GOD.

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

- A. ALL AGREE THAT OUR HEART MUST CHANGE.
 - 1. Our thinking, reasoning, understanding, belief. We go from the state of ignorant unbelief to enlightened belief(**Mark 16:16; Rom. 10:10**).
 - 2. Emotions - Loves and hatreds transferred(**Matt. 6:24; Rom. 12:9**).
 - 3. This will must be changed - we purpose to serve God(**Rom. 6:12-13**).
- B. **SOME ACCUSE US OF SAYING THAT THERE IS NO CHANGE, BECAUSE WE DENY THE CHANGE IS MIRACULOUS.**
- C. **HOW IS THIS CHANGE TO BE WROUGHT?**
 - 1. **Intellect**(**John 20:30-31; Rom. 10:17**).
 - 2. **Emotions**. Constrained by love(**2 Cor. 5:14; John 3:16; 1 John 4:19**).
 - 3. **Will** - Our intellect and emotions govern the will. One ought not act without the other.

III. IS A CHANGE OF HEART THE ONLY CHANGE IN CONVERSION?

- A. WHAT WE DO IS A PRODUCT OF THE HEART(**Luke 6:43-45**).
- B. WE PUT OFF THE OLD MAN AND HIS DOINGS(**Col. 3:9-10**).
- C. A MAN MUST DO WHAT HIS INTELLECT TELLS HIM IS RIGHT AND REASONABLE, WHAT HIS EMOTIONS COMPEL, AND WHAT HE HAS WILLED TO DO(**James 1:22-25**).
- D. THERE WILL FOLLOW A CHANGE IN RELATIONSHIP(**2 Cor. 5:18-20**).
- E. AND A CHANGE IN DISPOSITION(**Phil. 4:4-7**).

CONCLUSION: CONSIDER IN YOUR HEART THESE FACTS.

- A. **Rom. 3:23; 6:23.**
- B. **2 Pet. 3:9; John 3:16**
- C. **Heb. 5:8-9; Acts 2:38**