

GIVE ME YOUR HEART, PLEASE!

'My son, give me your heart and let your eyes keep to my ways.' (Proverbs 23:26)

This verse from the bible written by king Solomon spoken by God. In the anatomy of the human body, the heart is the concern of all. For if the beating of the living heart stops it means life is gone. But as we go through the word of God, the bible says that human is composed of body, soul and spirit. In regard to the soul, the heart will be the center of feelings and emotions. And these vary between happiness or sadness, joy or sorrow, love or hatred, pain or relief, peace or waging war, etc. And in regard to the spirit component of the human, the heart is the place that accommodates the Spirit of God.

The above passage is a clear order from the Lord, **'Give me your heart!'** Every humankind whatever he is smart, or trying to look smart, handsome, elegant, well-built, well-dressed, polite, humble, benefactor, well-educated, eloquent speaker, rich etc., they are all well and fine. **'But the Lord said to Samuel: Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.'** (1 Samuel 16:7)

Today, we are at a check point. Everybody is requested to put out his heart and give it to the Lord. Are we stocked in hers? No progress in the journey of life? This is how it could be if we do not surrender our hearts to the Master. Why are you so shy to show your heart? What kind of heart do you have, anyway?

1) A broken heart: You might have passed through bad experiences in life like failure of love relationship, loss of lovely ones, loss of position, loss of treasure and wealth, or loss of body parts. All these lead to the state of a broken heart. **"In return for my friendship they accuse me, but I am a man of prayer. They repay me evil for good, and hatred for my friendship."** (Psalm 109:4-5) A broken heart has denial, has anger, has sorrow, and depression. What is the solution for such a heart? Is your heart having a crack, or a hole? Give it to the Potter for a quick repair. It is only God's love that can fill it up through Jesus Christ. Pray, invite Him in, and ask for speedy healing. He will compensate all the previous calamities that you passed through.

2) A heavy heart: Life in this world is full of anxieties, worries, and burdens to gain things or to do things. You cannot deny that while your life is away from God your heart seems always heavy, full of dross, fears, suspicions, envy, jealousy, and under the flaming arrows of the evil one. You may say, 'I am with the Lord'. Yet, if you do not surrender your heart to Him you will grow weary, get tired and burnt out. Give your heart to Jesus for He said, **'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.'** (Matthew 11: 28-30)

3) A bitter heart: Are you feeling discouraged, in bondage of bitterness, chained to hatred and unforgiving? **'I have nothing but hatred for them; I count them my enemies.'** (Psalm 139:22) If this is your feeling to the people around you, it is painful and harmful to your heart. You need the power of God to completely release you. **'Search me, God, and**

know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.' (Psalm 139:23-24)

4) An unclean heart: Is your life merged with sin, lust and greed, immoral relationships, evil attitude or ill behaviour? **'For out of the heart comes evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. These are what make a man unclean.'** (Matthew 15:19-20) If this is your situation, the time of cleansing has now come. Give to God your heart and say to Him, **'Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.'** (Psalm 51:10)

5) A stony heart: The Lord is now calling you to come back to Him. If you are the lost son who left God, your Father in heaven at this point is calling you, **'My son, give me your heart and let your eyes keep to my ways.'** Or if you are with the Lord, and He has been calling you to a certain ministry to serve Him but you are resisting, listen to Him today, **'I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you: I will remove from you your heart of stone and give a heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.'** (Ezekiel 36:26-27) God wants your heart to be like the heart of His son, Jesus Christ; He is full of compassion, and very obedient, even to the point of death on the cross.

6) A heart of a son: God loves the world and He wants everyone to be like His son. **'Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.'** (John 1:12) Can you find a love greater than the love of the Father towards His son? Do you find a father hating his very own son? Never, so no need to be afraid to give your heart to God the Father. He has something special and beneficial for you, but He cannot move unless you totally surrender your heart to Him. Trust Him, give Him your heart, **and in return you gain a life abundant, a life eternal.**

The heart is the symbol of love, and **'This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers,'** (1 John 3:16) By the death of Jesus on the cross our sins are taken away and we become clean. The spirit of God reaches the hearts of those who believe in Jesus' death and resurrection, and they become sons of God and heir of eternal life. **'Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of His son into our hearts, the spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father,' So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.'** (Galatians 4:6-7)

My dear and beloved: The Lord is asking for your heart. Whatever you have, God will accept it if you strongly desire and decide to give to Him. He has all the power and the love to mend and to repair the broken hearts. To ease and to comfort the heavy hearts; to purify and to refresh the embittered hearts; to cleanse and to renew the unclean hearts; to remove and to change the callous and stony hearts; and to mold and direct the hearts of His children. But to receive all these privileges, you need to decide now and accept Him in your heart as you pray:

My Prayer: 'Heavenly Father, thank you for showing your love to me through Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins. I invite your Holy Spirit to enter into my heart; to forgive me my sins and give me new life; to fill me with love, joy, and peace. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen!'