

## STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART

July 13&14, 2013

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### **MATTHEW 22:34-40 ESV**

*But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.*

Heart - The center of your entire personality, your feelings, will and emotions

### **What are some other heart conditions to be wary of?**

1. The unguarded heart

### **PROVERBS 4:23**

*Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.*

2. The unrepentant heart

### **LUKE 7:24-30**

*When the messengers of John had departed, He began to speak to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed those who are gorgeously appareled and live in luxury are in kings' courts. But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.' For I say to you, among those born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." And when all the people heard Him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.*

### **MARK 6:17-20**

*For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; for he had married her. Because John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." Therefore Herodias held it against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not; for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man,*

*and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly.*

**LUKE 23:6-9**

*When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked if the Man were a Galilean. And as soon as he knew that He belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time. Now when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceedingly glad; for he had desired for a long time to see Him, because he had heard many things about Him, and he hoped to see some miracle done by Him. Then he questioned Him with many words, but He answered him nothing.*

**3. The condemned heart**

**JEREMIAH 17:9**

*The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?*

**1JOHN 3:18-21**

*My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.*

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**COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS**

1. What are some of the ways we can guard our hearts?
2. If repentance is part of being a Christian, why are we reluctant or failing to do it?
3. Are there any ways your heart has been condemned lately that you would like to share?