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## LOVE AND A PURE HEART

A STUDY OF TIMOTHY  
NUMBER 4  
I TIMOTHY 1:5

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I Timothy 1:5 "Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned."

Thus far we have covered only a part of this verse. We have already studied: "But the objective of preaching is love." The emphasis here is on love for God.

### THE DOCTRINE OF LOVE FOR GOD

#### I. DEFINITION

There are three categories of love: love for God, love for right partner, and love for friends. The love for God consists of man's ability to love God and to respond to God's love for him, based on Bible Doctrine resident in the soul. When the believer reaches maturity, this love is called "occupation with Christ." The first command given concerning our love for God is found in the fifth book of the Bible.

Deuteronomy 6:5 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."

#### II. HOW TO MAKE LOVE FOR GOD A REALITY

We cannot see God, therefore the only real way to know God and to love God is through his Word. Bible Doctrine resident in the soul is the means that makes it possible for us to love God. The reverent believer has no means for really loving God. The immature believer does not have any great consuming love for God because he also lacks doctrine in the soul. YOU CANNOT LOVE GOD UNLESS YOU KNOW GOD. Paul expressed this very beautifully in these great verses.

II Timothy 1:12 "For the which cause I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

Philippians 3:10 "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death."

These verses really mean that Paul wanted to know Christ so he could intelligently love him. Therefore, when you become positive toward doctrine and come to know doctrinal truth, the door opens so you can love God. This is why we have this great command to assemble together for worship.

Hebrews 10:25 "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." It is so easy to have emotional claptrap and call it worship and call it love for God. We never come to really love God through emotional experiences.

I Peter 1:18 "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers." This verse speaks of loving the invisible God, and to love the invisible God requires more than an emotional experience.

Ephesians 3:18-19 "May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."

This "surpassing knowledge love of Christ" is only known from the understanding of doctrine. This is why the pastor/teacher has a great opportunity to love Christ so much, that is, provided he lives with Bible Doctrine every day.

II Timothy 1:13-14 "Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us."

These verses show that doctrine and love go along together.

III. LOVE FOR GOD SETS UP A STANDARD FOR GRACE

Psalm 119:132 "Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou usest to do unto those that love thy name."

Psalm 31:23 "O love the Lord, all ye his saints; for the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer."

IV. LOVE FOR GOD IS THE BASIS FOR SUPER GRACE BLESSINGS

I Corinthians 2:9 "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

Love is the gateway to blessings.

Psalm 37:4-5 "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass." In this verse, we have the Hebrew verb anag and it means "to make love" to God. This is only accomplished by taking in Bible Doctrine into the soul.

V. LOVE FOR GOD IS THE BASIS FOR PERSONAL AS WELL AS NATIONAL BLESSING

Deuteronomy 30:15 "See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil."

Deuteronomy 30:16 "In that I command thee this day to love the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the Lord thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it."

Deuteronomy 30:20 "That thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

These verses show that personal and national blessings are tied up with your attitude toward Bible Doctrine.

VI. LOVE FOR GOD MOTIVATES COMBAT COURAGE AND MILITARY VICTORY

Joshua 23:10-11 "One man of you shall chase a thousand; for the Lord your God, he it is that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you. Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye love the Lord your God."

VII. LOVE FOR GOD PROVIDES STRENGTH FOR ADVERSITY AND PRESSURE

Hebrews 11:27 "By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible."

Moses came to be occupied with Christ and that was the source of his victory.

Hebrews 12:3 "For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. When you "faint in your minds" then you cease to love God as you should and spiritual power declines.

VIII. THERE IS A SPECIAL CURSE ON BELIEVERS WHO FAIL TO BECOME OCCUPIED WITH CHRIST

I Corinthians 16:22 "If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha." The last two words in this verse are Aramaic and they mean "cursed until our Lord comes." This verse brings out the idea that a curse falls on all those who neglect Bible Doctrine. The plan of God either carries you to great blessings or it curses you and Bible Doctrine determines whether you ever know the plan of God or not.

IX. WITNESSING MUST BE MOTIVATED BY LOVE FOR GOD

II Corinthians 5:14 "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead." Doctrine is the basis for correct witnessing and unless one is doctrinally mature he will find it is very difficult to witness.

X. A DESCRIPTION OF LOVE FOR GOD

I John 4:16 "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him."

I John 4:18 "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear; because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love."

We have studied that first phrase in this verse "The objective of preaching is love." Now notice the next phrase "out of a pure heart." What is a pure heart? What does the Bible mean when it says the word "heart?" Most people think of a physical heart. (Just as I write these lines, there is man in one of our western hospitals living with a mechanical heart in his body. Someone asked the doctor if this would change the man's thinking and his capacity for love. The doctor replied, "No, because you think and love with your mind and not with your physical heart.") The physical heart is the physical organ for pumping the blood throughout the human body, but the word "heart" is not used in this way in the Bible. Heart is used in the Bible to refer to thought in your soul. The heart therefore refers to the mentality of the soul. "Out of a pure heart" is a prepositional phrase from ek meaning "out;" the adjective katharos meaning "pure;" and the word kardia meaning "heart."

Proverbs 23:7 "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he; Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee."

Some Principles To Remember

Love is thinking. If you love someone you think of them. All cate-



gories of love are related to memory. Vocabulary is the means for expressing love. In learning doctrine, you develop a vocabulary. When conscience is properly indoctrinated, then love is channeled in the right direction. In this phrase, we are talking about a pure heart and this means free from evil and reversionism. This adjective katharos refers to righteousness, character, honor, and freedom from mental attitude sins. That's what a pure heart is: righteousness and not self-righteousness. When a person gets involved with evil, then a capacity for love vanishes.

### THE DOCTRINE OF THE HEART

#### I. THE PHYSIOLOGICAL HEART

This is the human organ which pumps the blood over the body. By contracting rhythmically, it causes the circulation of the blood. It pumps five quarts of blood per minute, 75 gallons in an hour, 70 barrels in a day, and 18 million barrels in 70 years. The heart is a double pump composed of two valves called the auricle and the ventricle. The heart circulates the blood very much the same as doctrine circulates through the soul. Heart is a Biblical word for the mentality of the soul.

#### II. THE BIBLE HEART

In the Bible the heart is a part of the soul, the thinking part of the mind. The heart has no emotional connotation in the Bible. For emotions in the Bible, we have such words as: bowels and kidneys. The Bible never used the word "heart" for the physiological organ in the body. The heart in the Bible is the organ of thinking. Proverbs 23:7 "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he. Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee." I Samuel 16:7 "But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him; for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." Proverbs 2:2 "So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding." Here we see that the heart is involved with thinking.

#### III. THE ESSENCE OF THE HEART

The heart is composed of parts.

##### a. The frame of reference

This is where all thought receives its basic training for functioning in your soul.

Proverbs 4:4 "He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words; keep my commandments, and live."

##### b. The memory center

This is a pump which circulates doctrine into various parts of the mind. Here you store your vocabulary. Words are vehicles for thinking.

##### c. The conscience

This is where you have the norms and standards for your life. Your norms and standards will advance as you take in doctrine. If your norms and standards are allowed to decline, then you slip into reversionism and evil and finally end up with the sin

unto death.

d. A series of launching pads

This is where you take the truth learned and apply it to life.

IV. THE DOCTRINAL CONTENT OF THE SOUL RESIDES IN THE HEART

Quite often we call the heart the right lobe.

Proverbs 5:12-13 "And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof; and have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!" Here the heart rejects Bible teaching.

The heart is the source of discord and trouble making.

Proverbs 6:14 "Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord."

The heart of a prostitute is said to be subtle.

Proverbs 7:10 "And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart."

Hatred is related to the heart.

II Samuel 6:16 "And as the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal, Saul's daughter, looked through a window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart."

The heart suffers disappointment from promises not kept.

Proverbs 13:12 "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick; but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life."

It is said in the Bible that women use the heart to trap men.

Ecclesiastes 7:26 "And I find more bitter than death the woman, whose heart is snares and nets, and her hands as bands; whoso pleaseth God shall escape from her; but the sinner shall be taken by her."

Hypocrisy is in the heart.

Psalms 55:21 "The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart; his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords."

V. THE HEART IS VITALLY RELATED TO THINKING AND PERCEPTION

Deuteronomy 29:4 "Yet the Lord hath not given you an heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, unto this day."

The heart is used for thinking and meditation.

Luke 2:19 "But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart."

VI. IN THE ANALOGY OF RIGHT MAN AND RIGHT WOMAN, THE HEART IS INVOLVED

Psalms 26:2 "Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; try my reins and my heart."

VII. THE HEART IS THE BASIC AREA FOR HAPPINESS AND UNHAPPINESS

We have such expressions in the Bible as "gladness of heart" and "the merry heart."

VIII. THE HEART IS THE MOTIVATOR OF LIFE

It motivates temporal life.

Exodus 35:25 "And all the women that were wise-hearted did spin with their hands, and brought that which they had spun, both of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, and of fine linen."

It motivates spiritual life.

II Corinthians 9:7 "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver."

IX. THE HEART IS RELATED TO POSITIVE VOLITION

Romans 10:9-10 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead thou shalt be saved. For with the heart, man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."