Learning The Heart of God

From The Psalms
Prophets & Parables

The heart is the source of our desires.
Psa 37: 4 “Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart”

The heart reveals what we value.
Jesus said, “For where your treasure is there will your heart be also.” Matt. 6:21

The heart reveals the inner person.
Prov. 27:19 “As in water face reflects face, so the heart of man reflects man”

Why a series on learning the Heart of God?

1) He is our Creator.

2) The more we learn of God's heart, the more our hearts can become like His. Psa 115:8, 2Cor. 3:18

* The purpose of this series is not just to gain more information about God's heart, but the transformation of our hearts to be more like His.

Why a series on learning the Heart of God?

3) The more we learn of God's heart the better we can represent Him. 2Cor. 5:20

4) As believers there is a longing deep within our hearts to know the heart of God. Phil. 3:10

5) Someday we will meet Him, are we prepared? "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ…" 2Cor. 5:10



THE Heart of God FROM THE PSALMS

9/7 Psalm 2, God is Righteousness & Holy, Bob J
9/14 Psalm 40, God's Covenant Faithfulness, Jim U
9/21 Psa 51, God Who Reconciles Rather than Exiles, DJ
9/28 Psa 73 God's Justice in an Unjust World, Jim U

Psalm 139 - Four Great Attributes of God:

Vs 1-6 His Omniscience
Vs 7-12 His Omnipresence
Vs 13-18 His Omnipotence
Vs 19-24 His Holiness

Psalm 116

Vs 1 “I love the Lord because…
He hears my voice and my supplications

Vs 2 Because He has inclined His ear to me,
Therefore I shall call upon Him as long as I live.”

“The first goal of listening is to understand the other person.
True listening requires a shift from self to others.
It requires the killing of your ego in a sense.
Putting others first in your listening and yourself second.
Not listening for what you want to hear.
Not listening so you can be right.
Not listening to judge.
But listening to discover.
Listening to understand.
Listening to love others better.”

Randy Fujishin

Vs 2 “…Therefore I shall call upon Him as long as I live.”

Jer. 33:3: “Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great & mighty things which you do not know.”

Vs 3 “The cords of death encompassed me And the terrors of Sheol came upon me; I found distress and sorrow.
Vs 4 Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
"O LORD, I beseech You, save my life!"
Vs 6 The LORD preserves the simple; I was brought low, and He saved me.
Vs 8 For You have rescued my soul from death,
My eyes from tears, My feet from stumbling.”

Another quality of God's heart:
Vs 5 "Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
Yes, our God is compassionate."

What does it mean to be gracious?
Webster: "having or showing kindness, courtesy…
being merciful, compassionate."

Compassionate:
Strong & Webster: "to love deeply, have mercy, to have tender affection, to feel pity, sorrow for the sufferings and troubles of another with the urge to help.
Deep sympathy."

Moses: Exodus 34:6 “Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, ‘The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth;’”

Hezekiah: 2Chronicles 30:9b “…For the LORD your God is gracious and compassionate, and will not turn His face away from you if you return to Him."

Nehemiah 9:31 "Nevertheless, in Your great compassion
You did not make an end of them or forsake them,
For You are a gracious and compassionate God."

Isaiah 30:18 "Therefore the LORD longs to be gracious
to you, And therefore He waits on high to have
compassion on you. For the LORD is a God of justice;
How blessed are all those who long for Him."

How did the Psalmist respond to his growing knowledge of God's heart?

1) vs7 "Return to your rest, O my soul, For the LORD has dealt bountifully with you."

Matt 11:28,29: "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. "Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls."

How did the Psalmist respond to his growing knowledge of God's heart?

2) vs 9 "I shall walk before the LORD In the land of the living"

Eph. 4:1 "walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called"

How did the Psalmist respond to his growing knowledge of God's heart?

3) He responded in worship.

Vs 12 "What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits toward me?

Vs 13 "I shall lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord."

How did the Psalmist respond to his growing knowledge of God's heart?

4) He had assurance of God's care for His own even in death.

vs15 "Precious in the sight of the LORD Is the death of His godly ones."

Why is the death of His saints precious to God?

1) For a believer in Christ, death ends the sorrow and suffering of this life. Rev. 21:4
2) Death ushers us directly into the presence of the Lord. John 14:1-2, 2Cor. 5:8
3) The Lord sees a saint's homecoming as something precious.
4) God paid an infinitely precious price to make this all possible. 1Peter 1:18

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