

“Time For a Heart Check”
Matthew 12: 33-42

August 28, 2022











Matthew 24:1-2 Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. "Do you see all these things?" he asked. "Truly I tell you, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."

41. Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it,

42. saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.

43. For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side,

44. and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

LUKE 19:41-44 (NKJV)

Solomon's
Colonnade

Robinson's
Arch

Barclay's Gate
and Lintel

Wilson's
Arch

Herodian
Stones in
Western Wall
as seen Today



Verse 33 - 35

Good Tree - Bad Tree
It's All About the Heart!

Fruit is emblematic of a person's character

Fruit is produced **naturally** by dwelling in Christ

What is truth?

*Truth is that which is real, not imagined,
not made up by the individual*

Who determines truth?

*God determines truth; He tells His
creation what is true*

The only way to change character and combat “*world think*” is to change our thinking

How do you change thinking?

By being conformed to the likeness of Christ – Romans 8: 29


RESULT: A change in brain chemistry



You were born again to be *TRANSFORMED!*

What will the result be?

Godly character, the Fruit of the Spirit



But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires... If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

GALATIANS 5:23;25

Verse 36 - 37

Our Tongue Reveals Our Heart
Scary!

**Idle words are *careless* words spoken rashly,
and without thought**

An immature spirit will spew with ease

How can I learn to guard my tongue?

*Do not reflexively answer; take time
to deal with your emotions, prior to
responding*

In the flesh, you will want to strike like a viper!



**Believer, you have the Holy Spirit in you,
enabling you not to strike like a viper!**

BUT

You must yield to the Spirit,

***And say NO to the flesh
to accomplish this***

Verse 38 - 40

Evil hearts want Jesus to do more signs

A sign is a miracle

**These rejectors want Jesus to perform for them;
Jesus already gave them abounding evidence**

The greatest sign is forthcoming

– ***the RESURRECTION!***

As Jonah was delivered from death in the fish and given life, *so*

***Jesus will be delivered from death, and be
raised to life from the earth!***

Our world has denied the Resurrection for 2000 years

They have a problem: The tomb was empty, and *no one found the body!*

The **Resurrection** is a **FACT** our unbelieving world must deal with

The **Resurrection** is a **FACT** every person must deal with

Jesus conquered the grave and death, and He did it for ***YOU!!*** – **John 14: 19**

If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then He would be a liar or a lunatic

HE AROSE!!

HE IS LORD!!

Verse 41 - 42

It's all about a Believing Heart

Jonah and Solomon's lives were both well known to the Jewish leaders

You are rejecting someone greater than Jonah and Solomon!

You have rejected the *Son of God* – *your only lifeline!*

CLOSING THOUGHTS: Time For a Heart Check!!

The heart is our emotional center

Many today say, *“Follow your heart, do what your emotions dictate”*

Princess Diana said, *“Only do what your heart tells you”*

CAUTION: Your heart can mislead you; your emotions can mislead you – **Jeremiah 17:9**

What is the seat of our emotions?

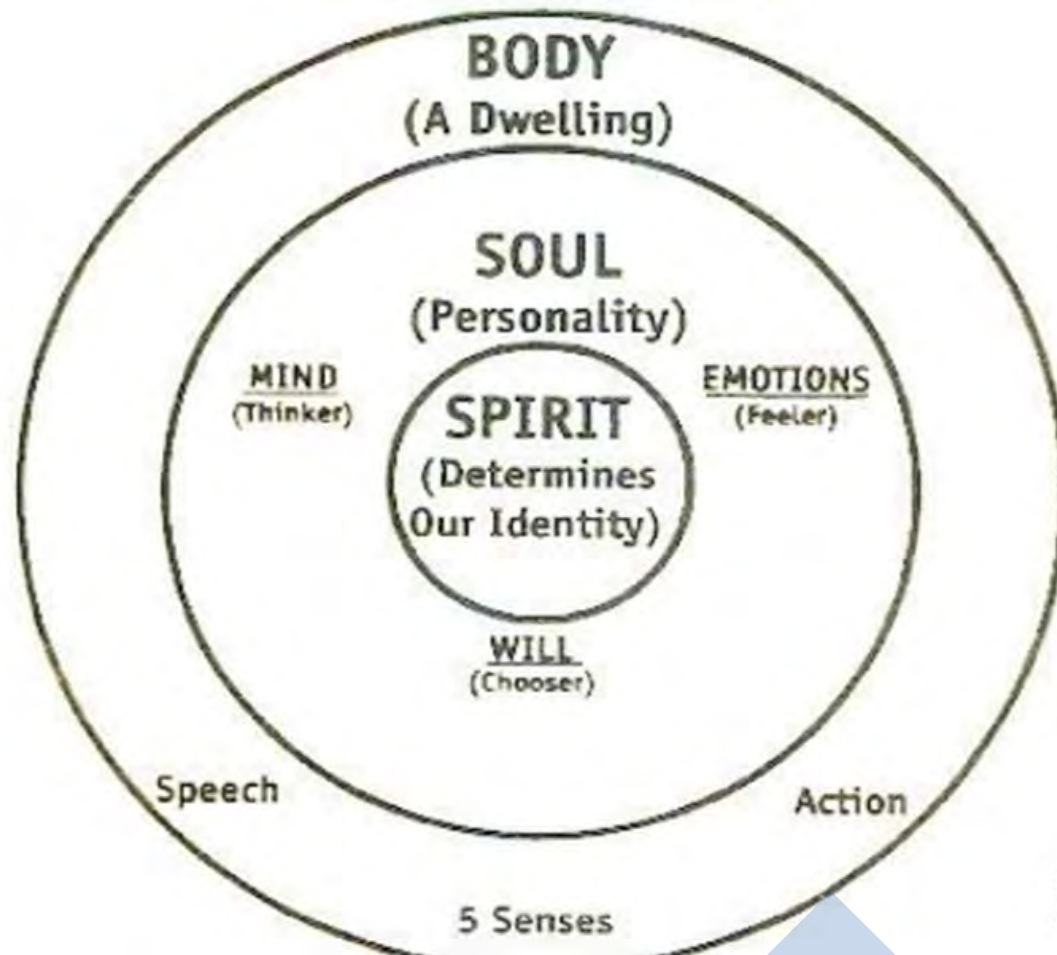
Our SOUL, our heart

SOUL = thoughts, feelings and emotions

A Biblical Picture of Man

Man — A Three-Part Whole

(I Thessalonians 5:23)



Our **soul** is the area where spiritual warfare is fought, and strongholds fall

Our **soul** is the area that is being conformed to the likeness of Christ (**LORDSHIP**)

Our **soul** is the area where we are being transformed and strongholds are torn down (**LORDSHIP**)

Those who are being transformed, strongholds are overcome, and old patterns of thinking change!

No longer ruled by your faulty, fleshly **FEELINGS!**

Our culture says trust your heart;
God says it's time for a HEART CHECK!

In your life, may God be above all powers and
all kings

May He be above all old ways of thinking, all
strongholds and above everything!

Psalm 19: 14 – HEART CHECK

***“Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in Your sight,
O LORD,
my strength and my Redeemer”***