

Sermon Notes

A Gift of the Heart – Prov 23:26

December 22, 2019

I. Introduction

- a. what gift has God given us this year... what can we give Him...
2Cor 8:9... “He was rich... became poor... so you might become rich...”
Micah 6:6-8... “act justly... love mercy... walk humbly...”
- b. God wants your heart... but how do you give it to Him...
Prov 4:23... “out of the heart come the issues of life...”
Prov 23:7... “as a man thinks in his heart... so is he...”
Luke 12:34... “where your treasure is... your heart will be also...”
- c. heart follows what you believe... belief follows what you hear and see... what you hear and see affects heart... world or Word... pray...
Prov 4:20-22... “my child, listen carefully to my words... don’t lose sight of them... let them penetrate deep into your heart... they bring life to those who find them... and health to one’s whole body...”
Matt 13:10-17... “hearts hardened... ears cannot hear, eyes cannot see, hearts cannot understand, cannot turn to Me and let Me heal them... but blessed are your eyes, your ears... because they see and hear (heal).”

II. A Gift of the Heart

- a. natural to ask questions before we give our hearts (premarital)... most basic question is this... *can I trust this person with it...*
Num 14:11... “how long will they not trust Me... despite all the signs...”
Psa 9:10... “those who know your name trust You... never forsaken...”
Psa 13:5... “I trust in your unfailing love...”
Psa 31:14... “I trust in you... I say, *you are my God*...”
Psa 40:4... “how happy is anyone who has put his trust in the Lord...”
Psa 84:12... “blessed is the one who trusts in You...”
Psa 118:8... “better to trust in the Lord than put confidence in man...”
Isa 50:10... “who walks in darkness... let him trust in the Lord...”
- b. is God not trustworthy... is God not faithful...
Num 14:18... “the Lord is slow to anger... abounding in faithful love...”
1Chron 16:34... “His faithful love endures forever...”
Psa 44:26... “redeem us because of your faithful love...”
Psa 63:3... “my lips will praise... your faithful love is better than life...”
2Cor 1:18-20... “as God is faithful... all His promises are *Yes*...”
2Tim 2:13... “if we are faithless... He remains faithful...”
Heb 10:23... “He who promised is faithful...”
Rev 21:5... “these words are faithful and true...”

II. A Gift of the Heart

- c. every person has to answer this question (trust) before they can give their heart... some yes, others no... who will you believe (not me, God)...
Rev 1:5... “He is the faithful witness to these things...”
pistos... *one who keeps his word, worthy of trust; can be relied on...*
Acts 17:11... “searched scriptures daily to see if these things were so...”
- d. second question... if I trust, does He have power to help me (Gen 1:1)...
1Kings 8:24... “You have fulfilled Your promise by Your power...”
1Chron 29:12... “power and might are in your hand to make great...”
Psa 111:6... “He has shown His power by giving them inheritance...”
Jer 10:6... “there is no one like You... Your name is great in power...”
Nahum 1:3... “the Lord is slow to anger... but great in power...”
Matt 22:29... “you don’t know scriptures or the power of God...”
Acts 10:38... “God anointed Jesus with HS and with power...”
Rom 15:19... “by the power of miracles... and power of HS...”
Eph 3:20... “do more than ask or imagine... thru His mighty power...”
- e. final question before you give your heart... is He willing to help...
Luke 5:12... “Lord, if you are willing... I am willing, be made clean...”
thelo... *desire, wish; take delight in, have pleasure; be fond of doing...*
Acts 10:34... “God doesn’t show favoritism...”
Heb 13:8-9... “Jesus is same yesterday, today, forever... don’t be led astray by strange teachings... let your heart be established in grace...”
- f. most of us know God is able... admit He has power... but being willing is different (rich relatives)... important to personalize God’s Word...
Deut 28... “all these blessings will come and overtake _____”
Isa 53... “_____ is healed by His wounds...”
Jer 33... “I will certainly bring health and healing to _____”
John 3... “God so loved _____ He gave His only Son...”
Rom 8... “_____ is a co-heir with Christ... freely given all things...”
1Cor 2... “_____ has the mind of Christ...”
1Cor 3... “_____ is God’s temple... the HS lives in _____”
1John 4... “as Jesus is... so is _____ in this world...”
- g. do you know this baby boy is Lord of all creation... do you know this baby boy will one day rule the nations... do you know this baby boy is heaven’s perfect lamb... do you know this child is great I AM...
- h. too many of us are trying to protect our own hearts... been hurt and hurt badly by people... vowed you’d never trust again... that’s not life... its just existence... and not a good one at that...
- i. it’s safe to give this child your heart... safe to trust Him... open your eyes and ears to His word... and let Him heal you... pray...
Prov 23:26... “give me your heart... let your eyes delight in my ways...”
Prov 37:4... “delight in the Lord... give you desires of your heart...”

Trust

Isa 26:4... *trust in the Lord always...*

Seeing that we have such a God to trust to, let us rest upon Him with all our weight. Let us resolutely **drive out all unbelief**, and endeavour to **get rid of doubts and fears**, which so much mar our comfort, since there is **no excuse for fear** where God is the foundation of our trust.

A loving parent would be sorely grieved if his child could not trust him... and how ungenerous, how unkind is our conduct when we put so little confidence in our heavenly Father who has **never failed us**, and who **never will**.

It were well if **doubting were banished from the household of God**, but it is to be feared that old Unbelief is as nimble nowadays as when the psalmist asked, *is His mercy clean gone for ever? Will He be favourable no more?*

David had not made any very lengthy trial of the mighty sword of the giant Goliath, and yet he said, *there is none like it*. He had tried it once in the hour of his youthful victory, and it had proved itself to be of the right metal, and therefore he praised it ever afterwards. Even so should we **speak well of our God**, there is none like unto Him in the heaven above or the earth beneath. *To whom then will ye liken Me, or shall I be equal?*

There is no rock like unto the rock of Jacob, our enemies themselves being judges. So far from suffering **doubts** to live in our hearts, we will take the whole detestable crew, as Elijah did the prophets of Baal and **slay them** over the brook. And for a stream to **kill them** at, we will select the sacred torrent which wells forth from our Saviour's wounded side.

We have been in many trials; we have **never yet been cast where we could not find in our God all that we needed**. Let us then be encouraged to trust in the Lord forever, assured that His everlasting strength will be, as it has been, our succour and stay.

Charles Spurgeon
Morning and Evening Devotional - July 5th

Someday

1Sam 27:1... *someday Saul is going to get me...*

The thought of David's heart at this time was a false thought, because he certainly had no ground for thinking that God's anointing him by Samuel was intended to be left as an empty unmeaning act. **On no one occasion had the Lord deserted His servant**. He had been placed in perilous positions very often, but not one instance had occurred in which divine interposition had not delivered him.

The trials to which he had been exposed had been varied; they had not assumed one form only, but many. Yet **in every case God** had graciously **ordained a way of escape**. David could not put his finger upon any entry in his diary, and say of it, *here is evidence that the Lord will forsake me...* for the entire tenor of his past life proved the very reverse.

He **should have argued from what God had done for him**, that God would be his defender still. But is it not just in the same way that we doubt God's help? Is it not mistrust without a cause? **Have we ever had the shadow of a reason to doubt our Father's goodness?** Have not His lovingkindnesses been marvelous? **Has He once failed to justify our trust?**

Ah, no! Our **God has not left us** at any time. We have had dark nights, but the star of love has shone forth amid the blackness. We have been in stern conflicts, but over our head He has held aloft the shield of our defence. We have gone through many **trials**, but never to our detriment, **always to our advantage**, and the conclusion from our past experience is, that He who has been with us in six troubles, will not forsake us in the seventh.

What we have known of our faithful God, proves that He will keep us to the end. **Let us not, then, reason contrary to evidence**. How can we ever be so ungenerous as to doubt our God? Lord, throw down the Jezebel of our unbelief, and let the dogs devour it.

Charles Spurgeon
Morning and Evening Devotional - October 17th