

Series: Pathway Through the Psalms

THY WORD HAVE I HID IN MINE

HEART (PT.1)

PSALMS 119:8-16

Text: Psalms 119:11

Psalm 119:11

¹¹ Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Introduction:

On July 6, 1999 a young man named Daniel Dukes was found dead at SeaWorld. His family had visited SeaWorld the previous day and he had stayed in the park after the park closed.

He decided he would jump in and swim with the whales.

In that pool was a 22.5 foot whale that weighed 12,500 pounds.

When the park opened the next morning they discovered the whale playing with the body of the young man.

This young man thought that he could have a good time and a little fun just swimming with the whales.

Our kids today are being destroyed by a monster more dangerous than that black and white orca, that killer whale.

In his mind he thought that this would be fun.

The Bible has so much to say about the mind.

Sometimes in the Old Testament it's called the heart.

Proverbs 4:23

²³ Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Proverbs 23:7

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.

Romans 8:6

⁶ For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Colossians 1:21

²¹ And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

Proverbs 15:26

²⁶ The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD: but the words of the pure are pleasant words.

It is important that we guard our hearts and we find in these verses the principles on how we can guard our heart.

In these verses we see:

The Proper Word – “Thy Word”

The Proper Place – “My Heart”

The Proper Result – “That I Might Not Sin

In this passage we see seven steps or principles that will help us guard our hearts.

If you will do the seven things that are listed here you will by God's grace for His glory and your good control your thought life.

If you don't do these things no matter how good your intentions, you're going to fail.

There are seven principles.

Note

Sermon Content:

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF PURIFICATION (VS. 9)

Psalm 119:9

⁹ Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

Note the word “way.”

This word has the idea of a rut, or groove.

Illustration:

A farmer may drive his tractor back and forth over a farm road until after a while there is a rut in that road, a muddy rut. And he can just set the tractor and let go of the wheel and the tractor will follow that way.

This is what the devil has done to so many people, he has put a groove in their mind. He has put a muddy rut, a dirty track in their mind.

No matter what you say, they're going to make something suggestive out of it?

They had a dirty mind.

The bible speaks of these type of people in Jeremiah 11:8:

Jeremiah 11:8

⁸ Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked every one in the imagination of their evil heart:....

How can an individual cleanse that “way” or dirty rut or groove in their mind?

By taking heed according to the Word of God.

Note what the Lord said in John 15:

John 15:3

³ Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

Do you desire to have a clean mind or heart?

It will happen as we take heed of the Word of God.

Note the second step or principle:

2. THE PRINCIPLE OF DETERMINATION (VS. 10)

Psalm 119:10

¹⁰ *With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.*

A determination to stay clean.

I have said many times over the last few weeks, “I believe that most people have the right desires, but often their determination is not what is needed to see their desires come to pass.

Not the words: “With my whole heart have I sought thee.”

Sadly many will never enjoy a victorious Christian life because of a half-heartedness.

No one will ever win a moral victory half-heartedly.

Note some other verses that speak of this.

James 4:8

⁸ *Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.*

James 1:8

⁸ A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

Daniel 1:8

⁸ But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

Job 31:1

¹ I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?

Have we said to the Lord, “With all my heart I determine to be pure or clean?”

Understand:

God does business with those that mean business.

Understand that doesn't mean the battle is over because it is a battle. But that will be no victory until we determine that we want to be clean.

Illustration:

I read how people would hunt for a little animal that they made fur coats out of, an ermine. This particular ermine had a coat of snow white fur.

These hunters would find a hole where the ermine would run to hide and they would smear something dirty around the hole.

The dogs would hunt the ermine and the ermine would run as fast as he could to the hole to get away. But when it would see that filth and, realize it would have to defile its coat of snow white to go into that hole, the ermine, rather than defile itself would turn around and face the dogs.

It would rather die than defile itself. It was determined to stay clean.

Does being clean and pure mean that much to you?

Are we the determined to stay clean?

Note the third step or principle:

3. THE PRINCIPLE OF FORTIFICATION (VS. 11)

Psalm 119:11

¹¹ Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

We need to fortify ourselves with the Word of God.

As we just noted we must be determined, but more than determination is needed.

We must have something to fortify us on the inside.

We need to be fortified by the Word of God.

Note the steps:

First you repent and get clean.

Second comes replacement. You must put something there in place of that which you refuse and that which God has removed.

The Word of God hidden in one's heart will fortify them.

The greatest weapon against sin is hiding God's Word in your heart.

We need to work on memorizing scripture.

First is purification.

Secondly is determination.

Thirdly fortification.

We are fortified with the word of God.

We are instructed what to think on in Philippians 4 and these things are found in God's Word.

Note:

Philippians 4:8-9

⁸ Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. ⁹ Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

Note the fourth step or principle:

4. THE PRINCIPLE OF EDUCATION (VS. 12)

Psalm 119:12

¹² Blessed art thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.

We then turn fortification into prayer.

We ask the Lord to teach us and make it real in my heart.

Prayerlessness is a bad thing, but what it indicates is much worse.

Prayerlessness indicates that we're confident that we can do it by ourselves.

Now you hide God's Word in your heart. But then you say, "God, vitalize it. Make it real to make. I just don't want to be rattling off memory verses." Rattling off memory verses is not enough.

Close:

We close this evening and resume this next week Lord willing.

Let me ask this evening.

Do you want to be pure or clean?

Are we determined to be clean or pure?

Are you hiding God's Word in your heart?

Are we asking the Lord to make it real in your life?