

The LAW and the HEART

In this passage, Paul explains that the Jews had 613 laws that taught them what was right and wrong. The Gentiles on the other hand, had God’s truth written upon their hearts. God has given everyone the truth either through the Bible or an individual’s heart.

God’s _____ of right is written on our _____,

but _____ darkens our ability to clearly see the _____.

The LAW, the JUDGE, and the ATTORNEY

Within our inner being, God has given us a heart, thoughts and a conscience. How do these three immaterial parts work?

_____ leads us into a _____

_____ action.

_____ sits as a judge

to _____.

_____ are formed to _____

or _____.

When your time in the court of the afterlife comes, remember:

God will judge unbelievers _____,

but believers are _____.

Discussion Questions

Getting Started

What is your thought-life like? Do you try to excuse yourself of certain sin(s)? Or are you bringing shame and guilt upon your life by allowing the evil one to accuse you when you should know that you have been forgiven?

Digging Deeper

Read these passages about the deception of the heart (Jeremiah 17:9-10; Hebrews 3:13; Matthew 13:22; Proverbs 4:23). What does it mean to “guard” your heart?

God reveals the secrets of our heart in the present if we allow Him to or He will manifest them in the future (Luke 8:17; 12:2-3; Deuteronomy 29:29; Daniel 2:22; 1 Corinthians 2:10). Why is it important to allow the Spirit to search our hearts so that we can be convicted of sin and then be cleansed?

Read about how our conscience is convicted (John 16:8; Hebrews 4:12; Acts 17:30; John 6:44; Isaiah 6:5). How can you deal with a seared conscience (1 Timothy 4:2; Ephesians 4:18-19)? First, ask God to blot out your sin and cleanse you (Psalm 51:1-4). Second, sit down with friend(s) to help re-sensitize your conscience (Hebrews 3:13). Third, be conscience of the cross so that you’re filled with gratitude (1 Peter 3:21)?

Applying the Word to Life

We have “errors” deep inside our hearts that we do not even know about (Psalm 19:12). This shows how darkened our hearts are because of sin. When is the last time you have humbled yourself before the Lord and asked Him to cleanse you from all of the dirt in your soul?

If you struggle in your thoughts, then what step can you take to focus on what is positive, pure and helpful (Philippians 4:8)?