



# Understanding the Operation of the Heart

Dr. Dave Currie

**INTRODUCTION:** Various Scripture refer to different aspects of our “Heart.”

- 1. Seat of Affections:** My likes and dislikes, desires, preferences, wishes and wants, passions and lusts all reside here. These life affections bring a ton of joy to our lives. What we enjoy doing, we tend to go back to. If my affections are out of balance or are in control, my life could be destroyed by these passions. **My longings are entertained here.**

### Scripture’s Wording

Love with your heart	Hearts can be stirred
Heart can lust	Longings of the heart
Heart can be seduced	Desires of the heart
Hearts have desires	Adultery in our heart
Content vs discontent hearts	
Sin lurks on the heart	
Sinful heart	
Clean heart	

**God has given me the desires and passions of my heart but wants me to honour Him in how I experience and express them.**

- 2. Seat of Emotions:** Joy and sorrows, sadness, rejoicing, fear, courage, worry, and a myriad of more emotions are part of our heart. Feelings shape my disposition and impact my life day-to-day. **My feelings influence my decisions.**

### Scripture’s Wording

God can touch your heart	Anguished heart
Hearts are stirred	Sad Heart
Lose heart – fearful	Sorrowful Heart
Pour your heart out	Sick at heart
Heart can rejoice	Heartless – harsh and uncaring
Lose heart and be fearful	Heart is overwhelmed
Your heart can break	Broken & repentant heart
Heart of a lion	Gentle & humble heart
Heart can be troubled	
Joyful heart	

**God fully understands and sympathizes with my emotions and wants to anchor me through my ups and downs in life.**

3. **Seat of Values:** My morality resides here. Am I faithful, true and honest? Rights and wrongs are weighed. What is best and right vs what is easy and wrong. The stronger my values – the better my direction. Do my values match God’s? Surrendering to God’s word and His Spirit shapes my values. **My moral compass guides me here.**

**Scripture’s Wording**

Follow faithfully in their heart	Faithful heart
Understanding heart	Hearts can be deceived
Heart discerns right from wrong	Worship with your Heart
Serve with your hearts	Hearts that lose the Value of God
Honest heart	Hearts can turn to idols
Pure heart or pure in heart	Store it on your heart – remember
Hearts can be true and right	New heart – change of values
True heart	Conceal guilt in your heart
Deceitful heart	Sincere heart
Wicked heart	Hearts can be deceived
Repentant heart	Clean heart

**God wants me to invite Him to shape my values and morals and not leave me to my own list of rights and wrongs.**

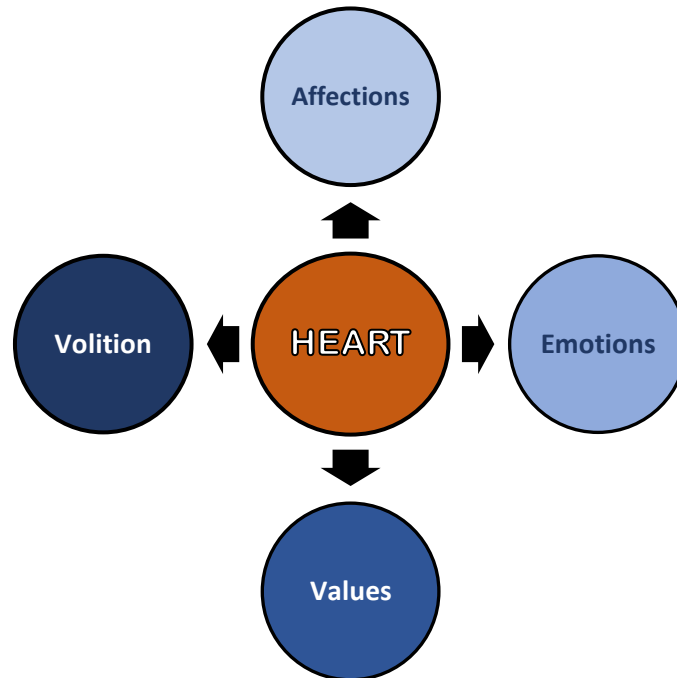
4. **Seat of Volition:** This is the place of my will and thus my choices. Here, I make a commitment or I break a commitment. I can make a choice to obey or walk away. This part of my heart ultimately brings together the affections, the emotions and the values to come to the place of deciding life direction. **My life decisions are made here.**

**Scripture’s Wording**

Search for God with your Heart	Turn to the Lord with all your heart
Stubborn heart	Have a change of Heart
Hard-hearted	Take to Heart – listen and obey.
Willing hearts	Committed Heart
Obey with your heart	Undivided heart
You can turn your heart	Lose heart
Plan evil in his heart	Confident hearts
Turn your heart away	Heart can be hard as a Rock
Soft heart	Prepare your heart

**God wants to guide me in all my decisions and help me to live and act in keeping with His Word and His Spirit. My choices to**

**UNDERSTANDING HOW THE HEART OPERATES**



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## STATEMENTS OF HEART UNDERSTANDING

- As seen in a collection of scripture, the heart of man is a combination of 4 parts.
- No one part is better or worse than the others. Each aspect is important
- Each play a valuable role in shaping who we are and how we operate.
- Each part influences to a greater or lesser degree who we are and the choices we make.
- Certain parts can dominate. All parts can grow, change and strengthen.
- All parts have a possible amazing influence or a destructive influence.
- God can touch every aspect of our hearts
- The heart has to work in conjunction with the mind to grow and strengthen.
- The mind is cognition. It is our thinking capacity. It can grow and develop.
- The brain has plasticity. We can rebuild how we think.
- The mind can inform the will, shape our values, guide our affections and control our emotions.
- We renew the mind to change the heart.
- We rework how we view our affections to control our affections.
- We rework how we integrate our emotions to control our emotions.
- We rework what we value to strengthen or change our moral compass
- We rework our will to align with God's will and His Word.
- Our life decisions and directions are a matter of the heart.
- Our decisions are made in the HEART.
- We invite Christ to come into our hearts – We surrender our hearts and our lives to Him.
- Jesus changes our hearts. His spirit strengthens us in each aspect of our heart.

## A Taste of Scripture on the HEART

1 Samuel 16:7 – But the LORD said to Samuel, “Don’t judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The LORD doesn’t see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the **heart**.”

1 Chronicles 28:9 – “And Solomon, my son, learn to know the God of your ancestors intimately. Worship and serve him with your whole **heart** and a willing mind. For the LORD sees every **heart** and knows every plan and thought. If you seek him, you will find him. But if you forsake him, he will reject you forever.

1 Chronicles 19:17 - I know, my God, that you examine our **hearts** and rejoice when you find integrity there. You know I have done all this with good motives, and I have watched your people offer their gifts willingly and joyously.

Job 38:36 – Who gives intuition to the **heart** and instinct to the mind?

Psalms 17:3 – You have tested my thoughts and examined my **heart** in the night. You have scrutinized me and found nothing wrong. I am determined not to sin in what I say.

Matthew 12:35 – A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good **heart**, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil **heart**.

Matthew 15:8 - ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their **hearts** are far from me.

Matthew 15:19 - For from the **heart** come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander.

Matthew 22:37 - Jesus replied, “You must love the LORD your God with all your **heart**, all your soul, and all your mind.’