

# “The Heart Of Christ”

Matthew 11:28-30

## Part 1

09/30/2023

### **A) The Heart of Christ:**

1. What is the heart of a person? (*Matthew 15:17; Proverbs 4:23*) [Only BAD?] (*Matthew 12:35-40*) [GOOD also] {Represents all of who we are deep inside and therefore expressed as what we do}
2. What is the heart of Christ? (*Matthew 11:28-30*)

Notice that Jesus described His own heart **NOT** as *austere and demanding* (like a Judge)...  
*exalted and dignified* (like a King)...**BUT** as *gentle and lowly* {*meek and humble*} (like a servant).

Labor = Working to make your life easier. [Our sinful nature, covetousness, not trusting in God's provision.]

Heavy laden = Passively weighed down with things outside your control. [Trying to please God by a works-based religion]

### **B) His Heart In Action:**

1. (*Matthew 8:2-3; Matthew 9:2; Matthew 9:20-22* [Which way did Jesus move? What did He want to reward?])

[All these people are ceremonially unclean and therefore separated from God because they can't go into the Tabernacle... Notice that the only clean person on the planet IS NOT made UNCLEAN by contact with these people, THEY are made clean by contact with HIM! [*John 4:21 & Ephesians 5:1*]

2. (*Matthew 9:35-37*) All throughout the Gospels we see that the most natural, animating response from Jesus propelled Him TOWARD sinners and sufferers, NOT AWAY from them and NOT TOWARD the religiously “righteous”!
3. “Well, that was when He was on earth as a man”, you might say... (*Hebrews 13:8*)
4. Furthermore, Jesus is CLOSER to believers today, than when He walked on the earth!  
(*1 Corinthians 6:15-20; Ezekiel 36:27*)

### **C) His Happiness:**

1. The Puritan writer, Thomas Goodwin, wrote in 1651: “Christ’s own joy, comfort, happiness and glory are increased by...” [How would YOU finish that sentence?]

...His showing grace and mercy, in pardoning, relieving and comforting the members of His body here on earth.”

1. What joy? (*Hebrews 12:2*) Seeing His people forgiven and empowered.
2. This demonstrates His finished work on the cross as Savior and His current work as Advocate and Intercessor, while He is seated at the right hand of God the Father in Heaven. This is what gives Him joy!

(*John 15:11; 17:13; 17:24*)

**D. He Is Able To Sympathize:** (*Hebrews 4:15*) [Greek transliteration: Co-Sufferer]

1. Jesus, having been tempted and tested in the 3 areas that ALL humans are (*1 John 2:16*), He understands better than we do, how deeper seated sin is in us and that it is IMPOSSIBLE for humans to NOT SIN, even with the indwelling Holy Spirit. Thus, what give Jesus the **most joy** is when His people recognize their sin, repent (*turn from it toward Jesus*) and come to Him for a foot washing. (*Hebrews 4:14 & 16; John 13:8-10*) Only THE CLEAN ONE can understand OUR sin the correct depth and still LOVE THE SINNER TO THE CORRECT HEIGHT!

**E. He Can Deal Gently:** (*Hebrews 5:2*)

1. Ignorant = Unintentional sins [*Numbers 15:22*]  
Wayward = Intentional sins [*Numbers 15:30*]  
{with a high hand}
2. Jesus doesn't scowl, scold or throw His hands in the air in frustration with us...  
He knew everything about us **before** the Father called us to salvation! (*Romans 8:29*)

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## Part 2

10/28/2023

### **F. He Will Never Cast Out:** (John 6:37)

1. **All** (not some or most) **that the Father** (the triune Godhead involved in your salvation and sanctification) **gives Me** (not haggles over... the love of God starts with the Father) **will come** (God’s plans are NEVER thwarted) **to Me** (we don’t come to a doctrine, a church or even the Gospel... we come to the person of Jesus) **and whoever comes** (we are NOT robots... our actions show our love for God and are demonstrated by a change in behavior, however tainted, through submission to the indwelling Holy Spirit) **I will never cast out.** (this Greek phrase is transliterated “I will not NOT cast out”, piling on a word twice is a literary method of emphasis to make the word stronger!)
2. Read John Bunyan quote (p.63 middle- “Fallen, anxious sinners...”)
3. It is God’s hand holding us up from sinking to Sheol, not our efforts or works! (*Psalm 63:8*)
4. Why is this true? (*2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:1; Ephesians 2:10*)

### **G. What Our Sins As Believers Evoke In Christ:** (*Hosea 11:7-9*)

1. In light of letter “D” above, Jesus has the correct and perfect opinion of just how horrible our sins are as believers. After all, it was our sins that drove Him to die on Calvary to pay the debt for them!
2. Making *Romans 5:20* all the most astounding!
3. Our sins and failings, instead of making Jesus sorry that He saved us or even disappointed in us, make His heart burn with compassion and love for us all the stronger! (*Isaiah 6:1-8*)  
Does God’s holiness naturally produce wrath toward our shortcomings? NO!, it produces **forgiveness and mercy!**
4. Jesus disciplines NOT punishes His children. (*Lamentations 3:32-33; Hebrews 12:1-13*)

## **H. To The Uttermost:** (*Hebrews 7:25*)

1. The word “uttermost” is used only 1 other place in the New Testament, in Luke 13:11, to refer a woman who for 18 years, weighed down by the effects of the Fall and sin, could not stand up the whole way.
  - a. **Intercessor** = One who stands between two parties.
  - b. **Advocate** = One who comes along side one party for representation to another party.
2. Jesus, after the resurrection, lives forever. He is currently our Intercessor and is praying for you, RIGHT NOW and constantly.
3. Furthermore, Jesus is working as our Advocate with the Father (*1 John 2:1*)
4. All of work Jesus is currently doing is so that the Scripture might be fulfilled. (*Jude 24-25*)

## **I. Is All This An Excuse To Sin?:** (*Galatians 5:13-14; Galatians 5:16-22; 1 Peter 2:16*)

1. Living submitted to the Holy Spirit, on a moment to moment basis, fulfills the Law and demonstrates Christ in us, the hope of glory. (*Colossians 1:27*)

## **J. What Is All This For Then?:**

1. What Jesus came for: (*Luke 19:10*)
2. What we are to do: (*Matthew 28:18-20*)
3. How we are to do it: (*Ephesians 2:8-10*)