

THE WOUNDED HEART

Taken from "Bring Them Into His Courts"

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THE HAPPY HEART

Smiling outside, hurting inside.

THE CONDEMNED HEART

The first heart I saw was a heart that seemed to have a veil over it. This cloud or veil was as a black film. This is the condemned heart. In the Greek, condemned means — to sentence to jail or prison; to judge against, blame, find fault with.

A condemned heart causes us to feel bad about ourselves and about our relationship with God. There are a number of things that can cause it. Unconfessed sin is one of them. We must confess our sin. God is then faithful and just to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (I John 1:9). Rebellion, walking against God's ways, is another thing that can cause a condemned heart. Jesus said to the woman taken in adultery, "I do not condemn you, but go and sin no more." (John 8:1)

Some people, even though they have confessed and forsaken their sin, can be in condemnation because the devil is lying to them and accusing them. The solution is to say what God says about you and receive His forgiveness. Then we let the love of God cover and wash away the past.

THE BRUISED HEART

If you have a bruise on your skin in the natural, it usually hurts at the point it is initially made and thereafter if it is touched. It is not a deep thing, but it could be if it was continually bruised on that spot. About the Lord Jesus we read, "A bruised reed He will not break" (Isaiah 42:3 & Matthew 12:20). He has come "to set at liberty them that are bruised" (Luke 4:18). In the Greek, bruised means discouraged or cracked. Some things that can cause a bruised heart are being disappointed or let down by someone; not feeling loved for a brief period. It can bring in hurt, bitterness, fear, resentment, retaliation, hate, violence and difficulty in trusting. Only exposing the bruise to Jesus to heal it can rectify the situation. Jesus said that the sick have need of a physician (Luke 5:31). That is why we must allow him to operate.

THE WOUNDED HEART

The wounded heart is more serious. In the original Greek, it means — to hit, to be given a wound. A wound in the natural does not heal unless it is cleansed and treated. It can turn gangrenous and cause the loss of limb or life.

The Bible says a man's courage "will help his broken body, but who can bear a wounded spirit?" (Proverbs 18:14). The Bible also tells us where a lot of wounding occurs — "in the house of my friends" (Zechariah 13:6).

Wounds in the spirit can affect people their whole life unless they are dealt with.

Some things that can cause a wounded heart — angry words, hurtful words, hitting, fighting, arguing at home or in the church; someone close turning away from or falling away from the Lord; being cheated by someone you trust; being fired from a job, or rejection in any form.

THE BROKEN HEART

In the Bible, when the word broken is used in reference to the heart, it means — torn, broken in pieces, crushed, shattered. Jesus is close to those whose hearts are breaking (Psalm 34:18). He has been sent to heal the broken hearted (Isaiah 61:1 & Luke 4:18). If a broken heart is not healed, its effects can be felt

for a lifetime.

One thing that can cause a broken heart is experiencing a sense of loss either through death, divorce or someone moving away. Often there is deep rejection in abandoned, illegitimate or adopted children which cause a deep broken-heartedness for which there is no apparent root. This rejection also affects children who were almost aborted or not wanted at the time of pregnancy. Rape, incest, beatings also can be at the root of broken-heartedness. An unfaithful husband or wife or friend who no longer loves you, being wrongly treated, defiled, violated or hurtfully treated can also cause broken-heartedness.

The Lord Jesus must touch these things and put the shattered pieces back together. Broken-heartedness often requires “post-operative” care or tender care of the Body of Christ during a recovery period.

THE WHOLE HEART

The whole heart is a loving heart where the love of God is shed abroad by the Holy Ghost. It is a clean heart, free from condemnation and guilt (Romans 8:1). It is a peaceful heart. It is a “merry heart that does good like a medicine” (Proverbs 17:22). If we are to glorify God in our bodies, our hearts must be in this condition.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

When telling this lesson, it is effective to use real-life stories and personal testimonies. As Holy Spirit searches the hearts of the listeners, give them opportunity to respond by asking:

- Who has a condemned heart from unconfessed sin?
- Who has a condemned heart from Satan bringing condemnation for sins already repented of?
- Who has a bruised heart from small offenses real or imagined; intentional or unintentional; and you need to forgive the offenders?
- Who has a a wounded heart from angry words or violent acts?
- Who has a broken heart from incest, death, divorce, etc.?

Lead them in:

- Repentance
- Forgiveness
- Healing of memories
- Deliverance from fear, rejection, hopelessness, perversion, etc.
- Break the power of words spoken
- Let others of the same sex hug and love them











