

The Economy of God

The Function of the Inward and the Hidden Parts

- According to the record of the Scriptures, the **heart** has to be **dealt with first**, not the spirit or the soul.
 - This is because the heart is a composition of **all the parts of the soul** and the **most important part of the spirit**, the **conscience**.
- Our **relationship** with the Lord must **start** with the **conscience**.
 - Since the conscience is the main part of the heart, the heart must be dealt with first to ensure a proper relationship with God.

The Heart as the Loving Organ

- **2 Cor. 3:16** – But whenever [their][heart] turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.
 - The heart must first be **turned** to the Lord.
 - This is **real repentance**.
 - The heart must be turned to the Lord **all the time, day by day**.
- When our heart is turned to the Lord, the **veil is gone**.
- Once our heart is turned to the Lord, it must next **exercise faith**.
 - To **believe** is **not** an **exercise of the spirit**, the **mind**, or the **will**, but an **exercise of the heart**.
 - **Rom 10:9-10** – That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; For with the heart there is believing unto righteousness, and with the mouth there is confession unto salvation.
 - We need to learn how to **exercise our heart to believe** in order to cooperate with the indwelling Spirit.
- The heart must be **sprinkled from an evil conscience**.
 - When our heart is not turned to the Lord, we will never **sense** that our **conscience is wrong**.
 - To have our heart sprinkled from an evil conscience means that **our conscience has been so purged** that there is **no more condemnation** in our heart.
- Finally, the heart **must be renewed**. These four steps will cause the heart to function adequately.

- The heart was created for the **purpose** of **loving the Lord**.
 - Every morning we must **renew our heart** so that we may love the Lord more and more.
 - If we do not love the Lord, it is **impossible** to receive any kind of **spiritual experience**.

The Spirit as the Receiving Organ

- The **function** of the spirit is to **contact God**, **fellowship with God**, and **receive and worship God**.
- Originally, we were **dead in the spirit**, but when we received the Lord Jesus as our Savior, our dead spirit was **quicken**ed and **made alive**.
 - When our spirit was made alive, it was also **regenerated**.
- Not only has our dead spirit been recovered and made alive, but a new substance has been added into our spirit—**Christ Himself**.
- Our spirit is now joined to the Lord as **one spirit**.
- The spirit was specifically created for the purpose of **receiving God into us**.

The Soul as the Reflecting Organ

- The first thing we must learn in dealing with the soul is to **deny** it.
- Second, the soul must be **purified**, which is accomplished mainly by **receiving the Word**.
- Thirdly, our soul must be **transformed**.
- The purpose of the soul is to **reflect the Lord**.
 - The soul, by being purified and transformed, becomes the very organ, like a mirror, to reflect and express Christ.

(The Economy of God – Chapter 7)