HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

JANUARY 24, 2021
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• HARD HEARTED = Without Compassion Or Feeling. To Be Cold And Unmoved By Anything Or Anyone

• (Prov 28:14 NIV) Blessed is the man who always fears the LORD, but he who hardens his heart falls into trouble.
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

THE NEGATIVE RESULTS OF A HARD HEART

• Leads To Destruction (Prov 29:1)
• Stores Up God’s Wrath (Rom 2:5)
• It Leads To Sin’s Deceitfulness (Heb 3:13)
• Leads To Tight-fistedness (Deut 15:7)
• Stems From Not Listening (Ezek 3:7)
• Miss Out On The Lord & His Healing (Acts 28:27)
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• Hearts Not Fully Presented To God Cause A Resistance To The Holy Spirit:

• (Acts 7:51 NIV) "You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit!"
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• Problem 1: When Our Hearts Become Hard:

  (Prov 28:14 NIV) … he who hardens his heart falls into trouble.
HEARTS in need of CHANGE

• (Eph 4:18 NIV) They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

• If The Heart Is Right: The Whole Life Is Illuminated

• If The Heart Is Wrong: The Whole Life Is Darkened
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

- The Problem With Futile Thinkers = Hardening Of The Heart

- Pharaoh's Heart Became So Hard That He Failed To Sense That God Was Trying To Speak To Him

- His Heart Became Hard Like Stone
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• **Question**: How Can Some Get So Close To The Power Of God --Yet Be So Hardened To The Effects Of Sin?

• **Answer**: They Have Allowed Their Hearts To Become Hardened, calloused, and desensitized
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• A Hard Heart Shows Up as Insensitivity or Hatred

• (1 John 2:11 NIV) But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him.

• When We Don’t Love & Don’t Care Our Hearts Become Desensitized
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

Peoples Hearts Get Hard When:

• They Stop Listening To God
• They Quit Communicating With God
• They Put Their Interests Before Others
• They Follow Their Feelings
• They Continue In Things That Are Wrong
• They Excuse Their Sin
**HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE**

- *(Rom 2:5 NIV)* But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.

- **Hard Hearted People Risk Eternity Without God**
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• Problem 2: Dull Hearts:
• A Dull Heart = To Lose A Sense Of Compassion And Care About The Things Of God

• Dull Hearts:
  – Lose A Sense Of Urgency
  – Stop Caring
  – Stop Feeling
  – Stop Trying
  – Stop Believing
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• HOW TO KNOW IF WE HAVE A DULL HEART = When It Is Easy To Accept Things That Once Would Make Us Cringe

• (2 Cor 4:4 NIV) The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• DULL =
  – Become Numb
  – Feel Nothing
  – Do Nothing

• The Dulling Of Hearts Is Progressive
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• OUR PRAYER: Lord Keep Us From The Heart Which Has Lost The Ability To Feel The Agony Of The Cross & The Hurt And The Pain Of A World That Is Without You

• Help Us To Hate Sin—But To Feel Your Heart For The Sinner
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• (Acts 28:27 NIV) For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise, they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.

• This Is The Final Chapter Of All People Who Allow Their Hearts To Become Dull
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• Problem 3: Rebellious Hearts:

• A REBELLIOUS HEART = A Heart That Is Empty Through Deliberate Actions And Decisions

• A REBELLIOUS HEART = A Person Knows The Right Way Yet Deliberately Takes The Wrong Way
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• (Jer 32:33 NIV) They turned their backs to me and not their faces; though I taught them again and again, they would not listen or respond to discipline.

• A Characteristic Of Rebels Is:
  – Failure To Listen
  – Failure To Respond To Discipline
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• What Is God Saying: “My Way Is The Only Way”

• (Heb 2:2 NIV) For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, (3) how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him.
Hearts in Need of Change

• (2 Th 1:8 NIV) He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

• “We Must Examine Our Lives To Make Sure That Our Hearts Remain Soft, Pliable, And Teachable, So That The Gospel Can Continue To Sanctify And Renew Us.”
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

The Reason For
Hard Hearts -- Dull Hearts -- Rebellious Hearts
is SIN!
HEARTS IN NEED OF CHANGE

• If Your Heart Is Hard -- Dull – Rebellious -- There Is A Problem You Need To Deal With: Sin

Find Out What The Sin Is:
• Confess It To The Lord
• Repent
• Move On