

The




*Heart* of  
the **Matter**



Above all else,  
guard your heart,  
for everything  
you do flows  
from it.

Prov. 4:23 NIV





Blessed are the pure in  
heart for they will see  
God. Matthew 5:8



What is it to see God?

1. To be admitted into His Presence
2. To be awestruck by His Glory
3. To be comforted by His Grace

# The STEADFAST Heart

stead·fast

'sted, fast/

*adjective*

adjective: **steadfast**

resolutely or dutifully firm and unwavering.

*synonyms:*

loyal, faithful, committed, devoted, dedicated, dependable, reliable, steady, true, constant, staunch, solid, trusty



# The STEADFAST Heart

<sup>6</sup> Surely the righteous will never be shaken;  
they will be remembered forever.

<sup>7</sup> They will have no fear of bad news;

their hearts are **steadfast**, trusting in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup> Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear;  
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

<sup>9</sup> They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor,  
their righteousness endures forever;  
their horn<sup>[c]</sup> will be lifted high in honor.



# Our Relationship to the Lord

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD. <sup>[b]</sup>

Blessed are those who fear the LORD,  
who find great delight in his  
commands.

<sup>2</sup> Their children will be mighty in the  
land;  
the generation of the upright will be  
blessed.



# A PRAISE BREAK!

Psalm 117

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD, all you nations;  
extol him, all you peoples.

<sup>2</sup> For great is his love toward us,  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Praise the LORD. [\[a\]](#)





**117** <sup>1-2</sup> Praise GOD, everybody!

Applaud GOD, all people!

His love has taken over our lives;  
GOD's faithful ways are eternal.

Hallelujah! Msg



# Our Relationship to Material Wealth

<sup>3</sup> Wealth and riches are in their houses,  
and their righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup> Even in darkness light dawns for the  
upright,  
for those who are gracious and  
compassionate and righteous.

<sup>5</sup> Good will come to those who are generous  
and lend freely,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.

Their houses brim with wealth  
And a generosity that never runs  
dry.

Sunrise breaks through the  
darkness for good people—  
God's grace and mercy and justice!  
The good person is generous and  
lends lavishly; Msg



# Our Relationship to Circumstances

Surely the righteous will never be shaken;  
they will be remembered forever.

<sup>7</sup> They will have no fear of bad news;  
their hearts are steadfast, trusting in  
the LORD.

<sup>8</sup> Their hearts are secure, they will have no  
fear;

in the end they will look in triumph on  
their foes.

No shuffling or stumbling around  
for this one,  
But a sterling and solid and lasting  
reputation.

Unfazed by rumor and gossip,  
Heart ready, trusting in GOD,  
Spirit firm, unperturbed,  
Ever blessed, relaxed among  
enemies,



# Our Relationship to the Wicked

<sup>10</sup> The wicked will see and be vexed,

they will gnash their teeth and waste away;

the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.



# LET'S MAKE A DEAL

You  
Decide?



# LET'S MAKE A DEAL

You  
Decide?

ZONK!

2



The good person is generous and lends lavishly;  
No shuffling or stumbling around for this one,  
But a sterling and solid and lasting reputation.  
Unfazed by rumor and gossip,  
Heart ready, trusting in GOD,  
Spirit firm, unperturbed,  
Ever blessed, relaxed among enemies,  
They lavish gifts on the poor—  
A generosity that goes on, and on, and on.  
An honored life! A beautiful life!  
Someone wicked takes one look and rages,  
Blusters away but ends up speechless.  
There's nothing to the dreams of the wicked.  
Nothing.