

# Clean Heart, Right Spirit: Guard Your Heart

## *The Dryer Story*

- *2-3 times per load*
- *Wife persistent that it's abnormal*
- *Clueless about error codes D-90*
- *Feeble attempt to fix it*
- *Call in the professionals*
- *Error code meaning*
- *State of the vents*
- *Vents replaced*

## **Proverbs 4:20-27**

### **New Living Translation**

20 My child, pay attention to what I say.

Listen carefully to my words.

21 Don't lose sight of them.

Let them penetrate deep into your heart,

22 for they bring life to those who find them,  
and healing to their whole body.

23 Guard your heart above all else,  
for it determines the course of your life.

### ***Heart Definition (Source Olive Tree Strong's Dictionary)***

Inner man, mind, will, soul, understanding inner part, knowledge, thinking, reflection, inclination, resolution, determination (of will), conscience, the headquarters of appetites, emotions, and passions.

24 Avoid all perverse talk;  
stay away from corrupt speech.

25 Look straight ahead,  
and fix your eyes on what lies before you.

26 Mark out a straight path for your feet;  
stay on the safe path.

27 Don't get sidetracked;  
keep your feet from following evil.

***What are we guarding our hearts from, what clogs the vents?***

- ***Perverse talk, corrupt speech.***

Luke 6:44-45

New King James Version

44 For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. 45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil [a]treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

Our speech is an indicator of the condition of the heart,

- ***Wandering eyes, a failure to look straight ahead and see what's coming.***

Matthew 7:13-14

New Living Translation

The Narrow Gate

13 "You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell[a] is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. 14 But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.

- ***A failure to map out the straight path to God for your life and stay on it!***

Psalms 119:105-106

New King James Version

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet

And a light to my path.

106 I have sworn and confirmed

That I will keep Your righteous judgments.

- ***Getting sidetracked and following after what God calls evil, breaking the Lord's commandments (a failure to love Him with all of our heart).***

Colossians 3:1-6

New Living Translation

Living the New Life

3 Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. 2 Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. 3 For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 And when Christ, who is your[a] life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.

5 So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. 6 Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming.[b]

**Proverbs 4:23**

**New Living Translation**

23 Guard your heart above all else,  
for it determines the course of your life.

**1 John 2:15-17**

**Amplified Bible**

Do Not Love the World

15 Do not love the world [of sin that opposes God and His precepts], nor the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the lust and sensual craving of the flesh and the lust and longing of the eyes and the boastful pride of life [pretentious confidence in one's resources or in the stability of earthly things]—these do not

come from the Father, but are from the world. 17 The world is passing away, and with it its lusts [the shameful pursuits and ungodly longings]; but the one who does the will of God and carries out His purposes lives forever.

## The Wandering Heart of a Son

Luke 15:11-19

New Living Translation

Parable of the Lost Son

11 To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: “A man had two sons.

12 The younger son told his father, ‘I want my share of your estate now before you die.’ So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons.

13 “A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. 14 About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve.

15 He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. 16 The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything.

17 “When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, ‘At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! 18 I will go home to my father and say, “Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, 19 and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.”’”

Psalm 42:1-3

New Living Translation

Book two (Psalms 42–72)

Psalm 42

For the choir director: A psalm[a] of the descendants of Korah.

1 As the deer longs for streams of water,  
so I long for you, O God.

2 I thirst for God, the living God.

When can I go and stand before him?

3 Day and night I have only tears for food,  
while my enemies continually taunt me, saying,  
“Where is this God of yours?”

***How was the son’s LIFE affected?***

***Failed to love His Father properly.***  
***Lost his sense of identity as a son.***  
***Put faith in himself alone.***  
***Wandered away from his purpose.***

## **The Wandering Heart of a King**

2 Samuel 12:1-10

New Living Translation

Nathan Rebukes David

12 So the Lord sent Nathan the prophet to tell David this story: “There were two men in a certain town. One was rich, and one was poor. 2 The rich man owned a great many sheep and cattle. 3 The poor man owned nothing but one little lamb he had bought. He raised that little lamb, and it grew up with his children. It ate from the man’s own plate and drank from his cup. He cuddled it in his arms like a baby daughter. 4 One day a guest arrived at the home of the rich man. But instead of killing an animal from his own flock or herd, he took the poor man’s lamb and killed it and prepared it for his guest.”

5 David was furious. “As surely as the Lord lives,” he vowed, “any man who would do such a thing deserves to die! 6 He must repay four lambs to the poor man for the one he stole and for having no pity.”

7 Then Nathan said to David, “You are that man! The Lord, the God of Israel, says: I anointed you king of Israel and saved you from the power of Saul. 8 I gave you your master’s house and his wives and the kingdoms of Israel and Judah. And if that had not been enough, I would have given you much, much more. 9 Why, then, have you despised the word of the Lord and done this horrible deed? For you have murdered Uriah the Hittite with the sword of the Ammonites and stolen his wife. 10 From this time on, your family will live by the sword because you have despised me by taking Uriah’s wife to be your own.

## **2 Samuel Chapter 11**

- King David was out of position, should've been at war but was at the palace.
- Saw Bathsheba bathing and was overtaken by lust.
- Had her brought to him and she became pregnant.
- Brought her husband Uriah home for war to deceive him into thinking the baby was his.
- Had Uriah killed in battle when his plan didn't work.
- Took Bathsheba as his own wife.

Psalm 51:1-17

New Living Translation

Psalm 51

For the choir director: A psalm of David, regarding the time Nathan the prophet came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

1 Have mercy on me, O God,

because of your unfailing love.

Because of your great compassion,

blot out the stain of my sins.

2 Wash me clean from my guilt.

Purify me from my sin.

3 For I recognize my rebellion;

it haunts me day and night.

4 Against you, and you alone, have I sinned;

I have done what is evil in your sight.

You will be proved right in what you say,

and your judgment against me is just.[a]

5 For I was born a sinner—

yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.

6 But you desire honesty from the womb,[b]

teaching me wisdom even there.

7 Purify me from my sins,[c] and I will be clean;

wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

8 Oh, give me back my joy again;

you have broken me—  
now let me rejoice.

9 Don't keep looking at my sins.

Remove the stain of my guilt.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Renew a loyal spirit within me.

11 Do not banish me from your presence,  
and don't take your Holy Spirit[d] from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and make me willing to obey you.

13 Then I will teach your ways to rebels,  
and they will return to you.

14 Forgive me for shedding blood, O God who saves;  
then I will joyfully sing of your forgiveness.

15 Unseal my lips, O Lord,  
that my mouth may praise you.

16 You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one.  
You do not want a burnt offering.

17 The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit.  
You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

***How was the king's LIFE affected?***

***Failed to love God and others.***

***Lost his sense of identity as a king.***

***Lust and fear caused him to operate outside of faith.***

***Out of position from God's purpose***

## **The Wandering Heart of a Priest**

### **1 Samuel 2:12-36**

- The sons of the priest Eli were wicked men who had no respect for the Lord or their priestly duties.

- They would steal the best meat brought for sacrifices to eat for themselves.
- They seduced and had relations with women who worked at the entrance of the Tabernacle.
- Eli knew what was happening and did nothing.

1 Samuel 2:27-31

New Living Translation

A Warning for Eli's Family

27 One day a man of God came to Eli and gave him this message from the Lord: "I revealed myself[a] to your ancestors when they were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt. 28 I chose your ancestor Aaron[b] from among all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to offer sacrifices on my altar, to burn incense, and to wear the priestly vest[c] as he served me. And I assigned the sacrificial offerings to you priests. 29 So why do you scorn my sacrifices and offerings? Why do you give your sons more honor than you give me—for you and they have become fat from the best offerings of my people Israel!

30 "Therefore, the Lord, the God of Israel, says: I promised that your branch of the tribe of Levi[d] would always be my priests. But I will honor those who honor me, and I will despise those who think lightly of me. 31 The time is coming when I will put an end to your family, so it will no longer serve as my priests. All the members of your family will die before their time. None will reach old age.

***How was the priest's LIFE affected?***

***Failed to love God and others.***

***Lost his sense of identity as a priest.***

***Lust and pride caused them to lose their fear of God.***

***Disgraced their priestly purpose.***

## **Crossing Over**

Joshua 3:3-5

New Living Translation

3 giving these instructions to the people: "When you see the Levitical priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord your God, move out from your positions and follow them. 4 Since you have never traveled this way before, they



will guide you. Stay about half a mile[a] behind them, keeping a clear distance between you and the Ark. Make sure you don't come any closer."

5 Then Joshua told the people, "Purify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do great wonders among you."

Revelation 22:10-15

New Living Translation

10 Then he instructed me, "Do not seal up the prophetic words in this book, for the time is near. 11 Let the one who is doing harm continue to do harm; let the one who is vile continue to be vile; let the one who is righteous continue to live righteously; let the one who is holy continue to be holy."

12 "Look, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

14 Blessed are those who wash their robes. They will be permitted to enter through the gates of the city and eat the fruit from the tree of life. 15 Outside the city are the dogs—the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idol worshipers, and all who love to live a lie.