

The Benefits of Maintaining One's New Heart

(Part 1)

- I. The Existence of the New Heart
 - A. The Need for a New Heart (Jn. 4)
 - B. The Gift of a New Heart (Ezek. 36)
 - C. The Disposition of the New Heart (Various Passages)
- II. The Maintaining of the New Heart
 - A. The Call to Maintain One's Heart (Prov. 4:23)
 - B. The Growth of the New Heart (1 Pet. 2:1-3)
 - C. The Assault Against the New Heart (1 Pet. 2:11)
 - D. The Colonization of the New Heart (Eph. 3:14-17)
 - E. The Gifting of the New Heart (Lk. 11:41)
 - F. The Orienting to the New Heart (1 Pet. 3:3-4)
 - G. The Defending of the New Heart (Various Passages)
- III. The Benefits of Maintaining One's New Heart (Various Passages)
 - A. It Strengthens Our Assurance
 - 1. Spiritual Introspection and Assurance
 - 2. The Need for Spiritual Introspection
 - B. It Increases Our Joy
 - C. It Buttresses Our Witness
 - 1. It Supports Our Witness
 - 2. It Gives Us Confidence in Our Witness

Spiritual Introspection:

Introspection is not meant to lead to despair and hopelessness. Instead, it should eventually point us in the direction of true confidence and security, which is found in Jesus Christ.

When spiritual introspection is rightly practiced it strips away self-confidence and redirects our hope to its right object, Jesus.

Absolute Assurance:

It is impossible for those who truly have been born again to lose their salvation and be condemned to hell (Jn. 10:28-29).

Relative Assurance:

Despite temporary failings and sins, believers will be maintained by God, ultimately being enabled by Him to cling to Christ and to persevere in good deeds (Tit. 3:14).

Subjective Assurance:

Believers, by bringing forth fruit, manifest to themselves and to others that they are children of God (Jn. 13:35; 15:8).

Objective Assurance:

When the sinner follows through on the commands of the gospel to repent and believe, he can be assured that God responds in the way that the Bible promises, by saving him (Mk. 1:14-15).