



A Warning to Protect Your Heart

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

September 25, 2022

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts ..."—Hebrews 3:7-8

Key Truths ...

The hardening of one's heart can happen to _____.

The devil's a great _____.

In our story of Moses, Pharaoh made his _____ and the Lord _____ him in it.

One of the easiest places to get a hardened heart is in _____.

Marks of a Hard Heart – Ex. 5-12

I. Pharaoh Rejected God's _____ ... (5:2)

II. Pharaoh had no concern for the _____ he Caused ... (7:21-23)

III. Pharaoh tried to make _____ to avoid Punishment ... (8:25, 28; 10:11, 25-26)

Two Critical Insights ...

1. Man will consent to any terms rather than yield a complete _____ to the will of God.
2. God will only be satisfied by an entire _____ to his will.

IV. Pharaoh admitted Sin, but never _____ ... (9:27; 10:16)

V. Pharaoh refused Repeated _____ ... (5:1-2; 6:1)

My Takeaway ...

1. A hard heart will need to be dealt with _____.
2. For God's children, either we _____ ourselves or God will _____ us ...because He will not let us go.

Truth for Life

September 25, 2022

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. The Scripture often admonishes us to encourage one another. Can you think of a time in your life when someone provided some biblical encouragement that helped you avoid making a bad decision or choosing to sin? What did they do or say that caused you to listen to their input?
2. The deception of sin has been a constant throughout history. Every human has struggled with sin's ability to deceive us starting with Adam and Eve. Read Joshua 7:20-21 and James 1:13-15. What similarities do you see in the example of Achan with James' description of the process of sin? What differences? What can we learn from these 2 passages that could help us avoid the pitfalls of deception?

Do you know of someone today that is struggling with sin's deception. What truth could you learn from these 2 passages that could help you encourage this person? What warning might you give them?

3. Read Philippians 2:1-4 in a few translations. What attitudes and actions can you identify? How could each one of the attitudes/actions serve to help create a community where we can be genuinely known, lovingly supported and honestly challenged?

Which attitude or action found in this passage do you think is most important for creating an encouraging community?

Which attitude or action found in this passage is hardest for you to maintain or put into practice?

4. Pastor David made this statement to wrap up this message. "Growing in obedience to God happens in the mundane experiences of life over a long period of time, often without immediate gratification for our effort."

Do you agree or disagree? Why? How have you seen this truth lived out in your life?

Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

Father, may we be tenaciously protective of our time with You and Your word. May we delight in Your word and meditate on it day and night. We become what we choose! Our ministries are as vital, impactful, and sustainable as our confidence in You / Your word AND our obedience to Your voice.

Joshua 1:8 *This book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe to do all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous and you will have good success.*

Psalms 1:2-3 *But his delight is in the law of the Lord. And in His law, he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season and whose leaf will not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.*



A Warning to Protect Your Heart

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

September 25, 2022

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts ..."—Hebrews 3:7-8

Key Truths ...

The hardening of one's heart can happen to **anyone**.

The devil's a great **imitator**.

In our story of Moses, Pharaoh made his **Decision** and the Lord **Strengthened** him in it.

One of the easiest places to get a hardened heart is in **Church**.

Marks of a Hard Heart – Ex. 5-12

- I. Pharaoh Rejected God's **Authority** ... (5:2)
- II. Pharaoh had no concern for the **Pain** he Caused ... (7:21-23)
- III. Pharaoh tried to make **Deals** to avoid Punishment ... (8:25, 28; 10:11, 25-26)

Two Critical Insights ...

 1. Man will consent to any terms rather than yield a complete **submission** to the will of God.
 2. God will only be satisfied by an entire **surrender** to his will.
- IV. Pharaoh admitted Sin, but never **Repented** ... (9:27; 10:16)
- V. Pharaoh refused Repeated **Correction** ... (5:1-2; 6:1)

My Takeaway ...

1. A hard heart will need to be dealt with **intentionally**.
2. For God's children, either we **humble** ourselves or God will **humiliate** us ...because He will not let us go.

Truth for Life

September 25, 2022

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. The Scripture often admonishes us to encourage one another. Can you think of a time in your life when someone provided some biblical encouragement that helped you avoid making a bad decision or choosing to sin? What did they do or say that caused you to listen to their input?
2. The deception of sin has been a constant throughout history. Every human has struggled with sin's ability to deceive us starting with Adam and Eve. Read Joshua 7:20-21 and James 1:13-15. What similarities do you see in the example of Achan with James' description of the process of sin? What differences? What can we learn from these 2 passages that could help us avoid the pitfalls of deception?

Do you know of someone today that is struggling with sin's deception. What truth could you learn from these 2 passages that could help you encourage this person? What warning might you give them?

3. Read Philippians 2:1-4 in a few translations. What attitudes and actions can you identify? How could each one of the attitudes/actions serve to help create a community where we can be genuinely known, lovingly supported and honestly challenged?

Which attitude or action found in this passage do you think is most important for creating an encouraging community?

Which attitude or action found in this passage is hardest for you to maintain or put into practice?

4. Pastor David made this statement to wrap up this message. "Growing in obedience to God happens in the mundane experiences of life over a long period of time, often without immediate gratification for our effort."

Do you agree or disagree? Why? How have you seen this truth lived out in your life?

Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

Father, may we be tenaciously protective of our time with You and Your word. May we delight in Your word and meditate on it day and night. We become what we choose! Our ministries are as vital, impactful, and sustainable as our confidence in You / Your word AND our obedience to Your voice.

Joshua 1:8 *This book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe to do all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous and you will have good success.*

Psalms 1: 2-3 *But his delight is in the law of the Lord. And in His law, he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season and whose leaf will not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.*