

LIFE IN THE SHEEP SEATS PT 1.: THE PSALMIST'S HEART

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A. A Wasted Heart.

1. *"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with Me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with Me and work with Me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."* Matthew 11:28-30

B. A Bold Heart.

1. *"Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear, will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."* 1 Samuel 17:34-37

C. A Contrite Heart.

1. *"But the thing David had done was evil in the sight of the Lord."* 2 Samuel 11:27
2. *"The Lord sent Nathan to David."* 2 Samuel 12:1a
3. *"There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him. David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, 'As surely as the Lord lives, the one who did this deserves to die! He must pay for that lamb 4 times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.'" 2 Samuel 12:1b-6*
4. *"Then Nathan said to David, 'You are the man!'"* 2 Samuel 12:7
5. *"Then David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the Lord.'" 2 Samuel 12:13*
 - i. *"O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. The sacrifice you want is a broken spirit. A broken and contrite heart."* Psalm 51:15-17

D. A Great Heart!

1. *"I and sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.' But Samuel said, 'How can I go? Saul will hear about it and kill me.'" 1 Samuel 16:1-2*
2. *"When they arrived, Samuel took one look at Eliab and thought, 'Surely this is the Lord's anointed!'" 1 Samuel 16:6*
3. *"So he asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' 'There is still the youngest,' Jesse replied. 'But he's out in the fields watching the sheep and goats.' Samuel said, 'Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.'" 1 Samuel 16:11*

4. *And the Lord said, "This is the one; anoint him."* 1 Samuel 16:12
5. *"The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."* 1 Samuel 16:7
6. *"The Lord has sought out a man after His own heart,"* 1 Samuel 13:14

E. What makes a heart great?

1. Wild Abandon.

- i. *"I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart. I will tell of all your wonders."*
Psalm 9:1
- ii. *"When she saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord....she said 'How the king has distinguished himself today, disrobing in the sight of slave girls.'" 2 Samuel 6:16, 20*
- iii. *"I will celebrate before the Lord. I will become even more undignified than this and I will be humiliated in my own eyes."* 2 Samuel 6:22

2. Firm Resolve.

- i. *"But he refused to drink it. Instead he poured it out before the Lord... 'this water is as precious as the blood of these men who risked their lives to bring it to me.'" 2 Samuel 23:16-17*
- ii. *"I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing."* 2 Samuel 24:24
- iii. *"Here I am, living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a plain tent."* 2 Samuel 7:2

3. Deep Reflection.

- i. *"Search me, O God, and know my heart."* Psalm 139:23
- ii. *"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul."* Ps. 23:1-3
- iii. *"They are like a tree planted by streams of water"* Psalm 1:3

4. Stubborn Love.

- i. *"And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them."* Psalm 78:72
- ii. *"Oh daughters of Israel, weep for Saul!... How the mighty have fallen in battle!"* 2 Samuel 1:24-25
- iii. *"They wept together, but David wept the most."* 1 Samuel 20:41
- iv. *"O my son Absalom! My son, my son Absalom! If only I had died instead of you-O Absalom, my son, my son!"* 2 Samuel 18:33
- v. *"I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."* Psalm 23:6