

Using the New Heart

- I. 'Heart' is used metaphorically in Scripture and implies the person's intent, or purpose: before salvation it involves *the **natural mind**, will, and emotions*.
1. From the natural heart proceeds unrighteous acts (Mt. 15:19-20).
 - 1) Christians still have a natural heart (1 Pet. 4:15; Eph. 4:25; 1 Thes. 3:13).
 - 2) The unsaved natural heart is blinded to the importance of the Gospel (1 Cor. 4:3; Mt. 13:15).
 2. The Christian is spiritually conceived when the sperm of the Father is sown in the matrix of the Gospel (1 Jn. 3:9; 1 Pet. 1:23).
 3. At this conception the individual is given the ability to comprehend the Gospel: mind of Christ (2 Cor. 4:4; 1 Cor. 2:16).
 4. The result of this spiritual conception is that the individual can understand the Gospel: ***mind of Christ**, will, and emotions*.
 5. As a result of this understanding the individual believes the Gospel in his heart (Rom. 10:9-10).
 6. Then the believer is born again spiritually (Tit. 3:5; 1 Pet. 1:3, 23).
 7. Conception then birth (Jn. 3:3-7).
- II. At the new birth, or salvation, in the new heart the believer:
1. Must use Scripture to discern which heart is appealing to him (Heb. 4:12).
 2. Will recognize he now has a heavenly Father (Gal. 4:6; Rom. 4:24; 1 Pet. 1:21; Jn. 14:6).
 3. A truth evoking a correct emotional response: "Abba".
 4. It is the area the Holy Spirit illumines, teaches new truth (Eph. 1:18; 1 Jn. 2:20, 27).
 5. It is the area in which the Christian is strengthened by doctrine to live by (Heb. 13:9).
 6. It is where we learn to use love (1 Jn. 3:18-19).
 7. It is where we make Christ Lord (1 Pet. 3:15).