

The Hearts of Men
Mt 12:9-14
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what we can learn about the hearts of men from the greatest examples.

Intro: 1. Throughout the Bible we find the hearts of men revealed.
2. Both the good and the bad (**Pro 27:19**).

I. David & Saul

A. The Heart of Saul

1. Saul condition before God changed (**1 Sam 16:14a**)
2. Jealous resulted in hatred (**1 Sam 18:7-9**)
 - a. "So Saul eyed David from that day forward." (**v.9**)
 - b. David tried to resume his duties but had to run for his life instead (**1 Sam 18:10-15**)
3. Saul sought to kill David (**1 Sam 19:1-2**)

B. David's Heart contrasted Saul's

1. David was trusting (**1 Sam 19:6-7**)
2. David spared his enemy (**1 Sam 24:4-10; 26:7-9**)

II. Jesus and the Naysayers

A. The Naysayers are deaf (**Mt 13:13-15**)

1. Ignore and test, that's the common actions of the Pharisees (**Mt 19:1-3a**)
 - a. **Mt 9:32-35**
 - b. **Following casting out demons, Mt 12:38-40**
 - c. **Mark 7:1-5**
2. The Pharisees were not the only ones who behaved in such ways.
 - a. The Jews
 - b. Sadducees
 - c. Scribes
 - d. Ungodly elders
 - e. Ungodly priests

B. Christ taught a better way (**Mt 5:20**).

1. Christ desired for the Christian to have righteousness that was godly, unlike that of the Pharisees and others.
2. Christ's teaching brought men closer to God instead because it was not based upon the traditions of man (**Mt 6:8**, no doubt the Pharisees were included in this group).

III. Lessons for Us Today

A. The Heart of David & Jesus

1. The heart of David and Jesus are similar in many ways.
 - a. They both showed compassion
 - b. They both were servants
 - c. They both stood for what was right
 - i. While David was not sinless he was still a great man of God.

2. They both desired to do the will of God and to stand against evil.
- B. The Heart of the Christian
1. Today, we must reject the heart of that of Saul, the Pharisees and others.
 - a. These are hearts that are not pleasing to God thus should not reside in the Christian.
 2. Today we would do well to not only have the attitude of David but the heart and mindset of Christ.

Application & Conclusion:

1. Let us learn from these examples that we have seen today.
2. Let us consider closely what type of heart we have and is it pleasing to God?
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9