

A God Heart Vs. An Evil Heart



vs.



George W Bush—“The killers have evil in their heart.”

“The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything.” Albert Einstein

“Good intentions help Satan to fulfill his evil intent.” Anonymous

One of the greatest tragedies of life is knowing that there is going to be a constant battle for our souls while we walk planet earth. True or False?

God’s powerful forces (His army of light) are battling Satan’s army of darkness and devastation.

Satan (Lucifer) lost his battle for his place in God’s kingdom by enforcing his own will in lieu of doing God’s will. Satan rebelled and God **displaced him from his position in God’s kingdom.**

- *Displace = take over the place, position, or role of (someone or something); force (someone) to leave their home; remove (someone) from a job or position of authority against their will.*

Satan is not and will never be on the same level as the Lord God Jehovah. However, this was Lucifer’s (Satan) reasoning to rebel...Wanting to be like God...and even above God.

The **5 “I WILLS”** of Satan are found in Isaiah 14:13-14: “For thou hast said in thine heart, I **will** ascend into heaven, I **will** exalt my throne above the stars of God: I **will** sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I **will** ascend above the heights of the clouds; I **will** be like the most High.”

Satan was hurled/thrown out of heaven.

Ezekiel 28:14-17, "You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings."

Here is the original source of the internal, self-centered influence in mankind's hearts; this is where sin began in the distant past. From this being, sin spread to other angels; and from them...into mankind, beginning with Adam and Eve; and from them...on to all of mankind.

Notice how God clearly describes that Satan's sins had their birth in his prideful feelings about himself, and in turn, this corrupted his wisdom.

Get to know Satan: This is a "MUST."

- **We should never underestimate Satan's power nor his hatred for God and man.**
- **He cunningly broadcasts his evil, spiritual intents into our minds, subtly working to turn each member of the "little flock" away from God (Ephesians 2:2).**
- **Although nothing was withheld from him, as he was created by God as the ultimate in beauty and function, "perfect in [his] ways," he did not remain true, turning away from God, a picture of cancerous discontent.**
- **Satan is called "an angel of light" because he has a talent for presenting evil in a good light, which can confuse and deceive us IF we let our guards down and drift away from God's truth (II Corinthians 11:3, 14-15; see Revelation 12:9).**
- **Without this truth as our guide, we can easily fall prey to Satan's darts of discontent.**

God has won the war...but Satan continues to fight a battle for our souls. Our souls (mind, will, emotions...conscience). Our soul is based on our heart's dependence on God or Satan...i.e. who our commander and Lord is. Our hearts are in tune with God (Good) or in tune with Satan (Evil). Good soldiers go into battle to win.

The battle now is for our "hearts."

The Bible has a lot to say about the heart. Most of the time it is referring to the inner self, the character part of one's being, and/or the inward thoughts that thinks, decides, and senses right from wrong. It is the center...not only of spiritual activity, but of all the operations of *human* life.

What does the Bible say our heart is? Our “intangible heart” in the Bible is a composition of all the components of our soul—our mind, emotion, and will—plus the most important part of our spirit—our conscience.

Hebrews 10:22, “Let us come forward to the Holy of Holies with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.” We see in this verse that our **conscience** is part of our heart. This is further confirmed by the verses in **1 John 3:20-21**, *“But if we have a guilty conscience and feel that we have done wrong, the Lord will surely feel it even more, for he knows everything we do. But, dearly loved friends, if our consciences are clear, we can come to the Lord with perfect assurance and trust...”*

Since our **conscience** is what blames or condemns us when we're wrong, this verse makes it abundantly clear that our conscience is part of our heart.

So according to the Bible, our heart is not simply something we feel emotion with. Because it's composed of our mind, our will, our emotion, and our conscience, it does much more; our heart also thinks, decides, and **senses right from wrong.**

1. *Job 27:6, “I will maintain my innocence and never let go of it; my **conscience** will not reproach me as long as I live.”*
2. *Acts 24:16, “So I strive always to keep my **conscience** clear before God and man.”*
3. *Romans 9:1, “I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my **conscience** confirms it through the Holy Spirit—”*
4. *1 Corinthians 4:4, “My **conscience** is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me.”*
5. *1 Corinthians 8:12, “When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak **conscience**, you sin against Christ.”*
6. *2 Corinthians 1:12, “Now this is our boast: Our **conscience** testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, with*

integrity and godly sincerity. We have done so, relying not on worldly wisdom but on God's grace."

7. *2 Corinthians 4:2, "Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's **conscience** in the sight of God."*
8. *2 Corinthians 5:11, "Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your **conscience**."*
9. *1 Timothy 1:5, "The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good **conscience** and a sincere faith."*
10. *1 Timothy 1:19, "holding on to faith and a good **conscience**, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith."*
11. *1 Timothy 3:9, "They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear **conscience**."*

Our soul...with a conscience! We do right or we yield to the enemy's camp and rebel against what God has placed within us to make the right decisions.

As we head into the final stages of the age of man, we should keep in mind that each of us was created by God, complete with everything we need to function according to His will. While we may lack the power, wealth, talent, and beauty that Satan—or perhaps a brother—has been gifted, we will soon be given so much more, **if, among other things, we learn to be content with what our generous and loving God has provided us.**

We should always remember that discontentment is common and hurtful, while contentment is rare and of great benefit (1 Timothy 6:6). For true contentment is a byproduct of the gift of faith that each of us, as a child of God, has been granted by God.

1 Timothy 6:6, "But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment."

Be careful with your conscience. It is breakable!

Broken People

Breakable...But, Repairable!

By Gerald Cumby

When Sherry (my wife) and I were on vacation shopping in a wonderful glass and gift shop in Gruene, Texas a few years ago, we noticed that most of the items were very delicate, honed with excellence...and, in turn, very expensive. The store was full of these beautiful rare glass treasures anyone would love to have as a work of art for their treasure chest of "Forever Keepsakes." Throughout the store there were signs at the end of the aisle where everyone would notice stating, "WHAT YOU BREAK, YOU BUY!"

Of course, these were words to take as a warning; also, a statement helping us to know there was a responsibility for the customer to be careful with these precious jewels. It was understandable...the store owner had spent countless hours delicately and professionally crafting these individual treasures. They were valuable and expensive because they were crafted with a "spirit of excellence."

Many times I have been reminded of that sign and the importance of those words observed in that store. When I think about those words, *WHAT YOU BREAK, YOU BUY*, I am reminded of how much the Lord loves and protects us. I am awe-struck at how our Lord Jesus gave his life for us; treasures delicately created by the Father Himself. We were broken and needed a Savior to put us back together. Jesus paid the price for our brokenness. He was broken (bruised for our iniquities) and he was willing to pay the ultimate price for God's treasures. There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Lamentations 3:22–23, "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."