

# “For They Shall All Know Me”

Developing a New Covenant Relationship with God

Spring 2016 / Sunday AM Bible Study



*Workbook* Print [goo.gl/iSmU50](http://goo.gl/iSmU50) Phone [goo.gl/KCzzWU](http://goo.gl/KCzzWU) Tablet [goo.gl/FgxaKp](http://goo.gl/FgxaKp)

## Lesson 9. Written on Their Hearts

# Wilhelm Wundt

The father of modern psychology



# God wants a relationship with people

Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: **I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts.** And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

# Goals

- Know what your ‘heart’ is and how the New Covenant is ‘written’ upon it
- Determine some internal and external ways to evaluate our hearts
- Commit to continual heart transformation as a way to draw closer to God

# What is the heart?

The heart is an organ

*‘The heart is a muscular organ in humans and other animals, which pumps blood through the blood vessels of the circulatory system. Blood provides the body with oxygen and nutrients, and also assists in the removal of metabolic wastes.’*

The heart is a symbol

*‘[The heart] denotes a person’s center for both physical and emotional-intellectual-moral activities; sometimes it is used figuratively for any inaccessible thing.’*

# The New Covenant vs. the Old

Jer. 31:31-34

I will put my law within them genuine obedience

I will write it on their hearts inward commitment

I will be their God a new focus

they shall be my people it's no longer physical Israel

... they shall all know me faith not genealogy

from the least to the greatest there's no distinctions

I will forgive their iniquities more than overlooking sins

# Our heart can be strong

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

- ▶ We can (and will) get old, physically.
- ▶ But, our heart can rise above our physical limitations.



# God judges us by our heart

1 Samuel 16:7

- ▶ Man looks on the outward appearance
- ▶ The Lord looks on the heart

# Law outside your heart is useless

Hebrews 4:1-10

- ▶ The Law didn't benefit the Israelites because they didn't believe it.
- ▶ And it kept them out of the promised land.

# Knowing if your heart is good

1 John 3:19-24

- ▶ God's love and forgiveness is greater than our lingering guilt of sin.
- ▶ When we believe in Jesus, love one another, keep His commandments, and have a relationship with the Spirit. . .
- ▶ Then, our hearts will feel clean and we'll have confidence in our relationship with God.
- ▶ You can't have a good heart without love. (Deut. 10:12-22)

# You can choose your heart

Ezra 7:10

Ezra *set* his heart to

- ▶ study
- ▶ teach
- ▶ do

# Decide to be Different

Romans 12:1-2

- ▶ The world would not choose to be a living sacrifice, because it doesn't see the benefits.
- ▶ The Christian is transformed by first rejecting worldliness in his mind.
- ▶ That transformation brings about discernment.

# Law inside your heart is revealing

Hebrews 4:11-13

- ▶ Divides the soul and spirit
- ▶ Discerns the thoughts and intentions of your heart.

# Written on Their Hearts

God wants a relationship with people from their hearts.

## The heart

- ▶ Your heart *is* you.
- ▶ Your heart was built to be the home for God's law.
- ▶ Your heart grows as you grow close to God.

## Evaluate your heart

- ▶ God judges us by our heart.
- ▶ Belief is a test of the heart. Israel failed that test.
- ▶ Other tests: "love one another", "keep my commandments"

## Transform your heart

- ▶ You can choose your heart.
- ▶ Reject worldliness in favor of being a living sacrifice.
- ▶ Meditate on God's word to refine your heart.