

ORDERING YOUR PRIVATE WORLD PROVERBS 4:23

4 insights:

1. That we have a private world!

Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; For out of it are the issues of life.

The Bible calls this private world: the

- The center of the self
- The command & control center
- One's intellectual, volitional, & emotional center

Much like the physical heart is the center of the body!

Genesis 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Genesis 27:41 And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.

1 Samuel 27:1 And David said in his heart, I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul: there is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines; and Saul shall despair of me, to seek me any more in any coast of Israel: so shall I escape out of his hand.

2. That our private world controls our public world!

Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; **For out of it are the issues of life.**

Genesis 27:41 And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.

Genesis 27:42 And these words of Esau her elder son were told to Rebekah: and she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said unto him, Behold, thy brother Esau, as touching thee, doth comfort himself, purposing to kill thee. **Genesis 27:43** Now therefore, my son, obey my voice; and arise, flee thou to Laban my brother to Haran; **Genesis 27:44** And tarry with him a few days, until thy brother's fury turn away;

Matthew 12:34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? **for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.** **Matthew 12:35** A good man out of the good treasure **of the heart** bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

Matthew 12:36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

Matthew 12:37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

1 Samuel 16:6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, **Surely the LORD's anointed is before him.** **1 Samuel 16:7** **But** the LORD said unto Samuel, **Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.**

3. That our private world might be private - even to us!

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful (עָקֹב הַלֵּב) above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Genesis 27:36 And he said, Is not he rightly named Jacob (יַעֲקֹב)? for he hath supplanted (יָעָקַבְנִי) me these two times: he took away my birthright; and, behold, now he hath taken away my blessing. And he said, Hast thou not reserved a blessing for me?

Matthew 6:22 The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. **Matthew 6:23** But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! (KJV)

Matthew 6:22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, **Matthew 6:23** but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! (ESV)

The heart & Mr Losey's glasses:

- We not only see
- We see

Question: "How many people – or, what percentage of people are aware of themselves?"

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: **who can know it?** **Jeremiah 17:10** I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, **piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**

Hebrews 4:13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

4. That our private world must be guarded - at all costs!

Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; For out of it are the issues of life.

Keep = to guard, to keep, to stand watch, blockade...

God can save you and give you a new heart – to follow Him!

Deuteronomy 30:6 And the LORD thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.

Ezekiel 36:26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. **Ezekiel 36:27** And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Jeremiah 24:7 And I will give them an heart to know me, that I am the LORD: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God: for they shall return unto me **with their whole heart.**

Jeremiah 31:31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, That I will make a new covenant With the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: **Jeremiah 31:32** Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers In the day that I took them by the hand To bring them out of the land of Egypt; Which my covenant they brake, Although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:

Jeremiah 31:33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, **I will put my law in their inward parts, And write it in their hearts;** And will be their God, And they shall be my people. **Jeremiah 31:34** And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: For they shall all know me, From the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: For I will forgive their iniquity, And I will remember their sin no more.

Also as a Christian, we must guard, stand watch, keep...the heart!

Satan loves to fish in the troubled waters of a discontented heart. Thomas Watson

Deuteronomy 6:6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be **in thine heart:**

Deuteronomy 11:18 Therefore shall ye lay up these my words **in your heart** and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.

Deuteronomy 32:46 And he said unto them, Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law.

Psalms 37:31 The law of his God is **in his heart;** None of his steps shall slide.

Psalms 119:11 Thy word have I hid **in mine heart,** That I might not sin against thee.

Proverbs 2:10 When wisdom entereth **into thine heart,** And knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; **Proverbs 2:11** Discretion shall preserve thee, Understanding shall keep thee:

Proverbs 3:1 My son, forget not my law; But let thine heart keep my commandments: **Proverbs 3:2** For length of days, and long life, And peace, shall they add to thee. **Proverbs 3:3** Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: Bind them about thy neck; **Write them upon the table of thine heart:**