

THE HEART

Prov. 23/26

When we read this text there come to us these lines from Arthur O'Shaughnessy:

"If some one should give me a heart to keep, with love for the golden Key---- etc"

But in our text it is not the heart we are to receive but the heart we are to give away—

and one begins to think what it would mean to give your heart to any one— with the thought circling around the root of your mind what it would mean to give your heart to God—

It would mean giving—

- a. your inner thought
- b. your deepest interest
- c. your profoundest loyalty
- d. your central attitude

The matter of great importance is having a heart to give. How about yours?

A young man was so busy echoing other voices he had no voice of his own— so busy reflecting other people's thoughts he no thoughts of his own— so busy reflecting other people's feelings that he had no heart of his own— no heart to give—

So we should think seriously about
attaining an inner life which will
be ours & in itself, to get at this we
must consider the life a person makes
and lives in his own mind—

1. First of all the pictures you hang
in your mind—this is a very
private affair—this personal art
gallery.

It is so secret that there would be no
object in posing and no reason for
being in-sincere.

you can change the pictures which
a man hangs in his reception
room without affecting his
character—(of course there is con-
stant commerce between the outer
world and inner gallery). If you
succeed in changing a picture
of the inner gallery you have done
something deep for the man himself.

Every night people bring home pic-
tures that may or may not be
hung in the gallery—this applies
to all age groups making it all
the more important for a com-
munity to furnish the best
things for people to see.

your character, certainly in part, is de-
termined by the pictures you gaze up-
on when you are alone—conscious
that no one is looking on.

Get this statement please and carry ③
it home with you -

"at times all persons are haunted by an IDEAL-SELF who, on the stage of the inner life is always doing a better job with his problems than the real self does upon the actual stage of action."

This ideal self is in a sense the conscience of man kind - so with this commerce between the outside and the inner gallery if that ideal can be fed and helped to grow the person will have a good heart to give to God.

This ideal self of the inner gallery is always becoming the individual to better ways of life - when a man's inner life consists of a series of moving pictures of the imagination in which that ideal self is always better than his actual self has succeeded in being there is fine hope for the future of that man.

→ BUT ←

There is another side - there is a self that is more than ~~than~~ what the actual self has been. There are few men who have not done more in their imagination

4 at times than in actual performance. Doing with joy in their imagination what they have never actually done in the world - a great danger lies right here - "A man always does a thing with mind before he does it with his hand - if he does often enough with his mind most likely he will come to do it with his hand."

So the moving pictures we watch when alone leave something which at length becomes the very self of our selves and the character of that self is determined by the pictures we select for our inner gallery AND WHEN IT COMES TO GIVING OUR HEART AWAY IT IS THIS INNER SELF WHICH MUST BE CONSIDERED

Imagination is $\frac{3}{4}$ th of life - man himself is the KING of the inner realm. He decides what pictures will be shown on that inner screen - His censorship is absolute.

Then there are talking pictures that have their screen in this inner gallery of the mind. words have power - people may not know

your mind until you speak. ⑤
When you speak the picture that
has formed in your imagination
you have committed yourself
to the mental picture.

you can tell a good deal about
a man if you know his vocabulary.

To a large degree we construct
with words that inner life the
essence of which is what we will
give if we ever give our heart
away.

Then we must remember the thoughts
that march out at night. It is
rather odd that night should
have so much to do in forming
our lives - it may be because
people waking suddenly in
the night are off guard and
thoughts pushed back into
the sub-conscious during
the day rush out as we
suddenly awake.

we can hardly escape the inner
will - this will must harmon-
ize the war that goes on in the
inner man - In Les Misérables
Jean Valjean achieved the unity
of a good will in spite of evil

6) without and evil within

In all these ways; the pictures on the walls, talking picture, thoughts that march out at night and the inner struggling will, we

a. determine our character

b. Create the heart that is really ourselves

c. are conscious of a great ally if we have pursued the higher and not the lower in life

we may at times, be fighting in the dark but we know we have a companion — God who works with us through Christ to make the hearts ^{He} we are to give back to Him.

Enter

Hear me thy heart says the Father above
No gift so precious to Him as our love
Softly He whispers — wherever thou art
Fraternal trust me and give me thy heart

Hear me thy heart says the Saviour of men
Calling in mercy again and again
Turn now from sin and from evil depart
Have I not died for thee give me thy heart

Hear me thy heart says the Spirit Divine
All that thou hast to my keeping resign
Grace more abundant is mine to impart
Make full surrender and give me thy heart

E. C. Hewitt

