

Morning Watch

Monday 5/10

Related Verses**Prov. 29:18**

18 Where there is no vision, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law.

Acts 26:19

19 Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision,

Eph. 1:17-18

17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him,

18 The eyes of your heart having been enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

Phil. 3:12-14

12 Not that I have already obtained or am already perfected, but I pursue, if even I may lay hold of that for which I also have been laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

13 Brothers, I do not account of myself to have laid hold; but one thing I do: Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before,

14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.

Eph. 4:3-6

3 Being diligent to keep the oneness of the Spirit in the uniting bond of peace:

4 One Body and one Spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling;

5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism;

6 One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Suggested Reading

Proverbs 29:18 says, “Where there is no vision, the people cast off restraint.” This means that without a vision, the people will become loose, like wild horses in their untamed state. The clearest instance in the New Testament where the word vision is mentioned is in the case of Paul. In Acts 26:19, while he was defending himself before King Agrippa, he uttered this word: “I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision.”

Living a Godly Life

When Paul was serving God in the Jewish religion, he was serving by tradition, not by vision, but from the day the Lord met him, called him, and chose him on the way to Damascus, he became a man with a vision. From that time onward, his service was governed by that vision. (CWWL, 1986, vol. 2, “Crucial Words of Leading in the Lord’s Recovery, Book 1: The Vision and Definite Steps for the Practice of the New Way,” pp. 4-5)

When the divine light shines over the divine revelation, the divine revelation becomes the divine vision (Acts 26:19). A vision is a view whereby we may see something. If a person’s eyes are covered by a thick veil, there may be some wonderful scenery in front of him, but he is not able to see it. He cannot see because he has no vision, but when the veil is taken away, he can see.

Many Christians read the Bible with a veil. This is why Paul says that we should look unto Christ with an unveiled face (2 Cor. 3:18)....Paul says that when the sons of Israel read the books of Moses, they have a veil upon them and see nothing (vv. 13-15). Paul then says that whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away and that wherever the Spirit is, there is freedom (vv. 16-17). This means that when we are veiled, we are bound; we are imprisoned; we do not have freedom. When the veil is gone, we are released. This freedom comes from the Spirit of God.

We need to learn to come to the Bible every day by coming to God. We should confess our sins to make a clear situation so that we can have fellowship with God in the Spirit. Then we should read His Word by pray-reading. Every day we will receive revelation; the Spirit will also shine over the revelation, and we will receive a vision. There is a progression from the Word to revelation and from revelation to vision.

In Ephesians 1:17 Paul asked the Lord to grant us a spirit of wisdom and revelation. When the Spirit shines over the revelation, the vision is here. Without the light we cannot receive the vision, even if the veil is taken away. The veil should be gone, and the light should come. Furthermore, we need the sight. If we are blind, we will not be able to see anything, even if the veil is removed and the light is here. We need the revelation, the light, the vision through the light, and the sight. Then the veil is gone, the vision is here, and we have the light with the sight. We

also have the understanding of the vision through the Spirit’s wisdom.

We are one with the Lord in our spirit, so we must review the divine revelation in our spirit with the Lord. Then the light shines to bring us the vision. Otherwise, at most we can have only revelation but no vision. After we review the divine revelation again and again in our spirit with the Lord Himself, more light comes, and the vision is here for us to see.

Paul prayed in Ephesians 1:18 that the eyes of our heart would be enlightened that we might see. We need not only the light but also the sight....We need the revelation plus the light plus the sight. The light comes from God; the sight is within us. The revelation plus the divine light with our sight brings us the vision. (CWWL, 1994-1997, vol. 3, “The Triune God’s Revelation and His Move,” pp. 68-69, 85-86)

Further Reading: CWWL, 1994-1997, vol. 3, “The Triune God’s Revelation and His Move,” chs. 1-2, 4

Further Reading: HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 10, Day 1

Corporate Reading of “The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures” Chapter 9 – Sections: The Key to Revelation; Consistent with the Whole Bible

Tuesday 5/11

Related Verses**Prov. 23:23**

23 Buy truth, and do not sell it; Buy wisdom and instruction and understanding.

3 John 3

3 For I rejoiced greatly at the brothers' coming and testifying to your steadfastness in the truth, even as you walk in truth.

1 Pet 1:22

22 Since you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth unto unfeigned brotherly love, love one another from a pure heart fervently,

Matt. 16:24-25

24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

Morning Watch

25 For whoever wants to save his soul-life shall lose it; but whoever loses his soul-life for My sake shall find it.

John 8:32

32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.

Eph. 4:15

15 But holding to truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ,

Rom. 12:4-5

4 For just as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function,

5 So we who are many are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

1 Tim. 3:15

15 But if I delay, I write that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

Suggested Reading

Truth is something that we have to buy; it is something that has a price. If we want to please the Lord and stand for the truth, we have to pay the price. If we are clear about the truth, we have to obey it all the way. Many Christians cannot pay the price because they want to please men; they try to dodge the truth....Truth is like a pillar in a house. A pillar is not like a window or a door, which can be enlarged or reduced at will. A pillar cannot be moved; it cannot be made higher or lower, and it cannot be tilted. In other words, truth can never be changed. If we cannot pay the price to obey any part of the truth, we can only condemn ourselves and confess our weakness; we cannot lower the standard of the truth just because we cannot make it or because it creates dire consequences for us. (*CWWN*, vol. 37, p. 254)

Every worker of the Lord must uphold the absoluteness of the truth. This is possible only when a man is delivered from himself. Many brothers and sisters are not absolute to the truth; they are affected by people, things, and personal feelings. If a man is not absolute to the truth, he will, in the course of his work, sacrifice God's truth for man, himself, or his own desires. A basic requirement for being a servant of the Lord is to not sacrifice the truth....The problems with many workers stem from the

Living a Godly Life

relationship with their friends, intimate acquaintances, and family. The truth is compromised by their friends, immediate family, or relatives....If the truth is the truth, it should not be compromised, whether by our own brothers, our relatives, or our intimate friends....[For example], in a certain place a controversy arises. A number of the saints may be favorably disposed toward a particular group of brothers and side with them, whereas a number of others may have a preference for another group of people and line up on their side. Instead of sitting down and counting the cost of being absolute for the truth and of following the truth, they are influenced and directed by their own emotions. This does not mean that the brothers are not speaking about the truth....They have not brushed the truth completely aside; they still have some care for the truth. But they are not absolute to the truth. Being absolute to the truth means that no personal feelings or family relationships are allowed to stand in the way of the truth. In spiritual matters, the truth is compromised as soon as human relationships are taken into account. As soon as human relationships become involved, God's word and His commandments are discounted through human factors, and the truth is compromised.

The Bible contains many ordinances and commandments. These ordinances and commandments are from God, and God's servants need to preach and announce them....We cannot be a servant of God if we cannot preach beyond what we can practice. This is because the truth is absolute. The standard of the divine Word must not be lowered to the level of our personal attainment. We cannot tamper with the truth in any way in order to justify our own deficiencies....We have to transcend ourselves, our own feelings, and our own personal interest in our speaking. This is a high requirement for the servants of the Lord. We must beware of doing things one way as they affect other brothers and sisters but doing them another way as they are applied to our spouse or our children....If God's Word says something, it is so, no matter who is involved....We have to learn to uphold the absoluteness of the truth. (*CWWN*, vol. 52, "The Character of the Lord's Worker," pp. 151-153)

Further Reading: *Life-study of Proverbs*, msgs. 5, 7; *Life-study of Genesis*, msg. 33; *CWWL*, 1978, vol. 1,

May. 10 - May. 16 2021

"Basic Training," ch. 2; *CWWL*, 1978, vol. 2, "Life Messages, Volume 1," ch. 31

Further Reading: *HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 10, Day 2*

Corporate Reading of "The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures" Chapter 9 – Sections: Not a Literal City; God's Dwelling Place for Eternity

Wednesday 5/12

Related Verses

Prov. 20:27

27 The spirit of man is the lamp of Jehovah, Searching all the innermost parts of the inner being.

Rev. 4:5

5 And out of the throne come forth lightnings and voices and thunders. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God;

1 John 1:5

5 And this is the message which we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

Rom. 8:16

16 The Spirit Himself witnesses with our spirit that we are children of God.

Rom. 12:11

11 Do not be slothful in zeal, but be burning in spirit, serving the Lord.

Eph. 6:17-18

17 And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which Spirit is the word of God,

18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

Psa. 139:23-24

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxious thoughts;

24 And see if there is some harmful way in me, And lead me on the eternal way.

Morning Watch

Living a Godly Life

May. 10 - May. 16 2021

Suggested Reading

Man's spirit is the lamp of Jehovah, searching all the innermost parts of the inner being (Prov. 20:27). The Spirit of God is also God's lamp (Rev. 4:5); in fact, there is a sevenfold intensity to His shining. This is the meaning of the *seven lamps of fire...which are the seven Spirits of God*. Man's spirit and God's Spirit are both lamps, together enlightening the inward parts. (*CWWL*, 1979, vol. 1, "Life Messages, Volume 2," p. 424)

There are some people who live according to the flesh. Their only concern is the pleasure of the moment.

Others live according to their soul. They are elated when things go well for them but depressed when their circumstances are not favorable. Sometimes they are pleasant toward their associates, but other times they are critical or even hateful.

There are others who also live according to their soul but are highly regarded by those who know them. Rather than being changeable like the weather, they act rationally and think ahead as to what course of action they will take. Their behavior is controlled by their thoughts.

These three kinds of people include almost everyone. There are very few who live according to the spirit. You were in one of these three categories until one day when you heard the gospel. The Spirit of God touched your conscience, which is part of the spirit. Your spirit was activated, leading you to repent and confess your sins. Your spirit is now a lamp indwelt by the Spirit of God, who is also a lamp. The spirit wants to enlighten every part of your soul. By responding to the spirit's shining, you will be walking "according to the spirit" (Rom. 8:4).

Sometimes when God wants to shine in us, we will not open to Him. This is why, after we have been praying for a while, we sometimes have nothing more to say. When we use our spirit to pray, it functions as a shining lamp, searching all the parts of our soul. It may shine on our thoughts, but we refuse to have the Lord probe there....The spirit may shine on our emotions, especially the sisters', but we close up, sometimes even weeping, begging the Lord not to touch that area. The same thing may happen with our will, especially the brothers'; if we close our will, the spirit cannot fulfill its function of shining.

When we pray properly, using our spirit, there is a lamp shining. If we sense it shining on our thoughts, we can say, "Lord, I open my mind to You. Shine in me. Expose my thoughts." In His light we confess our sins. When He shines on our emotions, we can open and confess what He reveals to be wrong. Then He will shine on our will, and we can open this room also to Him. As we open all these chambers one by one, the spirit will shine, and we will confess our sins....The more we [keep praying], the more we are enlightened. Our inward parts will all be thoroughly searched by the Lord. After such a time of prayer, we will feel bright and transparent, filled with God. This is one aspect of the lamp—our spirit shining within.

The other aspect is that of the seven Spirits. The Spirit of God today is the seven lamps shining on us in an intensified way. Many of us have experienced this intensified shining, far stronger than a simple prick of the conscience, condemning a wrong thought or wrong motive. What did not bother us in the past we can no longer do. If we open our mouth to tell a joke, the seven Spirits shine, and our sentence is cut off in midair. If we begin to make some critical comments about a certain sister, the seven Spirits shine, and our words fail. Even when we are off just a little, the Spirit is there as the light shining. (*CWWL*, 1979, vol. 1, "Life Messages, Volume 2," pp. 424-425)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1979, vol. 1, "Life Messages, Volume 2," ch. 75; *CWWL*, 1986, vol. 3, "The Revelation and Vision of God," ch. 1

Further Reading: *HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 10, Day 3*

Corporate Reading of "The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures" Chapter 9 – Sections: The Last and Greatest Sign

Thursday 5/13

Related Verses**Prov. 4:23**

23 Keep your heart with all vigilance, For from it are the issues of life.

Matt. 5:8

8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Ezek 36:26

26 I will also give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take away the heart of stone out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.

Rom. 10:9-10

9 That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;

10 For with the heart there is believing unto righteousness, and with the mouth there is confession unto salvation.

2 Cor. 3:16, 18

16 But whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

2 Thes. 3:5

5 And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the endurance of Christ.

Eph. 3:17

17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

1 Thes. 3:13

13 So that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

Suggested Reading

The relationship that we have with God first depends on the heart, because the heart is the very organ by which we express ourselves and by which we make decisions to receive or reject things....The main entrance of a building is its guard, controlling what should remain outside and what should come in. In the same way, our heart is our guard. It is the entrance into ourselves. Whatever goes out or comes in does so through our heart. There is at least one verse in the Scriptures that tells us this. Proverbs 4:23 says, "Keep your heart with all vigilance, / For from it are the issues of life." This can also be translated "Guard your heart." The issues of life are the flowing out of life. By this verse we can realize that the heart is the entrance, the guard, of our whole being. We believe in the Lord Jesus, but by what organ do we believe? It is by the heart (Rom. 10:10),

Morning Watch

because the heart is the organ that we use to make a decision, to reject or receive something. (*CWWL*, 1964, vol. 4, “Practical Lessons on the Experience of Life,” p. 459)

Ezekiel 36:26 says that at the time of our conversion, God renewed our heart. In God’s salvation, in His way of conversion, the first part within us that He recovered and touched was not the spirit but the heart; then the spirit follows. In verse 26 there is first the heart and then the spirit. The heart is the first thing God must deal with and touch. The first thing we touch when we come to a building is the entrance; we have to find a way to get through the entrance. In the same way, God must deal with us to open an entrance to Himself. What is the entrance? It is the heart. When God comes to deal with us, it is first to deal with our heart.

We have the fellowship of life, the sense of life, and the law of life within, and we have the anointing of the Triune God within us. However, this requires our cooperation, and our cooperation depends first on the heart. We speak much about the exercise of the spirit. This is good, but before we learn how to exercise our spirit, we must learn how to deal with our heart—to be renewed in our mind, to have a loving emotion, to be right in our conscience, and to have a soft will.

If we deal with our mind, emotion, conscience, and will, we will have a proper heart, and it will be a useful entrance for God. We will have a good dealing with the Lord, and we will allow Him to have the ground and the way to deal with us in a proper way. Then we will have the Triune God within us as life and the anointing. This requires our cooperation....Put all this into practice. Practice to be clear in your mind, love the Lord with your emotion, have a right conscience, and be softened in your will. The only way to do this is by praying. We need to go to the Lord to pray, “Lord, give me a clear mind, an understanding heart.” The prayer in Song of Songs 1:4, “Draw me; we will run after you,” is a prayer for a loving heart. We also have to pray, “Lord, give me a loving heart toward You and emotions that love only You.” We also must pray for this, and also pray for our conscience to be right. Then when we pray, we will see that our will is not only hardened but stubborn, so we need to pray for our will to be softened.

What does it mean for a person to have a pure heart? It is these four matters—the mind is clear, the emotion is

Living a Godly Life

loving, the conscience is right, and the will is soft. This kind of heart is a pure and right heart. It is a proper heart. We all need to deal with our heart in this way. We need such a heart, so we must pray for this. (*CWWL*, 1964, vol. 4, “Practical Lessons on the Experience of Life,” pp. 459-460, 464-465)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1970, vol. 1, “The Fulfillment of God’s Purpose by the Growth of Christ in Us,” chs. 6-9; *CWWL*, 1989, vol. 1, “The Glorious Vision and the Way of the Cross,” chs. 1-5

Further Reading: *HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 10, Day 4*

Corporate Reading of “The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures” Chapter 10 – Sections: *The New Jerusalem—The Ultimate Consummation; Two Main Schools Of Interpretation; A Revelation Of God’s Dwelling Place*

Friday 5/14

Related Verses

Deut. 10:12

12 And now, O Israel, what does Jehovah your God ask of you except that you fear Jehovah your God so that you would walk in all His ways and love Him and serve Jehovah your God with all your heart and with all your soul;

1 Thes. 3:13

13 So that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

Rom. 8:26-27, 29

26 Moreover, in like manner the Spirit also joins in to help us in our weakness, for we do not know for what we should pray as is fitting, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 But He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to God.

29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;

May. 10 - May. 16 2021

Prov. 21:2

2 Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, But Jehovah weighs the hearts.

1 Pet. 3:4

4 But the hidden man of the heart in the incorruptible adornment of a meek and quiet spirit, which is very costly in the sight of God.

1 Pet. 3:15

15 But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, being always ready for a defense to everyone who asks of you an account concerning the hope which is in you,

John 4:14

14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.

Suggested Reading

Because the heart is our representative, Solomon says in Proverbs 4:23, “Keep your heart with all vigilance; for from it are the issues of life.”...The Hebrew word rendered “keep” means guard. We should guard our heart above all because out of it are the issues of life....The heart is related to the sources of life, the springs of life, and the issues of life. First we have the source, then the spring, and then the issue.

Out of the heart come all the issues of our daily life. As human beings, we have life, and this life acts through our heart....As the flow of electricity depends on the switch, so our daily living is dependent on what our heart switches on and off. Our heart is the switch of our human life, of our daily life, of our being. The word *life* in Proverbs 4:23 implies an organic element, the element of life; it also implies our daily living and activities, in fact, our entire human life. Hence, the word *life* in this verse is inclusive. As human beings, we have a human life, and this human life has an organic element and also a daily living. The switch of this life is the heart. (*Life-study of 1 Thessalonians*, p. 182)

Suppose as a brother is studying the Bible he is disturbed by the barking of a dog....As he is reading the Bible and is disturbed by the dog’s barking, something within this brother’s heart motivates him to shout at the

Morning Watch

dog. This shouting is an issue that springs out from the source of the heart. This is an illustration of the heart as the acting representative of our entire being. The activities and movements of our physical body depend on our physical heart. In like manner, our daily living depends on our psychological heart. The way we act and behave depends on the kind of heart we have.

To be a living believer involves both our spirit and our heart. Doctrinally, we may say that we can become living by exercising our spirit. But in practice often it seems that the exercise of our spirit does not work....The reason the exercise of the spirit may not work is that the heart does not act. This means that there is something wrong in the heart. Perhaps the mind is not renewed, sanctified, transformed; it may not be saturated with the Lord and occupied by Him. Instead, it may be filled with worldly things. We may exercise our spirit and say, "Praise the Lord!" However, this exercise may not work to make us living. The exercise of the spirit works only when our heart is active.

If our heart is dormant or asleep, exercising our spirit to call on the name of the Lord will not be effective. This exercise cannot work if our acting agent, our heart, is dormant. This is the reason we need to deal thoroughly with our heart. This dealing must include our mind, emotion, and will. Our mind must be the mind of Christ, our emotion must be saturated with the love of Christ, and our will must be one with His will. If this is the condition of our heart, our heart will be active and functioning. Then if we call on the Lord when our heart is active, this calling will be very effective.

We need to pray, "Lord, have mercy on me. I want to have my mind renewed. I want to have my emotion filled with Your love. I want to have a will that is truly one with Your will." If we have such a heart, then the heart as our acting agent will be established blameless in holiness, blameless in the state of being made holy. (*Life-study of 1 Thessalonians*, pp. 182-183, 194-195)

Further Reading: *CWWL*, 1975-1976, vol. 2, "The Central Vision for Serving the Church," ch. 5

Further Reading: *HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 10, Day 5*

Living a Godly Life

Corporate Reading of "The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures" Chapter 10 – Sections: Bethel—the House of God; The Tabernacle—God's House

Saturday 5/15

Related Verses

Prov. 10:12

12 Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all transgressions.

Prov. 17:9

9 He who covers a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates close friends.

1 Peter 4:8

8 Above all, have fervent love among yourselves, because love covers a multitude of sins.

1 Cor. 13:4-7, 13

4 Love suffers long. Love is kind; it is not jealous. Love does not brag and is not puffed up;

5 It does not behave unbecomingly and does not seek its own things; it is not provoked and does not take account of evil;

6 It does not rejoice because of unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

7 It covers all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

13 Now there abide faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Psalms 32:1

1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven; Whose sin is covered.

James 5:20

20 Let him know that he who turns a sinner back from the error of his way will save that one's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Col. 3:14

14 And over all these things put on love, which is the uniting bond of perfectness.

Suggested Reading

Love is not provoked. People are easily provoked because of the shortage of love. Regardless of how much we are rebuked, we will not be provoked if we are filled with the divine love. Love does not take account of evil. We have to confess that we have taken account of other

May. 10 - May. 16 2021

people's evil. Some wives have a record, an account, of their husband's failures and defects. This record may not be written, but it is in their mind.

The elders need to realize that in their shepherding, they have to cover others' sins, to not take account of others' evils. Love covers all things [1 Cor. 13:7], not only the good things but also the bad things. Whoever uncovers the defects, shortcomings, and sins of the members of the church is disqualified from the eldership. Our uncovering of the members under our eldership, our shepherding, annuls our qualification. Love also endures all things and never falls away. First Corinthians 13 concludes by saying, "Now there abide faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love" (v. 13).

According to my observation throughout the years, most of the co-workers have a human spirit of "power" but not of love. We need a spirit of love to conquer the degradation of today's church. We should not say or do anything to threaten people. Instead, we should always say and do things with a spirit of love, which has been fanned into flame. (*CWWL*, 1994-1997, vol. 5, "The Vital Groups," pp. 123-125)

If we hate each other, we will have endless strife, but love covers not only one sin or some sins but all sins [Prov. 10:12]. James ends his writing by saying, "My brothers,...he who turns a sinner back from the error of his way will save that one's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins" (James 5:19-20). Should we hate one who is not up to the standard, who is led astray from the truth, or should we love him? We may not love those who are not able to live in corporate living. We may love only the particular group of those who live properly in our homes. This is altogether not according to the Spirit of the Lord as revealed in the Bible. If a brother is good, he does not need our love very much, because he has already been sufficiently loved. Nearly everyone loves a good person, but what about one who is led astray from the truth? If a brother is led astray from the truth to attend the denominations or go to the movies, our small group may feel that we do not need him, and we do not accept him because he is not qualified. This is not love; this is hate. Love covers many sins. Even if we know that he goes to the movies, we should not tell others. This is to cover him. We do not like to uncover him or expose him. To uncover

Morning Watch

is not love. Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all sins. We would rather be like the sons of Noah who covered their father's nakedness, which was due to his drunkenness. We do not like to uncover others. Covering brings in blessing, but uncovering brings in a curse. This is not a small matter. Those who uncover suffer the curse, but those who cover others' sins, defects, and shortcomings enjoy, gain, and receive blessing. *Cover a multitude of sins* in James 5:20 is an Old Testament expression used by James to indicate that turning an erring brother back is to cover his sins so that he is not condemned. *Cover...sins* here equals *sins...forgiven* in verse 15, as in Psalm 32:1, which says, "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven; / Whose sin is covered." (CWWL, 1994-1997, vol. 5, "A Word of Love to the Co-workers, Elders, Lovers, and Seekers of the Lord," pp. 15-16)

Further Reading: CWWN, vol. 46, ch. 174; CWWL, 1952, vol. 2, "The Vision, Ministry, and Leading of the Lord's Serving Ones," ch. 1

Further Reading: HWMR Crystallization-Study of Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes - Week 10, Day 6

Hymns, #744

1

In dealings with the Lord as life
We need a proper heart,
That of His riches, in His grace,
We fully may take part.

2

We need a heart in all things pure,
With mind both sound and clear,
To understand His mind and heart
In trembling and in fear.

3

We need a fervent, loving heart,
A heart on fire with love,
With an emotion filled with zeal
For Him, all else above.

Living a Godly Life

4

We need a true, obedient heart,
With a submissive will,
A will made pliable, yet strong,
God's purpose to fulfill.

5

We need a heart condemning not,
In all things right with God;
A heart which has a conscience purged
And covered with the blood.

6

Lord, grant us such a heart as this,
Forever fixed on Thee,
That of Thyself we may partake
And Thy true fulness be.

Lord's Day 5/16

Related Verses

Eph. 4:11-13

11 And He Himself gave some as apostles and some as prophets and some as evangelists and some as shepherds and teachers,

12 For the perfecting of the saints unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the Body of Christ,

13 Until we all arrive at the oneness of the faith and of the full knowledge of the Son of God, at a full-grown man, at the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

Eph. 4:15-16

15 But holding to truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ,

16 Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.

Eph. 5:1-2

1 Be therefore imitators of God, as beloved children;

2 And walk in love, even as Christ also loved us and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savor.

Further Reading

Life-Study of Proverbs msgs. 5, 7

May. 10 - May. 16 2021

CWWL 1979 vol. 1 "Life Messages Volume 2" chap. 75
CWWL 1975-1976 vol. 2 "The Central Vision for Serving the Church" chap. 5