

Search Me, O God, and Know My Heart

(Psalm 139:23-24)

Introduction:

1. The heart is a symbol that is associated with Valentine's Day that is being observed tomorrow.
2. Perhaps this is a good time to study the first part of David's request in these verses --
"Search me, O God, and know my heart."
3. Both the Old and New Testaments emphasize the importance of having a heart that has God's approval.
4. Let us begin by pointing out how . . .

Discussion:

- I. THE OLD TESTAMENT ADDRESSES SPECIFIC ISSUES THAT INVOLVE THE HEART, INCLUDING:
 - A. loving God (Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew 22:37-38)
 - B. believing in God (Psalm 14:1)
 - C. trusting God (Proverbs 3:5-6)
 - D. having a cheerful countenance (Proverbs 15:13a)
 - E. our thinking (Proverbs 23:7a).
- II. THE NEW TESTAMENT ADDRESSES SPECIFIC ISSUES THAT INVOLVE THE HEART, INCLUDING:
 - A. our speech (Matthew 12:34-35)
 - B. our forgiveness of others (Matthew 18:35)
 - C. bearing fruit (Luke 8:15)
 - D. believing that Jesus is God's Son (Romans 10:9-10; Acts 8:36-38)
 - E. cleaving to the Lord (Acts 11:23)
 - F. our obedience (Romans 6:17-18)
 - G. our giving (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)
 - H. our singing (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16)
 - I. our love for one another (1 Peter 1:22).

Conclusion:

1. Let us follow David's example and ask God to search our hearts on a regular basis.
2. After studying these passages from the Old and New Testaments, let us also appreciate Solomon's admonition in Proverbs 4:23.