



Sermon Notes August 18, 2019

The Affections and Emotions of the Heart”

(Seeking God With All Your Heart Series Part 5)

INTRODUCTION: We have looked at our intellect and what we put into our minds, affects what we believe to be right or wrong.

We have seen that our conscience prompts us, but does not have the capacity to make us do what we believe to be right.

We have looked at how the Holy Spirit operates in relation to the heart on the unsaved and saved person.

This week we are going to focus on the affections and emotions of the heart.

- 1) Emotions are feelings that bring either pleasure or pain.
 - a) Joy, Sorrow, Pride, Shame, Hope, Despair, Fear, Remorse.
- 2) Affections are different than emotions.
 - a) Affections are usually brought about by what the mind is allowed into it.
 - b) Affections and emotions can be developed through constant exposure to something.
- 3) Jesus said, “Where your treasure is there will your heart be also”. Matthew 6:21
 - a) Notice that the treasure comes first and the heart follows.
- 4) Too many have it backwards, they allow their **emotions** to drive their conscience and their intellect.
 - a) As you allow your affections and emotions to develop, they have huge influence on what way your life goes.
 - b) People who live their lives making decisions based on their affections and emotions are unstable people.
 - i) If something brings sorrow you run from it.
 - ii) If something brings joy you run towards it.
- 5) People who live by their emotions aren't dependable because you don't know what their feelings are going to tell them to do on any particular day.
 - i) Pleasure is their guide.
- 6) Their day to day decisions are based on the ever searching need to **feel** happiness and joy.
 - i) As their emotions go, so goes their day and lives.
- 7) The power of affections and our emotions is real and works differently in the hearts of different people.

How Do Affections Move the Heart?

I. The Unsaved Heart.

- i) The unregenerate heart **loves** the world.
 - (1) Their affection is for what the world has provided them that brought fleshly satisfaction
 - (2) 1 John 2:15
- ii) Much of what the world offers is unacceptable the first time.
 - (1) Constant exposure can bring an affection for it.
 - (2) With the help of peer pressure, what would have been refused at the first exposure has now become a habit and affections for it are developed.

- (3) What happens is typically our affections for the experience, or our affections for others approval will cause us to continue what is destructive.
- iii) What might cause a change is competing affections.
 - (1) If I love my wife and I am a heroin addict, my affection for my wife and her desire for me to quit, may move me to give up heroine.
- iv) Chemical addictions are the most dangerous sins to overcome
- v) To deny that the power of sin is connected to **pleasure** is to deny scripture.
 - (1) Hebrews 11:24-25
 - a) The bible is clear, sin is pleasurable for a season.
 - (2) This pleasure results in seeking sin with **greediness**.
 - a) Ephesians 4:17-19
- vi) The affection for sin becomes so great that their God given conscience that would bring feelings of guilt is overcome with greediness for sin.
 - (1) Because of the **deceit** of sin which brings **temporary** pleasure to the flesh, a **love** for the truth is not realized.
 - a) 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10
- vii) The greatest challenge for any person seeking God today, is sifting out the wisdom of man so that the truth of God can stand alone.
 - (1) Jesus said, in John 17:17 “thy word is truth”.

II. The Disciple of Christ

How do affections move the disciple of Christ?

- i) Our **affections** move from the world to the things of Christ.
 - (1) Colossians 3:1-2
- ii) We **love** doing what Jesus says.
 - (1) John 14:15, 1 John 5:3
- iii) We **rejoice** in the truth.
 - (1) 1 Corinthians 13:6
- iv) We **love** one another.
 - (1) John 13:35
- v) Our love for God gives us **confidence** about judgment day.
 - (1) 1 John 4:17-18
- vi) This love that fills the Christians heart is brought about through the power of the **Holy Spirit**.
 - (1) Romans 5:5

III. The Backslidden Sinner

- i) Their affection for God grows **cold**.
 - (1) Matthew 24:12
 - a) The church in Ephesus suffered with this problem
 - (i) Revelation 2:1-5
 - (b) Demas, a coworker with Paul, was overtaken by this.
 - (i) 2 Timothy 4:10
 - ii) You no longer have **concern** about how your actions affect others.
 - (1) Romans 14:15

Consider the following:

What do you **crave** more than anything else – God or the world?

Never ending changing of affections will result in an **unstable** life.

1 Corinthians 15:58 is not affections driven but direction driven.

Faith in God will keep your **grounded** and **steadfast** as you face life.

Colossians 1:21-23