



# Newsletter

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## HEART CONDITION



UNFORTUNATELY IT'S NOT UNCOMMON FOR US TO HEAR OF SOMEONE WHO HAS HAD A HEART ATTACK. PERHAPS YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE. THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL INDICATES THAT EVERY YEAR 720,000 AMERICANS HAVE A HEART ATTACK. SADLY MANY OF US DO OR WILL SUFFER FROM HEART CONDITIONS THAT LEAD TO ILLNESS OR DEATH. ON THE OTHER HAND, MANY PEOPLE ENJOY A GOOD HEART. THE HALLMARK CARD COMPANY MAKES A FORTUNE FROM PEOPLE WITH A GOOD HEART WHO DESIRE TO SEND HEART-WARMING GREETINGS TO OTHERS FOR ALMOST ANY OCCASION.

WHEN CONSIDERING HEART CONDITIONS I WONDERED WHAT THE BIBLE SAID ABOUT THE HEART. AFTER A QUICK LOOK AT THE BIBLE WORKS CONCORDANCE ON MY COMPUTER I LEARNED THAT THE WORD "HEART" IS USED 762 TIMES IN GOD'S WORD. WHEN I BEGAN TO LOOK AT THE VERSES I DISCOVERED SOME GOOD AND OTHER BAD HEART CONDITIONS.

GENESIS 6:5 INDICATES THAT JUST BEFORE THE FLOOD, THE THOUGHTS OF MEN'S HEARTS WERE ONLY EVIL CONTINUALLY. OTHER BAD HEART CONDITIONS INCLUDE THE FACT THAT OUR HEART IS DECEITFUL AND DESPERATELY WICKED (JEREMIAH 17:9) AND SOMETIMES FOOLISH (ROMANS 1:21). WE CAN ALSO READ OF A HARDENED HEART IN EPHESIANS 4:18 AND AN EVIL HEART OF UNBELIEF IN HEBREWS 3:12.

I FOUND AN ABUNDANCE OF GOOD HEART CONDITIONS, ESPECIALLY IN PLACES LIKE PSALM 119 WHERE THE HEART IS MENTIONED FIFTEEN TIMES. IN THAT PSALM WE READ OF SEEKING GOD WITH ALL OUR HEART (V.2), HIDING HIS WORD IN OUR HEART (VS. 10-11), SEEKING GOD'S FAVOR WITH ALL OUR HEART (V. 58) AND THAT HIS TESTIMONIES CAN BE THE JOY OF OUR HEART (V. 111).

OTHER NOTEWORTHY POSITIVE ELEMENTS ABOUT OUR HEART INCLUDE BELIEVING IN OUR HEART FOR SALVATION (ROMANS 10:9-10), SINGING AND MAKING MELODY IN OUR HEART TO THE LORD (EPHESIANS 5:19) DOING GOD'S WILL FROM THE HEART (EPHESIANS 6:6) AND LOVING ONE ANOTHER WITH A PURE HEART FERVENTLY (1 PETER 1:22). MATTHEW 5:8 PROMISES BLESSING FOR THE PURE IN HEART AND HEBREWS 10:22 ENCOURAGES US TO DRAW NEAR TO GOD WITH A SINCERE HEART.

HOW'S YOUR HEART? I'M HOPEFUL WE ARE BOTH PHYSICALLY AND SPIRITUALLY HEALTHY. INDEED MIGHT WE LIVE TO LOVE THE LORD OUR GOD WITH ALL OUR HEART, SOUL, MIND AND STRENGTH (MARK 12:30). "BELOVED, I PRAY THAT IN ALL RESPECTS YOU MAY PROSPER AND BE IN GOOD HEALTH, JUST AS YOUR SOUL PROSPERS." (III JOHN 2)

LOOKING UP,  
PASTOR CHUCK CIRCLE