

mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me."

- c. David humbly sorrowed over his sin, (Psalms 31:9)
"Have mercy upon me, O LORD, for I am in trouble: mine eye is consumed with grief, yea, my soul and my belly."
- d. David received God's forgiveness, (Psalms 32:1)
"Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered." (Psalms 103:12) "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."
- e. After repentance, David regained his fellowship with God. He did not quit living for God. Instead, he maintained his heart for God.
- f. This is a great encouragement for us. We all sin. We may not commit the same sins as David, but we all sin. Part of having a heart for God is being willing to agree with God when we sin – that is repentant confession. It is then that God extends to us His mercy.
 - 1) (Proverbs 28:13) *"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."*
 - 2) (Psalms 86:5) *"For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee."*

Conclusion: *David's heart was in harmony with God's heart*; therefore, he was *a man after God's own heart*. We have the same opportunity today. If you bring your heart into harmony with God's heart, you too can become a man, woman or young person after God's own heart.

If we were to summarise what it takes to have a heart in harmony with God's heart, I believe it will include, fearing the Lord, trust, dependence, obedience, praise, thanksgiving, worship, humility, and repentance. *It is giving God His rightful place in our lives*. Will you seek to pattern your heart after God's own heart?

Song: I Surrender All - 394

A Man after God's Own Heart

23 February 2020 PM - 1 Samuel 13:14 - Kings20 - Scott Childs

Introduction: David was the second king of Israel. He was the son of Jesse. He ascended the throne when he was 30 years old. He reigned as king of Israel for 40 years. Though he was a good king, he was far from perfect. He committed both adultery and murder. At the same time, we read in both the OT and NT that he was a man after God's own heart. Obviously, there is something important for us to learn hear.

God said that David was a man after His own heart. God is the only self-existent, eternal one. He is the Creator of all that exists. *He wants us to treat Him as Creator and Master. He wants us to depend totally on Him. He wants us to respect Him fearfully. He deserves our love, our praise, our thanks, our worship and our loyalty.* I believe that all of this abides in God's heart. *David's heart was in harmony with God's heart*; therefore, he was a man after God's own heart (Act 13:22). He pleased God (1Sa 16:7); praised God (Ps 28:7); followed God (1Ki 14:8); was spiritually mature (1Ki 15:3); and was repentant when he sinned (Ps 51).

Transition: This evening I want us to examine four facts about David's heart that can help us become a Christian after God's own heart.

The 1st fact that can help us is that ...

1. In his youth, David prepared his heart for God

- a. As a youth, David learned to play music that honoured God.
 - 1) (1 Samuel 16:18) *"Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and the LORD is with him."*
 - 2) The word "playing" refers to plucking strings on a harp. (1 Samuel 16:23) *"And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him."*
- b. David learned to sing to the Lord.
 - 1) (Psalms 13:6) *"I will sing unto the LORD, because he hath dealt bountifully with me."*

- 2) Out in the paddock with the sheep, David played his harp and sang praise to the LORD because in his heart he loved the Lord.
 - 3) **The music you sing (or listen to) when you are alone, is a good thermometer of your spiritual temperature.**
- c. David learned as a youth to trust the Lord explicitly.
- 1) (1 Samuel 17:37) "*David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.*"
 - 2) This gave him courage to face and kill Goliath.
 - 3) Trusting God is staying calm and depending fully on Him during crisis that come into our lives. I have found that trusting God is one thing to talk about and another thing to put into action without worry and stress.
- d. When God sent Samuel to anoint David to be the future king, God's focus was on the **heart**. (1 Samuel 16:7) "*But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.*"

The 2nd fact that can help us is that ...

2. In his Psalms, David expressed his heart for God

- a. David's Psalms are full of praise to God.
 - 1) (Psalms 34:1) "*I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.*"
 - 2) (Psalms 113:3) "*From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD'S name is to be praised.*"
- b. David's Psalms are abundant with thanks to God, (Psalms 69:30) "*I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.*"
- c. David's Psalms are promote worship, (Psalms 95:6) "*O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.*"
- d. In David's Psalms, he expresses love for God, (Psalms 18:1) "*And he said, I will love thee, O LORD, my strength.*"
- e. David's Psalms show that he loved the Bible, (Psalms

119:97) "*O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.*"

- f. David's Psalms show his devotion to God, (Psalms 63:1) "*O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;*"

The 3rd fact that can help us is that ...

3. As a leader, David practiced his heart for God

- a. He trusted God in times of danger. (Psalms 25:2) "*O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.*"
- b. He depended on the Lord not on his own abilities, (Psalms 20:7) "*Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.*"
- c. David was a man of prayer, (1 Samuel 30:6) "*And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.*"
- d. David brought the Ark of God to Jerusalem to advance the worship of God. (2 Samuel 6:15) "*So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.*"

The 4th fact that can help us is that ...

4. By his humility, David maintained his heart for God

- a. David was far from a perfect man. He lied. He failed in many ways as a father. He committed adultery with Bathsheba. He arranged to have her husband killed. In pride, he numbered the people.
 - 1) How then could he be a man after God's own heart?
 - 2) Certainly, God did not approve of David's sins. In fact, God chastened him for several of his sins. At the same time, when God confronted him about a sin, he was humble enough to admit his wrong and get right with God.
- b. David was willing to confess and repent, (Psalms 51:1-3) "*Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender*