Heart Surgery

What is it that keeps us from God?
Big Topic!!!

• What’s up w/ the Heart?
• Who changes it?
• Can it change?
• What is it?
• What is it in scripture?
• How do we write God’s words on it?
• Who does the writing?
• What’s the heart of a child?
• Who has who’s heart?

• Change... here we come! 😊
- Today -

• What is it?
• What is it in scripture?
• What’s up w/ our hearts?
• What does God want from us, from our hearts?
• How does it change?
• How does it stay changed?
The Heart; In You & Me

- The average adult heart beats 72 times a minute; 100,000 times a day; 36,000,000 times a year; and 2.5 billion times during a lifetime.

- Though weighing only 11 ounces on average, a healthy heart pumps 2,000 gallons of blood through 60,000 miles of blood vessels each day.

- A kitchen faucet would need to be turned on all the way for at least 45 years to equal the amount of blood pumped by the heart in an average lifetime.
The Heart; In Scripture

• “Heart” noted 833 times in 765 scriptures
  – 100 times in Torah
  – 106 times in NT

• Most commonly identified as H3820 בָּלֵב lêb labe

• Most commonly identified as G2588 καρδία kardia kar-dee'-ah

• Our typical understanding aligns w/ Greek
  – Prolonged from a primary καρ kar (Latin cor, “heart”); the heart, that is, (figuratively) the thoughts or feelings (mind); also (by analogy) the middle: - (+ broken-) heart (-ed).
The Heart; In Scripture (cont.)

• Emotional Meaning:
  – We see it as the emotion of a person, the thoughts, “oh, you hurt my heart with your words”, “my heart aches for you”, “I love God with all my heart”

• Physical Meaning
  – “he needs a new heart” (also has an emotional aspect), his heart is weak (also an emotional side), “he has a bad heart”, again, an emotional aspect is available as well.
The Heart; In Scripture (cont.)

- **The Hebraic understanding**
  - "We often associate the heart with emotions such as love and kindness as in "He has a good heart". This is also true with the Hebrews who saw the heart as the seat of emotion. But unlike us they also saw the heart as the seat of thought whereas we see the brain as the seat of thought. To the ancient Hebrews the heart was the mind including all thoughts including emotions.” Jeff Brenner - [http://www.ancient-hebrew.org/27_heart.html](http://www.ancient-hebrew.org/27_heart.html)
  - **H3820** לָב lâb; A form of H3824; the heart; (….. understanding, X well, willingly, wisdom.)
  - **H3824** לֶב lêb; A form of H3823; the heart (as the most interior organ); …, courage, midst, mind, X unawares, understanding.
  - **H3823** לֶבַב lêbab; A primitive root; properly to be enclosed (as if with fat); by implication (as denominative from H3824) to unheart, that is, (in a good sense) transport (with love), or (in a bad sense) stultify; also (as denominative from H3834) to make cakes: - make cakes, ravish, be wise.
When we are told to love God with all our heart (Deut 6:5) it is not speaking of an emotional love but to keep our emotions and all our thoughts working for him. The first picture in this Hebrew word is a shepherd staff and represents authority as the shepherd has authority over his flock. The second letter is the picture of the floor plan of the nomadic tent and represents the idea of being inside as the family resides within the tent. When combined they mean "the authority within". Jeff Brenner - http://www.ancient-hebrew.org/27_heart.html
What’s up w/ our hearts?

- **Gen 6:5** And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

- **Ecc 9:3** This is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that there is one event unto all: yea, also the heart of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart while they live, and after that they go to the dead.

- **Jer 17:9** The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

- **Mark 7:21** from within, out of the heart of men proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts.
  **Mark 7:22** thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness:
  **Mark 7:23** All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

The Walk... the authority within
Why create such a bad thing?

• **God gives us free will**
  - Deu 30:19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before thee life and death, the blessing and the curse: therefore choose life, that thou mayest live, thou and thy seed
  - Gen 2:17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.

• **God desires relationship with us**
  - Deu 5:29 Oh that they had such a heart in them, that they would fear Me and keep all My commandments always, that it may be well with them and with their sons forever!

• **Is this some sort of Cheap Trick?**
“I want you to want me…”

- **Deu 10:12** And now, Israel, what doth the LORD your God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,

- **Deu 10:13** To keep the commandments of the LORD, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for your good?

- **1Sa 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.

- **Eze 36:26** A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

- “Connecting people to God and others...Relationship”

- Restoration of our relationship!
What keeps our hearts apart?

• **Our stiff-necks separate us from God**
  
  – *Jer 17:23* But they obeyed not, neither inclined their ear, but made their **neck stiff**, that they might not hear, nor receive instruction.

• **Our pride separates us**
  
  – *Deu 8:11* Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day:

    *Deu 8:12* Lest *when* thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt **therein**;

    *Deu 8:13* And *when* thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied;

    **Deu 8:14** Then thine **heart be lifted up**, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;

  – *Psa 59:12* *For* the sin of their mouth *and* the words of their lips let them even be **taken in their pride**: and for cursing and lying *which* they speak.

    *Psa 59:13* Consume *them* in wrath, consume *them*, that they *may not be*: and let them know that God ruleth in Jacob unto the ends of the earth. Selah.
What keeps our hearts apart? (cont.)

- Sin separates us; our actions
  
  Isa 59:1  Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:
  
  **Isa 59:2**  But your **iniquities have separated** between you and your God, and your **sins have hid his face** from you, that **he will not hear**.
  
  Isa 59:3  For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness.

  - Eph 5:1  Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;
  Eph 5:2  And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savor.
  Eph 5:3  But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becomes saints;
  Eph 5:4  Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.
  **Eph 5:5**  For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.
A Reminder...

- **Gen 6:5** And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

- **Ecc 9:3** This is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that there is one event unto all: yea, also the heart of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart while they live, and after that they go to the dead.

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- **Mar 7:22** All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

- Bad... bad... and we know it.
We’re DOOMED!

- Our thoughts are wicked
- Our necks are stiff
- Our hearts are full of pride

- This is our DIAGNOSIS
  - What’s NEXT?
What now?

• **Procedure for heart surgery**
  - Lev 26:39 And they that are left of you shall pine away in their iniquity in your enemies' lands; and also in the iniquities of their fathers shall they pine away with them.  
  - 40 If they **shall confess** their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have **walked contrary** unto me;
  - 41 And that I also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if then their **uncircumcised hearts be humbled**, and they then **accept of the punishment** of their iniquity
  - 42 Then **will I remember my covenant** with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land.
Treatment

- **Confess our sins**

  - **Neh 1:6** Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned.

  7 We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses

  - **Psa 32:5** I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

  - **Jas 5:16** Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
Humble our hearts

- Humble [H3665 כּנע * kâ’na’ * kaw-nah’ * A primitive root; properly to bend the knee; hence to humiliate, vanquish: - bring down (low), into subjection, under, humble (self), subdue. [Find] ]

- Antithesis of Pride

- Jas 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

- Mat 18:4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
Humble our hearts – if we want to be heard

- God does not hear the cries of the proud
- **Psa 9:12** When he makes inquisition for blood, he remembered them: he forgets not the cry of the humble.
- **2Ch 12:7** And when the LORD saw that they humbled themselves, the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah, saying, They have humbled themselves; *therefore* I will not destroy them, but I will grant them some deliverance; and my wrath shall not be poured out upon Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak.

8 Nevertheless they shall be his servants; that they may know my service, and the service of the kingdoms of the countries.
Walk the other way

- Lev 26:21 And if ye walk contrary unto me, and will not hearken unto me; I will bring seven times more plagues upon you according to your sins. ->
- Lev 26:3 If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them;
- (WDTLROY) Deu 10:12 And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,
Treatment (cont.)

- **Who initiates the treatment?**
  - We do!

- Confess our sins, Humble our hearts, be no longer stiff-necked, walk in his ways
  - These appear to all be initiated by the individual

- Treatment = Teshuva

- **Actor -> Desire -> Action -> Result**

Individual / Group

Heart – Authority Within
Treatment (cont.)

- **Teshuva**

- **H7725 שׁוּב shoob**

  A primitive root; to *turn* back (hence, away) transitorily or intransitorily, literally or figuratively (not necessarily with the idea of *return* to the starting point); generally to *retreat*; often adverbially *again*: - ([break, build, circumcise, dig, do anything, do evil, feed, lay down, lie down, lodge, make, rejoice, send, take, weep]) *X* again, (cause to) answer (+ again), *X* in any case (wise), *X* at all, averse, bring (again, back, home again), call [to mind], carry again (back), cease, *X* certainly, come again (back) *X* consider, + continually, convert, deliver (again), + deny, draw back, fetch home again, *X* fro, get [oneself] (back) again, *X* give (again), go again (back, home), [go] out, hinder, let, [see] more, *X* needs, be past, *X* pay, pervert, pull in again, put (again, up again), recall, recompense, recover, refresh, relieve, render (again), *X* repent, requite, rescue, restore, retrieve, (cause to, make to) return, reverse, reward, + say nay, send back, set again, slide back, still, *X* surely, take back (off), (cause to, make to) turn (again, self again, away, back, back again, backward, from, off), withdraw.

- **Actor -> Desire -> Action -> Result**

- **To change the result in the above equation, the Desire -> Action must be changed**
Treatment (cont.)

- **Teshuva - Repentance**
- **Luk 13:3** I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.
- **Act 17:30** And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent:
- **Actor -> Desire -> Action -> Result**
- To change the result in the above equation, the **Desire -> Action** must be changed
Recovery

• *Healing is by God with our participation*

  – 2Ch 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

• Moses; ‘most humble man’ saw God Face-to-Face

• Prolonging the Recovery is up to us
Is this treatment permanent?

- Probably not - Macro / Micro
- Which slope does the graph take?
- King David; Yes-ish
  - Experienced the consequences
- Israel as a nation; No
  - Punished several times
Re-Evaluation

- There are no 'Second Opinions' WRT to the nature of our hearts.
- If we want fellowship with God we must have clean hearts.
- The way to a clean heart is thru confession of sins.
- Along with an abundance of humility.
- Which results in God working in us for change.
Going Forward

• The key to this entire process is Confession & Humility
• we must acknowledge / OWN our sins
• approach God in Humility for him to work with us.
• There is NO working with hearts full of Pride; it can’t happen and God says he hates it.
• We all need surgery
Where’d I get this stuff?!

- ASV / KJV / KJV+; E-Sword
- Christle