

New Life School of Pneumatology Class 12 notes: Scripture examination of word 'heart'.

Vine's Expository Dictionary:

Heart, Heartily

[1., [G2588](#), *kardia*]

the heart" (Eng., "cardiac," etc.), the chief organ of **physical life** ("for the life of the flesh is in the blood," [Leviticus 17:11](#)), occupies the most important place in the human system.

By an easy transition the word came to stand for **man's entire mental and moral activity**, both the **rational** and the **emotional** elements.

In other words, the heart is used figuratively for **the hidden springs of the personal life**.

The Bible describes human depravity as in the 'heart', because **sin is a principle which has its seat in the center of man's inward life, and then 'defiles' the whole circuit of his action**, [Matthew 15:19-Matthew 15:20](#).

On the other hand, Scripture regards **the heart as the sphere of Divine influence**, [Romans 2:15](#); [Acts 15:9](#).

The heart, as lying deep within, contains **'the hidden man,' 1 Peter 3:4, the real man**. It represents the true character but conceals it" (J. Laidlaw, in Hastings' Bible Dic.).

As to its usage in the NT it denotes

(a) the seat of physical life, [Acts 14:17](#); [James 5:5](#);

(b) the seat of moral nature and spiritual life, **the seat of grief**, [John 14:1](#); [Romans 9:2](#); [2 Corinthians 2:4](#); **joy**, [John 16:22](#); [Ephesians 5:19](#); the **desires**, [Matthew 5:28](#); [2 Peter 2:14](#); the **affections**, [Luke 24:32](#); [Acts 21:13](#); the **perceptions**, [John 12:40](#); [Ephesians 4:18](#); the **thoughts**, [Matthew 9:4](#); [Hebrews 4:12](#); the **understanding**, [Matthew 13:15](#); [Romans 1:21](#); the **reasoning powers**, [Mark 2:6](#); [Luke 24:38](#); the **imagination**, [Luke 1:51](#); **conscience**, [Acts 2:37](#); [1 John 3:20](#); the **intentions**, [Hebrews 4:12](#), cp. [1 Peter 4:1](#); **purpose**, [Acts 11:23](#); [2 Corinthians 9:7](#); the **will**, [Romans 6:17](#); [Colossians 3:15](#); **faith**, [Mark 11:23](#); [Romans 10:10](#); [Hebrews 3:12](#).

The heart, in its moral significance in the **OT**, includes the emotions, the reason and the will.

[2., [G5590](#), *psuche*]

the soul, or life, is rendered "heart" in [Ephesians 6:6](#) (marg., "soul"), "doing the will of God from the heart." In [Colossians 3:23](#), a form of the word psuche preceded by ek, from, lit., "from (the)

soul," is rendered "heartily."

Notes:

(1) the RV, "heart" is substituted for AV, "bowels," in [Colossians 3:12](#); [Philemon 1:7](#), [Philemon 1:12](#), [Philemon 1:20](#).

(2) In [2 Corinthians 3:3](#), the RV has "tables" that are hearts of flesh," for AV, "fleshly tables of the heart."

(3) In [Ephesians 1:18](#), the best mss. have kardia, "(the eyes of your) heart;" some have dianoia, "understanding" (AV).

(4) In [Hebrews 8:10](#); [Hebrews 10:16](#), the AV has "in their hearts" and "into their hearts;" RV, "on their heart."

(5) In [Luke 21:26](#), where there is no word for "hearts" in the original, the RV has "men fainting (for fear)."

(6) In [2 Corinthians 7:2](#), the verb choreo, to make room for, "receive" (AV), is translated, or rather, interpreted, "open your hearts," RV, marg., "make room for (us)."