

THE HEAD OUT OF TUNE WITH THE HEART

Prejudice, created by false teachings and preconceived notions based upon ignorance of man's depravity, causes many of God's people to refuse the truth when they hear it or read it, even though it may strongly appeal to their heart. The prejudices instilled in their head from their youth many times overrides the persuadings of the heart. Consequently the language of their mind often conflicts greatly with the language of their innermost convictions. Hence we frequently hear them speak thus from the heart, "We know that God is all-powerful; He can do anything He pleases." But then, almost in the same breath, the language of prejudice rears its ugly head and they say such things as: "God wants to save all men, if they will only let Him." And most of them never realize what a blatant contradiction the two statements represent.

This disparity between the notions of the head and God's teachings in the heart is never more conspicuously borne out than when men preach one thing and pray another. For instance, they often preach that "God wants to save sinners, but can't unless they give Him their hearts" and say "He has done all he can do," etc. And then they will immediately close with a benediction begging God to save the lost. In other words, they beg God to do what they have just said He can't do. No greater contradiction could exist.

One of the primary purposes of the gospel and the gospel ministry, is to get God's people's head in tune with their heart. God always calls His people "into the grace of Christ," not into "the works of the law" (Gal. 1:6 & 3:2). It is false teachers who lead them astray into "another gospel," or rather, a perversion of the gospel of Christ (Gal. 1:6-7) convincing them, contrary to their own experiences, that they must do certain things in order to go to heaven.

The ministers of Christ seek to instill in the minds of God's people what He has already instilled in their hearts. The truth will always harmonize with those works that God has wrought in the inner man, and error will always contradict it.

Many of those who preach a works system of eternal salvation do not even preach their own experiences. They will admit that God visited them while they were going away from Him, and yet they teach others that God cannot save them unless they come to Him.

How thankful we should be if our heads are in tune with our hearts, so that we may rightly interpret our experiences, and understand, both in mind and heart, that spiritual Israel is saved by the Lord their God--- not by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, nor by horses, nor by horsemen (Hosea 1:7). "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord" (Zech. 4:6).

---Elder Ralph Harris