

# **Elder Vernon Johnson**

## **Numbers**

### **One Heart**

The heart is the seat of affections and emotions. Due to the many things that people can get emotional over or set their affections upon, it would seem almost impossible to have a whole congregation to have one heart. Yet that is the very thing that we find in the scriptures. Several verses show forth this unity of heart:

1. 1 Chr 12:38 "All these men of war, that could keep rank, came with a perfect heart to Hebron, to make David king over all Israel: and all the rest also of Israel were of one heart to make David king."

2. 2 Chr 30:12 "Also in Judah the hand of God was to give them one heart to do the commandment of the king and of the princes, by the word of the LORD."

3. Jer 32:39 "And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them."

4. Ezek 11:19 "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh."

5. Acts 4:32 "And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common."

We may ask ourselves, "What can bring about such a unity of affections and emotions?" First, we, as God's elect, have all been born of the same Spirit, have the same laws of God written in our hearts and minds, and have the same incorrupt nature in our inner man. Second, we have the same word of God to guide and direct us and teach us the truth. Third, we have the same Spirit guiding us when we are following after the spirit and not after the flesh. When we are all seeking to worship God in Spirit and in truth, then we will be of one heart with our affections on things above and not on things of the earth. This is a condition that

every local congregation of God's people should be striving for both in worship and in service to God.