

Sin In the Heart

OUT OF THE WORD

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There is much evil going on in the world no doubt about it. It is easy to get dismayed and frustrated regarding the lawlessness that is taking place in our precious nation. In light of this unprecedented chaos that seems to be dominating our land, where does the church of Jesus Christ stand? Sadly, most churches are doing their best to maintain *status quo*. I mean after all Covid-19 has done a number on the attendance right? Incorrect. As a friend (*J. Tucker*) stated, “Covid-19 merely reviled the condition of what was already taking place within the church; *complacency*.” I say, ‘So true.’ It is easy to sit on the couch and watch *Fox News* and wonder just how in the world did we get to this point in history? All the while never once taking your thoughts back to the Church that you attend every Sunday. I mean seriously... how is it that a person can truly be concerned about what is going on in the culture when that are spending hours in front of the television or streaming on *Tubi*? What about the sin in our own heart? The sin of complacency? The sin of pride? The sin of gluttony? The sin of greed? The sin of lust? I mean really... the list could go on and on (Galatians 5:19-21). Jesus said, “*out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies*’ (Matt. 15:19). I would say to that; the effect of the working of the law of sin in the heart is summed up in this way: ‘*Every imagination of the thoughts of man’s heart is only evil continually*’ (Gen. 6:5). Aww! We don’t like these verses, do we? Jesus calls what comes out of the heart of an evil man ‘*the evil treasure of his heart*’ (Luke 6:45). Friend, let me tell you this treasure will never be exhausted by spending it. I don’t know a lot, but I know that I know... just like grace the more it is used and exercised the more it is strengthened and the more it increases. I can say, so the more men sin, the more they are inclined to sin. Sin deceives men into thinking that by a particular sin they can so satisfy their lusts that they will not need to sin any more. **Impossible!** This evil treasure is inexhaustible. Friend, the only hope is to commit the whole matter with all care and diligence to Him who can search the heart to the uttermost. I encourage you to read Psalm 139. After David acknowledges the all-powerfulness of God and the all-knowingness of God in verses 1-10, he makes this beautiful application in truth in verse 23, “*Search me, O Yahweh, and try me*”; as if to say, ‘I know so little of my deceitful heart, but I desire to be sincere; I would not reserve any place for sin their Lord.’ What if the church could take this disposition? Let us remember, that our work in fighting against sin- in crucifying, mortifying, and subduing it- is never at an end. Once again, I have lots to learn, but I know this for a fact, there is nothing we need to be more diligent *on* and watchful *over* than the attack of Satan’s minions. The fact that he is our adversary demands our sobriety and vigilance (1 Pet. 5:8). The best response is to pursue serious holiness and prayer, lest grace should lose ground to the corruption rather than prevail. Stay close to the Lord and seek Him like you never have before! *May God richly bless you.*