

Hardening of Pharaoh's Heart Pt 6

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“And the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet. 2 Thou shalt speak all that I command thee: and Aaron thy brother shall speak unto Pharaoh that he send the children of Israel out of his land. 3 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt. 4 But Pharaoh shall not hearken unto you, that I may lay my hand upon Egypt, and bring forth mine armies, and my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments. 5 And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch forth mine hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them. 6 And Moses and Aaron did as the LORD commanded them, so did they. 7 And Moses was fourscore years old, and Aaron fourscore and three years old, when they spake unto Pharaoh.” Exodus 7:1 – 7

This morning we return to our New Series entitled “Against all the gods of Egypt.” This will be part 6 and Lord willing the last message in our introduction entitled, “The Hardening of Pharaoh's Heart.” There are 5 things from my outline we are considering:

- I. **The Consequences of A Harden Heart.** (It's effects)
- II. **The Causes of A Harden Heart.** (God: Supernatural/Natural)
- III. **The Clarity of A Harden Heart.** (God is sovereign)
- IV. **The Conclusion of A Harden Heart.** (The glory of God)
- V. **The Cure of A Harden Heart.** (Conversion/Salvation, Ezek.36:26)

We have seen the aspect of our first 4 points in the application of a HARDENED Heart and therefore may we by God's grace bring some good news this morning on our fifth and needful point on the subject of The Cure of A Harden Heart. It just seems that it has been doom and condemnation, but now we shall bring Lord willing, healing to the doom and condemnation that hangs over the souls of lost men and women by the Grace of God. We finally get to the preciousness and blessings of HOPE, without hope there is no expectation or belief for the soul and thus hope is what sustains us and the Bible gives much hope to poor and needy sinners, yea that GOOD HOPE THROUGH GRACE! As Paul would write to the Thessalonians in 2 Thess. 2:16, “*Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace.*” Hebrews 11:1 defines faith for us “*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*” And of course Peter says we have a living HOPE in 1 Peter 1:3, “*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.*”

Therefore, there is hope in God, for there is a cure for a harden heart. Our hope is found in the person of the LORD Jesus Christ, He is the LORD of ALL HOPE, Colossians 1:27, “*To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*” Psalms 71:5, “*For thou art my hope, O Lord GOD: thou art my trust from my youth.”* We are saved by hope and therefore, this is the hope for every sinner outside Christ. As the sweet Psalmist of Israel would say, “*...Hope thou in God...*”

For the sake of time I will not give an overview of the first four points, they have all been

uploaded at sermonaudio.com/hdgbc. I will pick up this morning on our fifth point.

V. The Cure of A Harden Heart.

The hope of every person is that there is a cure for a hardened heart. We are all born into this world with a stony harden heart and only the omnipotent power of God can remove our stony heart. I'm sure you somewhat recoil to think that I said we all have hard hearts against God. Yes we are all born in our sins into this world separated from God. We are born with our hearts bound to this world and God is only needed when we need help and apart from that we trespass His Holy Law and walk against His reveal will. Our pride is as hard as our hearts. This is why God has given a three-fold witness: Our Conscience to let us know when we do wrong; Creation to show that a Divine Supreme God created the heavens and the earth not some big band theory and then the Word of God, the Bible you hold in your hands to show and manifest that there is a True and Living God to whom all of us must give account of our lives before Him one day, therefore all of us are without excuse.

This was the whole argument of Paul in Romans 1, but as we saw many suppress the truth and exchange the truth for a lie as I did for many years, until: UNTIL ONE DAY my eyes were opened to see the awful sinfulness of my heart and the impending doom of hell awaiting me in my sins. I finally saw the importance why Christ came and understood it more than a historical fact, but that He came and died sacrificially for sinners and I wondered did Christ DIE for ME, whether He died for anyone else or not was not my concern, but did He die for me? It was personal and my eyes were opened and I came to Christ in repentance and faith trusting Him and Him alone for all my salvation. The words of the Apostle Paul in Galatians 2:20 became precious to my soul, "*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh **I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.***" I did not know any theology but all I knew was that the Son of God LOVED me and GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME!

This is the application of being born again or if you wish; regeneration, this process is clearly seen in Ezek.36:26 and following please turn there this morning; "*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.** 27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them...31 Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations.*" God will take away the stony hard heart and in its place, put a heart of flesh that is a soft heart. God is a Sovereign Surgeon, His specialty is heart surgery and He has never last a patient, or in reality, He has never lost a SHEEP! This is the only cure for a harden heart, that is; SPIRITUAL HEART SURGERY! Now up to this point before God saved me I was no different that Pharaoh or any lost sinner and I did the same things as we have seen regarding Pharaoh: I lived in WILLFUL DEFIANCE against God, a willingness NOT TO HEAR, that is; not to HEAR the GOSPEL, NOT to HEAR the WORD of GOD and I closed my ears to the things of God and WOULD NOT HEARKEN! Not only

did I live in willful defiance against God but also in WILLFUL DISOBEDIENCE, not to obey God that is; not to OBEY THE GOSPEL message, not to OBEY THE WORD OF GOD! Then of course the end result of a willful and obstinate not hearing and a willful and obstinate not obeying followed with going out and sinning yet more against the light of God's three-fold witness.

As Pharaoh at times we feel convicted and feel bad but when the thunder and lightning of conviction ceases we go out and sin yet more, why? Because we have not been convince about our sins, maybe convicted, but not fully CONVINCED!

What we need is Holy Spirit Conviction! Not just being convicted and saying, "I have sinned" no what we need is to be fully CONVINCED and this is a powerful work of the Spirit of God to thoroughly convict and convince us of our sins and the penalty and judgment for our sins which will lead to a repenting and confession of our sins! If you are still here in Ezek. 36 notice the word of God carefully: "*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.** 27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them...31 Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations.*"

You see verse 31 is the result of Holy Spirit conviction that leads to convincing and the confessing of our sins: "*Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations.*" No one will have to tell you or show you your sins, your own conscience will condemn you in that you will loathe yourself in your own eyes that is your heart will be grieved because of your sins. This is basically what the word loathe means here, to grieve, not because of bad decisions in your life, not because mistakes you have made, no, but because of your sins, you will loathe yourself because of your iniquities because of your sins and because of your abominations.

Notice how the Holy Spirit works in convicting and convincing us in John 16:7-11, "*Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. 8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 Of sin, because they believe not on me; 10 Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; 11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.*"

The word reprove in verse 8 is the Greek word - ἐλέγγω = *elegcho*. (E/LEG/WHOO) The word means both to convict and convince, to expose, to discover, to reprove. It's not simply telling a person his fault or wrongdoing, or that he is sinner. It means to convict and convince a person in such a way that his sin becomes a reality to him, not just that a person has made some mistakes, errors or some bad decisions in their lives. Man left to themselves will never see sin as God sees sin. To man, sin is just a bunch

misunderstandings, mistakes or slip-ups. But in the eyes of God, sin is transgression of His holy Law according to 1 John 3:4, "*Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*" To God the soul that sins shall die. Thus, death is the penalty for sin. Romans 6:23 says, "*For the wages of sin is death...*" Not just physical death but also spiritual death. Man does not see sin like this and does not take it serious. Therefore, man needs the convicting and convincing work of the Holy Spirit to show them sin has its payment, so that, sin will become a reality to them.

Then you have the problem of our day of that awful spiritual virus that has affected a lot of churches, which is easy believism wherein many pastors and churches seek to do the work of the Holy Spirit. They do this by their methods, deceptions, gimmicks, programs, entertainment and drama which are nothing but pragmatism. How sad that many churches substitute psychology for the gospel. This is why the Apostle Paul warns us in Col. 2:8, "*Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.*" May God give us the heart of the Apostle Paul as when he wrote to the Corinthians in chapter 2:1-5: "*And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*" Let us go back to John 16.

There are 3 indictments against the world by the Holy Spirit.

- The Holy Spirit will reprove the world of sin: The Holy Spirit will convince and convict the world of sin. He will show them their sins. Man by nature denies personal sin, but the Holy Spirit will convict and convince a sinner of their guilt before God. The Holy Spirit reproves a sinner of awful unbelief before God. Until a lost person is gripped by the sinfulness of his sin and the wickedness of their hearts, they will not see the need for a savior. This is why sinners do not seek Jesus Christ, but instead they seek religion or a reformation to soothe their conscience and guilt. What is needed is not a reformation but a transformation. This is why Christ said what He did in verse 9, "*Of sin, because they believe not on me.*"
- The Holy Spirit will reprove the world of righteousness: The Holy Spirit will convince and convict the world their own unrighteousness and of the true Biblical righteousness that is; of the need of being right with God by the provision of the Imputation of Christ's righteousness. There is a two-fold application here. The Spirit will reprove the world of their self-righteousness. Sinners think that they are somehow right with God by their religious works or religious rites. Little do they realize that the things they trust in are the very same things that will condemn them before God. In our Sunday School we have seen how God reprove the Jews because of this very thing in Jeremiah 1:16, "*And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods,*

and worshipped the works of their own hands.” Thus, the work of the Holy Spirit is to convict and convince sinners of the inadequacy of this Holy Righteousness. Convincing them of the need of the righteousness of Jesus Christ if they are to have any hope for heaven.

- The Holy Spirit will reprove the world of judgment: The Holy Spirit will convince and convict the world of the reality of the impending doom of judgment and condemnation. The Holy Spirit convinces sinners of the reality of hell and that they are heading towards a Christ-less eternity in hell. Sinners are convinced by the Holy Spirit of their guilt and condemnation for sin and the awful judgment that awaits them without Christ.

Another work of the Holy Spirit is to bring us to repentance in order to turn us from sin and turn us to God. Therefore, the CURE for a HARDENED HEART is TRUE BIBLICAL REPENTANCE:

- Proverbs 1:23, “Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.”
- Ezekiel 18:21, “*But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.*”
- Ezekiel 18:30, “*Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin.*”

The cure for a hardened heart is repentance, yea the cure for any sinful ailment or sickness is repentance. One of the prerequisites for salvation is repentance; the other of course is faith/believe. Repentance is inseparable from faith. Many speak of believing in God, but rarely is repentance mentioned along with that belief. Everyone is quick to point out, well, “I believe in God,” but they never speak about repenting. If you Biblically believe then you will repent, if you repent you will believe, these two graces and gifts of God are inseparable. In other words, you cannot have one without the other! Please understand this; you shall never enter heaven without repentance. Sad but nonetheless true, **the missing jewel upon God’s holy and glorious gospel in our present day is the doctrine of repentance.** One of the reasons some preachers do not like to preach repentance, it the same reason lost people do not like to hear repentance preached, because: repentance begets guilt! Or we can say it another way, repentance presupposes guilt, either way, repentance is necessary to be right with God. You cannot escape this basic aspect of truth.

Repentance basically means a change of mind that involves also a change of heart which turns to God with a broken contrite heart because of sin. One of the best examples of true repentance is David’s confession of his sin to God in Ps.51:2-4, “*Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before*

me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.” Remember also what he said towards the end of that Psalm at verses 16 & 17, “For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. (17) The sacrifices of God are a **broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart**, O God, thou wilt not despise.” This then is the essence of repentance, a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart before God because of our sins. Thus a change mind which affects which affects the conscience and which I believe also affects the whole soul of man, that is, all the faculties of the soul has been broken and grieves in heart before God. No, not just being regretful or feeling sorry, but a GODLY SORROW, a heart that is remorseful and broken before God, not because of the consequences, you know get caught with your hands in the cookie jar, no, but understanding that you have offended a HOLY God! In 2 Cor.7:10 it says, “For **godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation** not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.” There is a big difference between godly sorrow and worldly sorrow. The difference between these two is the distance from heaven to hell. One leads to heaven and the other one leads to hell. You can be very sorry, very sorry for your sin or sins, you can feel very bad, but until you repent it is to no avail. Repentance is a prerequisite for salvation.

You might ask, what is repentance or what does it mean to repent? Well, I’m so glad you asked. The Greek word used for repent is “*metanoeo*,” for repentance is “*metanoia*.” (META-NOYA) Repentance basically means a change of mind that involves also a change of heart which turns to God with a broken contrite heart because of sin. This then is the essence of repentance, a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart before God because of our sin or sins. ‘*Metanoeo*’ as a verb and ‘*metanoia*’ a noun, both have the same prefix, meta which basically means together with, after or behind and the root word is noeo which means, to perceive with the mind that is, to understand. Thus a change a mind which affects I believe the whole soul of man, that is, all the faculties of the soul to create again a grieving in heart before God.

So sad that the doctrine of repentance has been watered down to pacify the guilt of many. We live in a day and age where man’s self-esteem is preeminent over the gospel the gospel of Christ, where man is told to have good thoughts, high thoughts regarding himself. Many in America has been deceived and dupe by the Joel Osteen’s message of just being positive, sad that many have been deceived and there will be many positive people going to hell. Post modernism has also been a covert invasion in Christianity in our day without much of a cry or protest. This is nothing but a watered down gospel enmesh in psychology and humanism. This self-esteem and self-image age has no need for repentance as long they are in touch with their inner self. Their “ANOTHER GOSPEL” which is but a “FALSE GOSPEL” has to do with NOT HOW we stand before a thrice Holy God, but how do we feel about ourselves? Notice what this writer says about this issue, “*This matrimony between psychology and Christianity has created an unholy alliance which is producing some strange children that are permitting, promoting, and preaching deceiving, dangerous, and damnable false doctrines. This diabolical psychobabble of self-love is sweeping through churches today among self-seeking men in a self-centered society whose greatest problem is a desire to worship at the altar of self.*”

The apostle Paul warned us that one of the characteristics of the last days would be that "men shall be lovers of their own selves" (2 Tim. 3:2)." This is what we mean in reference to those who worship the works of their own hands? Notice what this same author I just quoted says again, "I'm afraid many so-called fundamental/evangelical churches and preachers have fallen into the trap of teaching this mushy self-worth propaganda that seeks to camouflage itself in robes of charity and tolerance. Churches and preachers alike are abandoning their God-called purpose of holding up the mirror of God's Word and graphically revealing to man what he really looks like in the sight of a holy God. The missing message in modern-day preaching is the Biblical doctrine of repentance, where a sinner is convinced and convicted of his exceeding sinfulness and lost condition."

Thus, the need for preaching repentance in our day. The importance of repentance was a subject matter, a topic and a theme to which our Savior gave much attention in His day. Regardless of the religiosity of His day, He did not shy away from preaching the glorious doctrine of REPENTANCE! We see the doctrine of repentance in the beginning, in the middle and at the end of the ministry of Christ. Before I show this, let's see also how the forerunner of Christ, he who was to prepare the way for Christ, he who was the voice of one crying in the wilderness also preached repentance, John the Baptist.

Turn with me to Matthew 3:1-12.

Our Lord Jesus Christ in the beginning, during and end of His ministry preached repentance.

- Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:14 & 15.
- Christ came into this to die as a sin atoning sacrifice for sinners, but notice that He also came to call sinners to repentance. Turn to Matthew 9:9-12.
- Christ sent His disciples to preach repentance. Mark 6:12, *"And they went out, and preached that men should repent."*
- Turn with me to Luke 13:1-5.
- Even at the end of His ministry He made sure that repentance should be preached: Luke 24:47, *"And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."*

Repentance is set forth throughout the Bible, as a matter of fact all people are called, yea commanded to repent. Paul, in his glorious apologetic sermon at Mars Hill; told the religious group of philosophers of his day that they must repent; as we see this in Acts 17:30 & 31, *"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now **commandeth all men every where to repent:** (31) Because he **hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness** by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given as surance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."* Thus, the mandate is set forth; the command is establish to all men of successive generations, there is no excuse, no one is exempt, all must repent:

The greatest news for any sinner to hear is to have his or her sins forgiven and blotted out. But a man will never experience forgiveness of sin without repentance. C.H. Spurgeon once made the statement: "*Brethren, we shall not adjust our Bible to the age, but the age to the Bible.*"

Hence, we see the importance and need for repentance. Thus, we see how a person can be cured from a harden heart, God by His Holy Spirit will convict and convince the heart of a sinner and bring to the place of repentance which shall cause the sinner to call out in faith to God for salvation. There is a CURE of a HARDENED HEART, but the sad thing is that many will still suppressed the truth of God Words and will exchange the truth for a lie and will continue to make excuses to the detriment of their own souls. Here then is the spiritual recipe for a CURE HEART!

- **There must be conviction:** The sinner is convicted of his sins. He starts seeing himself sinful. He begins to feel guilty; he is disturbed as never before. He starts to feel bad. He begins to recognize that he has sinned against God.
- **There must be convincing:** He is convince that he is a sinner, not that he just did a few bad things, but is being convince that he is a sinner through and through. No one has to stand over him and tell him he is sinful. He starts to see his wickedness; he acknowledges he is lost without hope and in danger of hell fire. He is convinced of this, this is also part of Holy Spirit conviction.
- **There must be contrition:** Not only is he convicted and convince but he starts to see that he has sinned against a holy and righteous God. It's no longer that he has done a few bad things, but that he has sinned against God. His heart is broken in offending a trice holy God. Sin becomes a reality and thus, he starts to loathe and hate his sin. Ps.38:4-8, "*For mine iniquities are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me. (5) My wounds stink and are corrupt because of my foolishness. (6) I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. (7) For my loins are filled with a loathsome disease: and there is no soundness in my flesh. (8) I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart.*"
- **There must be confession:** Like David, the sinner starts to cry, Ps.51: 3 & 4, "*For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. (4) Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.*" Ps.38:1 & 2, "*For thine arrows stick fast in me, and thy hand presseth me sore. (3) There is no soundness in my flesh because of thine anger; neither is there any rest in my bones because of my sin.*" Then in verses 17 & 18, "*...my sorrow is continually before me. (18) For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.*" A sinner is brought to the place of having godly sorrow for his sins, which he will hate sin altogether. Godly sorrow produces a repentance that leads to salvation.
- **There must be conversion:** True Biblical faith and repentance leads to conversion. There are two sides to repentance: (1). In grieving because of our sins

we turn from sin. (2). In believing we turn to God. Acts 20:21, “*Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.*” Repentance is not only a turning away from sin, but it is also a turning towards God. Isa. 55: 6 & 7, “*Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: (7) Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.*”

One writer says, “*Repentance is not only a heart broken for sin, but also from sin. We must forsake what we would have God forgive.*” Again in repentance, not only does the repentant person turn away from sin, but he also turns to God for salvation. Notice what the Apostle Paul says in his testimony to King Agrippa, “*To open their eyes, and **to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.***” Acts 26:18.

Thus in true Biblical or evangelical repentance, there is: conviction, convincing, contrition, confession and conversion which is the cure for a hardened heart, as a sinner turns from their sins in repentance and then turns to God for forgiveness. Salvation is the deliverance of a person from their sins, not just from the penalty or punishment of sin but a glorious deliverance from sin to salvation. Paul told the Thessalonians in chapter 1 and verse 9, “*...and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.*” Col.1:13 & 14, “*Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: (14) In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.*”

What God requires of you and me is repentance and faith; they always go together, hand in hand. You cannot have one without the other, repentance towards God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Have you repented of your sins? J.C. Ryle, says, “*Repentance and faith were the foundation stones of Christ’s ministry. –Repentance and faith must always be the main subjects of every faithful ministers instruction.*” Have you repented, have you believed the gospel? Will you not settle the issue this morning? Why do you put off seeking and following the Lord? What sin hinders you from salvation? What sin do you love so much that you will not repent of? God has given us everything needful for salvation, if you die without Christ you are settle-ling your own doom.

If you don’t repent sin/iniquity shall be your ruin. If you don’t repent you can’t charge God with some injustice by saying, well you didn’t elect me God. God does not elect sinners to hell; sinners go to hell because of their sins. God gives you everything necessary to repent and believe the gospel. The problem with you is your sins, but you will not confess them, you will not repent from them or forsake them thus; they shall be your ruin. You will never convict God of being injustice. This is what Christ told those rebellious and unbelieving Jews in John 5:40, “*And ye will not come to me that ye might have life.*”

Notice what Paul says about the goodness of God in Romans 2:1-6, “*Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. 2 But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. 3 **And thinkest thou this, O man, that***

judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? 4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? 5 But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; 6 Who will render to every man according to his deeds.” Settle this issue before you walk out of this auditorium.

God graciously invites and encourages sinners to return to Him! If you would be saved you must return unto the Lord with all your heart. Repentance towards God and Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. God is ready to pardon, are you ready to be forgiven? Neh. 9:17, says, “...but thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness...” Ps.86:5 & 15, “For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee... But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.” God is ready to forgive are you ready to be forgiven? God takes an interest in you, do you take an interest in God? Micah 7:18 & 19, “Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. (19) He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.”

Listen again to the words of compassion and concern for your soul by God. “Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin.³¹ Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?³² For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.” Ezek 18:30-32.

Come this morning in repentance towards God and Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ so that sin will not be your ruin! Don't die like Pharaoh, Judas and Esau!

Thus the consequences of a cure heart that was HARDENED by sin is also three-fold:

The end result of a CURED HARDENED HEART is:

Instead of continuing to live in a WILLFUL DEFIANCE against God that will not hear, now in a CURED BORN AGAIN HEART: **I WILLINGLY DELIGHT to HEAR GOD!**

Instead of continuing to live in a WILLFUL DISOBEDIENCE to God and not obey the gospel; now in a CURED BORN AGAIN HEART: **I WILLFULLY DELIGHT to OBEY GOD!**

Instead of continuing to live in a WILLFUL DEPRAVITY in sinning YET MORE against God, now in a CURED BORN AGAIN HEART: **I WILLFULLY DELIGHT to LIVE a SANCTIFIED LIFE in MORTIFYING SIN and SEEKING TO WALK IN HOLINESS by the GRACE OF GOD!**

What made the change? GOD, by His EFFECTUAL GRACE in the SALVATION of MY

SOUL; Oh how I implore you this morning: Come to Christ this morning:

Let's PRAY:

Let's SING: Ezek.36:26-28.