

Heart (Re)Alignment

Jeremy Peters ~ January 22, 2017

“If we are going to live in a place of continuous renewal, then we will have to continue to realign our hearts with the heart of God and in order to do that, we will have to remove some of the debris, some of the rocks in our lives that block the flow of the Spirit.”

PROMISE

And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days. I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth... And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved...

Joel 2:28-32a NIV

ZERO-TOLERANCE

“Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing—grain offerings and drink offerings for the Lord your God.

Joel 2:12-14 NIV

Question: *is there any sin in your life that you are currently “tolerating”?*

BROKENNESS BEFORE GOD

The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

Psalms 51:17 NLT

Question: *where are you currently being stubborn when it comes to God’s work in your life?*

Question: *where is your heart currently callous towards the things of God?*

The high and lofty one who lives in eternity, the Holy One, says this: “I live in the high and holy place with those whose spirits are contrite and humble. I restore the crushed spirit of the humble and revive the courage of those with repentant hearts.”

Isaiah 57:15 NLT

SERIOUS STRUGGLE

Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do.

Romans 8:12 NLT

Question: *where are you not being honest with yourself about the seriousness with which you are seeking to repent of your sin before God?*

FEAR

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalms 139:23-24 NIV

Question: *what are you afraid of if you were to surrender your whole life fully and completely to God – no limits, no parameters, no excuses. And perhaps just as important, what does it reveal about what you believe about God and his heart for you?*

RADICAL, SYMBOLIC ACTION

Blow the ram’s horn in Jerusalem! Announce a time of fasting; call the people together for a solemn meeting. Gather all the people—the elders, the children, and even the babies. Call the bridegroom from his quarters and the bride from her private room. Let the priests, who minister in the Lord’s presence, stand and weep between the entry room to the Temple and the altar...

Joel 2:15-17a NLT

Question: *what radical, symbolic action might you need to take in order to truly rend your heart away from competing lovers so that you can stay in the River?*

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