

A TENDER HEART
2 Chronicles 34:26-28

INTRODUCTION

- A. A study of the Kings of the Jewish People helps us to see how God dealt with His people.
- B. Background of our lesson: 2 CH 33:10-13; 33:21-23; 34:2.
- C. Our text reveals "a tender heart."

DISCUSSION

- I. A TENDER HEART IS A HEART THAT LISTENS.
 - A. A hard heart will not listen.
"Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, This *is* the finger of God: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said." Exodus 8:19 KJV
 - B. A tender heart trembles and listens to God.
"For all those *things* hath mine hand made, and all those *things* have been, saith the LORD: but to this *man* will I look, *even* to *him that is* poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word." Isaiah 66:2 KJV
 - C. A tender heart listens to others.
"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:" James 1:19 KJV
- II. A TENDER HEART IS A HEART THAT IS HUMBLE
 - A. A proud heart cannot be tender.
"Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;" Deuteronomy 8:14 KJV
"But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him:" Daniel 5:20 KJV
"Happy *is* the man that fearethalway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief." Proverbs 28:14 KJV
 - B. A tender heart is humble towards God.
"Because thine heart was tender, and thou didst humble thyself before God, when thou heardest his words against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, and humbledst thyself before me, and didst rend thy clothes, and weep before me; I have even heard *thee* also, saith the LORD." 2 Chronicles 34:27 KJV
"For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name *is* Holy; I dwell in the high and holy *place*, with him also *that is* of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." Isaiah 57:15 KJV
 - C. A tender heart is humble towards others.
"Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:" 1 Peter 5:5-6 KJV
- III. A TENDER HEART IS A HEART THAT WEEPS
 - A. A tender heart weeps for sins committed.
"Because thine heart was tender, and thou didst humble thyself before God, when thou heardest his words against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, and humbledst thyself before me, and didst rend thy clothes, and weep before me; I have even heard *thee* also, saith the LORD." 2 Chronicles 34:27 KJV
"Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye *even* to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn

unto the LORD your God: for he *is* gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil." Joel 2:12-13 KJV

"Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, ye sinners; and purify *your* hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and *your* joy to heaviness." James 4:8-9 KJV

B. A tender heart also weeps for others.

"Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!" Jeremiah 9:1 KJV

"Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep." Romans 12:15 KJV

"When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled, And said, **Where have ye laid him?** They said unto him, Lord, come and see. Jesus wept. Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him!" John 11:33-36 KJV

IV. A TENDER HEART IS A HEART THAT FORGIVES

A. Christians must be tenderhearted to forgive.

"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Ephesians 4:31-32 KJV

"Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do* ye." Colossians 3:12-13 KJV

B. Must extend even to our enemies.

"But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." Luke 6:35-36 KJV

V. A TENDER HEART IS A HEART THAT REPENTS.

A. The hard of heart refuse to repent.

"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? Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? 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; Who will render to every man according to his deeds:" Romans 2:3-6 KJV

"Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican." Matthew 18:15-17 KJV

B. It is the tender hearted who repent of sin.

"Sufficient to such a man *is* this punishment, which *was inflicted* of many. So that contrariwise ye *ought* rather to forgive *him*, and comfort *him*, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow. Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm *your* love toward him." 2 Corinthians 2:6-8 KJV

"Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee." Acts 8:22 KJV

VI. A TENDER HEART IS A HEART THAT OBEYS.

A. God has always wanted obedience from us.

"And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul;"
Deuteronomy 30:2 KJV

"And give unto Solomon my son a perfect heart, to keep thy commandments, thy testimonies, and thy statutes, and to do all *these things*, and to build the palace, *for*the which I have made provision." 1 Chronicles 29:19 KJV

B. We can't have salvation without it.

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:9-10 KJV

"But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you." Romans 6:17 KJV

"Servants, be obedient to them that are *your* masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:" Ephesians 6:5-7 KJV

C. Must have tender hearts to obey the Gospel.

"Now when they heard *this*, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 2:37-38 KJV

CONCLUSION

A. Do you have tender heart?

B. Will you obey the Gospel of the Christ today?

C. Will your return to the Christ if you have gone astray?