

## **A DECEITFUL HEART**

This is a continuation of last study entitled, Bridling the Whole Body, taken from James 3:1-12.

James is teaching that the spiritually advancing believer uses the same doctrinal technique for all three categories of personal sins: mental attitude sins; sins of tongue; and overt sins.

In our last study we addressed the first doctrinal technique - confession of personal sin (1 John 1:7-9).

- Confession of personal sin deals with **carnality** (1 Cor.3:1-3) [flesh or our Old Sin Nature]
- But NOT a deceitful heart behind that personal sin
  - (Mk.7:21) “For from within, **out of the heart of men; proceed the evil thoughts.**”
  - (Mk.7:20-23) Mark lists 12 that defiles the man.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Three aspects of dealing with the Deceitful Heart behind personal sins.</b></p>
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**This is the only way to correct habitual patterns of personal sins.**

**1. At the Jerusalem Church Conference, cleansing the heart was a key doctrine to new covenant grace salvation and Christian way of life.**

(Acts 15:8-9) “And God who knows the heart, testified to them giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He also did to us; and He made no distinction between us and them, **cleansing (katharizo) their hearts by faith.**”

The Greek word Katharizo is used in this way in (1 Jn.1:7-9) - “And **the blood** of Jesus His Son **cleanses** (katharizo/ p.a.ind.3ps) **us from ALL sin.**” (1 Jn.1:7b) “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous (**hina/ in order that**) to (He may) forgive (aphiemi/ a.a.subj.3ps) us our sins and (adjunctive of subj) to (He may) cleanse (katharizo/ a.a.subj.3ps) us from unrighteousness.” (1 Jn.1:9/ Heb.12:5-11) [Divine Discipline]

This cleansing restores the Church age believer to spiritual fellowship (1 Jn.1:5-10; Gal.5:16-17).

**2. Confession of personal sin does not correct a deceitful heart behind the sin.**

When Adam and Eve violated the command, “Don’t eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil,” God dealt with the heart as well as with the sin (Gen.3:8-19). “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” (Gen.3:13) without an Old Sin Nature/ deceitful mind and heart/ (2 Cor.11:3; 1 Tim.2:14) Angelic Conflict warfare.

A deceitful mind and heart come from **cosmos diabolicus** (worldly thinking promoted by devil) (Jas.3:13-18) and attacks the word of God (Matt.16:21-23).

(Jer.17:9-10) “The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it? I the Lord search the heart, I test the mind, even to give to each man according to his ways, according to the results of hid deeds.”

It was an issue in Joseph’s test in Angelic Conflict in Egypt with Potiphar’s wife.

(Gen.39:9) “There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife, how then could I do this great evil and sin against God?”

(Matt.12:33b) “**The mouth** speaks out of that which **fills the heart.**”

(Prov.27:19) “As in water face reflects face, so the heart of man reflects the man.”

### 3. Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus thinking in the heart must be addressed and replaced by the truth of the word of God

(Eph.4:20-24) “But you did not learn Christ in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in *the likeness of* God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth”.

(Prov.23:7) “**For as he thinks within** himself (uncensored inter-dialogue), so is he in his **heart.**”

(Ps.44:21b) “God knows the secrets of the heart.”

We must replace Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus thinking with New Man Divine Viewpoint thinking of Categorical Bible doctrine. “What does the Bible say?” Every time this subject comes into your inner-dialogue of your heart, you must mentally go to the ministry of the Indwelling Holy Spirit (Gal.5:16, 22-23) and then to the application of the correct doctrine which applies to the circumstance. (2 Cor.5:7)

(Heb.4:12) “For the **word of God** is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword (machaira) and **piercing as far as** the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, **and able to judge** the thoughts and intentions of the hearts.”

The last piece of the Armor of God is to be used: “And the sword (ten macharia) of the Spirit, which is the word (rhema/ categorical bible doctrine) of God.” (Eph.6:17b)

(Jer.15:16) “**Your words** were found, and I ate them, **and Your words** became to me a joy and the delight of my heart.”

(Ps.119:11) “**Your word** I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You.”

(Prov.7:3b) “Write them on the tablets of your heart.”

(2 Cor.3:1-3) “Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some, letters of commendation to you or from you? You are our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men; being manifested that you are a letter of Christ, cared for by us, **written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.**

**NOTE:** The devil doesn't mind you carrying your Bible as either a concealed or open weapon if you don't know how to use it to defeat him (Matt.4:1-11) Jesus did it and so can you! [Matt.4:4, 7, 10 are markers]