

Read My Heart – Not Just My Lips



Text: Mark 7:1-23

I. Introduction

- Many people have God on their lips, but He's not in their hearts
- Some of them are even in the church building
- Three attitudes Satan uses to separate people from Christ today:

II. The Traditionalists

- These are people who have substituted tradition for authentic faith in Jesus
- This was the cardinal sin of the Pharisees
- When we get hung up on tradition, God dwells upon our lips but not within our hearts

III. The Christian Secularists

- These are the nominally committed people who fills the rolls of virtually every church
- They will stick their toe in spiritual waters, but they will not take the plunge
- They usually are not regular in attending worship or times of fellowship
- They are not atheists nor agnostics
- God may very well be upon their lips but definitely not within their hearts

IV. The Walking Wounded

- These are the people who have some deep hurt in their lives and take it out on God
- During their best moments, they would walk with Christ
- Because of real or perceived hurt, they are just going through the paces
- Is it possible that someone is hurting – even spiritually drowning in our midst?

V. What Do You Do To Get God Back Into Your Heart

- (1) You must honestly face up to the dire need the rest of the world has for Christians who are truly on fire for Christ (**Revelation 3:15-16**)
- (2) You need to admit the futility of living half heartedly; it makes all the difference when your heart is in what you are doing; make sure He is living in your heart
- (3) We must all receive Christ...or receive Him anew...by responding to His invitation; you must place your hand into Jesus' hand and walk with Him

VI. Conclusion

- The world needs us to be on fire for Christ
- Perhaps some of us need to make a new start
- There is no limit to the number of leaves we can turn over in order to turn over a new leaf