

---

## Book 4

# Biblical Psychology

## *The Nature & Importance of the Human "Heart"*

© Kurt Jurgensmeier

---

Below are the links to the chapters of the book.

The chapter numbers below are color-coded according to the following categories in order to help you prioritize your reading:

**Best:** The most helpful, interesting and/or important chapters of the book.

**Essential:** Important chapters to understand the topic of the book.

**Specialized:** Chapters for the finer or more complex points of the topic of the book.

### Part I: The Human "Heart"

#### **4.1:** **The Human "Heart":** *Our Connection to God* [17 pp.]

##### **A) The Importance of the "Heart"**

A.1) God's "Heart"

A.2) The Human "Heart"

##### **B) The Nature of the "Heart"**

B.1) The Complexity of the "Heart"

B.2) A Definition of the "Heart": *the reasoning functions of our inner life that direct our outer life.*

B.3) Functions of the "Heart": *Decisions & desires based on beliefs resulting in emotions*

B.4) The Essence of the "Heart": *Reason, not emotion*

##### **C) The Goal of the "Heart":** *Happiness*

*Extras & Endnotes*

#### **4.2:** **Misconceptions of the "Heart":** *The error of "faculty psychology"* [14 pp.]

**A) There is Not a "Will" Apart From or Against Our Reason**

**B) The "Heart" is the "Head"**

**C) There is No "Biblical Psychology"**

**D) The "Heart" is the Whole Person in Relation to God**

**E) Different Functions, not Faculties of the Heart are to be Distinguished**

## **F) Faith is Not Dependent on a “Will” but Reason**

*Endnotes*

### **4.3: Reason Christian! I: *The Importance of Reasoning in the Christian Life* [23 pp.]**

#### **A) The Source of Human Reason: *God***

A.2) God is Logic: *John 1:1*

A.1) God Reasons: *Isa 1:18*

#### **B) The Nature of Human Reason**

B.1) A Computer of Beliefs

B.2) Conscious vs. Subconscious Reasoning

B.3) Moral vs. Logical Reasoning

#### **C) Reason & Holiness**

C.1) A Neglected Relationship

C.2) The Conscience Reasons

C.3) Reason & Repentance: *Roman 12:1-3*

C.4) Reason & Self-control

C.5) Reason & Spiritual Warfare: *Ephesians 6:10-18*

#### **D) Reason, Faith, Hope, Peace & Love**

#### **E) Reason & Edification**

*Extras & Endnotes*

### **4.4: Reason Christian! II: *Christian Decision Making* [18 pp.]**

#### **A) Reason & Decision Making**

A.1) The God-ordained Importance of Reason for Decision Making

A.2) OT Evidence for Reason in Decision Making: *Wisdom*

A.3) NT Evidence for Reason in Decision Making

#### **B) Reason & Spiritual Leadership**

#### **C) Reasoning Rightly**

C.1) The Limits of Reasoning

C.2) Principles of Good Reasoning

*Extras & Endnotes*

### **4.5: Desires of the “Heart”: *The Drive of the Heart* [10 pp.]**

#### **A) The Sources of Human Desires**

A.1) Divine image

A.2) Human reason variously influenced

#### **B) The Nature of Human Desires**

B.1) Beliefs vs. desires in God & us

B.2) Moral & amoral desires

**C) Divinely Desiring: *Spirit-controlled reasoning***

*Extras & Endnotes*

**4.6: Emotions of the "Heart": *The Voice of the Heart*** [18 pp.]

**A) The Nature of Human Emotion**

A.1) The Meaning of Emotion

A.2) The Place of Emotion

A.3) The Power of Emotion

**B) The Source of Human Emotion: *God***

**C) Feeling Right: *Reason-controlled emotions***

C.1) Helpful Effects of Emotion

C.2) Harmful Effects of Emotion

*Extras & Endnotes*

**4.7: Transforming the "Heart": *The Micro Great Commission***  
[24 pp.]

**A) Fulfilling the Great Commission by Renewing the Mind**

A.1) The Goal of the Church: The Great Commission

A.2) The "Micro" Great Commission: *Renewing the mind*

A.3) The Means of Renewing the Mind: *Teaching*

**B) Recognizing Wounded Parts of Our Heart**

B.1) Why can't I believe this?

B.2) Levels of victory

B.3) How wounds of the heart happen: *Demonic footholds*

**C) Renewing Wounded Parts of Our Heart: *Biblical meditation***

C.1) Recognize persistent negative emotions

C.2) Reveal the lie

C.3) Resolve the past

C.4) Receive freeing truth

C.5) Take steps of faith

**D) Biblical Spiritual Warfare**

D.1) The battle is simply between lies & truth

D.2) The importance of knowing our identity in Christ: *Free at last*

*Extras & Endnotes*

**Part II: Whole-hearted Spirituality**

#### **4.8: Whole-hearted Worship:** *In Spirit & Truth* [26 pp.]

- A) Worshipping in Spirit & in Truth:** *John 4:21-24*
  - B) Whole-hearted Christian Ecstasy:** *Revelational & Rational*
    - B.1) Christian ecstasy is revelational and rational
    - B.2) Christian ecstasy is not being out of control
      - B.2.a) The spirits of Prophets are under the control of Prophets: *1 Cor 14:32*
      - B.2.b) Paul was never "out of his mind": *2 Cor 5:12-13*
    - B.3) Christian ecstasy is not "possession"
  - C) Whole-hearted Worship:** *I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart (Ps 9:1)*
- Extras & Endnotes*

#### **4.9: Whole-hearted Prayer:** *With Spirit & Mind* [27 pp.]

- A) Peter's Command to Pray With Our Reason:** *1 Pet 4:7*
  - B) The Unbiblical Nature of Modern Mindless "Tongues"**
  - C) The King's Command to Not "Babble Like Pagans":** *Matt 6:5-9*
  - D) Paul's Command for "Whole-hearted" Prayer:** *1 Cor 14:14-15*
  - E) Paul's Rebuke of Mindless Self-edification:** *1 Cor 14:4*
    - E.1) The Charge of Self-edification Was a Rebuke to the Selfish Corinthians
    - E.2) Real Spiritual Gifts are For the Edification of Others
    - E.3) Edification Requires Understanding
- Extras & Endnotes*

#### **4.10: A History of Half-hearted Spirituality:** *From paganism to Mormonism* [32 pp.]

- A) Half-hearted Spirituality in NT Era Paganism**
  - B) Half-hearted Spirituality in Corinth**
  - C) Half-hearted Spirituality in the Middle Ages**
  - D) Half-hearted Spirituality in the Great Awakening**
  - E) Half-hearted Spirituality among 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Century Heretics**
    - E.1) Jansenists
    - E.2) French Prophets
    - E.3) Shakers
    - E.4) Irvingites
  - F) Half-hearted Spirituality in Early Mormonism**
- Extras & Endnotes*

## **4.11: Modern Half-hearted Spirituality:** *The Emotionalism of Charismaticism* [32 pp.]

### **A) *Half-hearted Spirituality in Modern Paganism***

### **B) *Half-hearted Spirituality in Modern Emotionalism***

B.1) Altered States of Consciousness

B.2) Being "Drunk in the Spirit"

B.3) Being "Slain in the Spirit"

B.4) Other Suspicious Manifestations

### **C) *The Apostle's Condemnation of Emotionalism: 1 Cor 14:33, 40***

### **D) *The Harmful Heritage of Emotionalism: Lying, escapism, manipulation, arrogance, apathy, embarrassment, & idolatry***

*Extras & Endnotes*

## **Part III: Regeneration & Reason**

## **4.12: *devil-darkened Reason: Explaining the Insanity of Humanity*** [18 pp.]

### **A) *Spirit-liberated vs. devil-darkened Reason: Eph 4:17-24***

### **B) *The Reason for the Difference is the Sinful Nature:***

B.1) The Spiritual Cause of *devil-darkened Reason*

B.2) The Spiritual Solution to *devil-darkened Reason*

B.2.a) The power of spiritual regeneration

B.2.b) The power of Gospel revelation

*Extras & Endnotes*

## **4.13: *The Insanity of Humanity I: The Suppression of Revelation*** [22 pp.]

### **A) *The Suppression of the Message of Creation: Rom 1:18-23***

A.1) The Message Is God's Lordship & Wrath, Not Just His Existence

A.2) Why Is There No Excuse? The message really is understood

A.3) The Real Reason They Don't Believe: Hating scary truth

A.4) The Insanity of Evolution

### **B) *The Suppression of the Message of Miracles: The Insanity of Pharaoh & Pharisees***

### **C) *The Suppression of the Message of Conscience***

C.1) The "Unpardonable Sin"

C.2) Reaching a "Point of No Return"

*Extras & Endnotes*

**4.14: The Insanity of Humanity II:** *The Suppression of the Message of Salvation* [24 pp.]

**A) The Gospel is Good News**

**B) Biblical Evidence of the Insanity of Humanity Towards the Gospel**

B.1) The insanity of humanity in the OT

B.2) The insanity of humanity according to Christ

B.3) The insanity of humanity according to the Apostle

**C) The Insanity of Humanity According to Teachers in the Church**

*Extras & Endnotes*

**4.15: From Darkness to Light I:** *Spirit-liberated Reason & Revelation* [12 pp.]

**A) The Spiritual Liberation of Reason**

A.1) The Biblical & Historical View

A.2) Sinful Reasoning for Christians

A.3) Christians Have the Correct Bias

**B) The Freedom to See the Irresistible Message of Creation**

**C) The Freedom to Understand & Respond Correctly to Scripture**

*Extras & Endnotes*

**4.16 From Darkness to Light II:** *Spirit-liberated Reason & Salvation* [14 pp.]

**A) Saving Faith is Supernatural**

**B) Saving Faith is Irresistible**

**C) Saving Faith is a Gift**

**D) Saving Faith is Rational**

**E) Saving Faith is Preserved in Spirit-liberated Reason**

**F) Saving Faith is a Result of Regeneration, not Revelation**

*Extras & Endnotes*