

There is a Way Out!

Part #5 – “How to Avoid a Diseased Heart”

Sunday February 24, 2008

Audio Available at <http://www.kingstreet.org/audio>

**“Windsor Spitfires captain dies at 19”
(Toronto Star Headline)**

Q – What does the Bible say about the Nature of the Heart?

→ The Life Source

“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. (Proverbs 4:23)

→ The Moral Door-keeper (Matthew 12:33-35; Jeremiah 17:9)

→ Capable of Receiving and Rejecting God

“The LORD said to Moses, “When you return to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders I have given you the power to do. But I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go.” (Exodus 4:21)

Q – Did God harden Pharaoh’s heart?

Yes No Unsure

Q – What causes Heart Disease?

- Genetically predisposed
- Diet / Intake induced
- Exercise ‘deprived’
- Hard arteries restricts the flow of blood

Q – What are the contributing factors that promote hardening of the spiritual arteries?

Life Lessons from Pharaoh the King of Egypt:

1. His disregard for the Lord

Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD and I will not let Israel go.” (Exodus 5:1-2)

2. His inability to listen with singleness of mind

“But the Egyptian magicians did the same things by their secret arts, and Pharaoh’s heart became hard; he would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said. Instead, he turned and went into his palace, and did not take even this to heart.” (Exodus 7:22-23)

3. His short-term memory loss (Consequential forgetfulness)

“But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said.” (Exodus 8:15)

Q - What are the symptoms of Spiritual Heart Disease?

- Lack of compassion for people
- Little desire for God’s people
- Large measures of purposeful disobedience

Q – How do you treat hardening of the arteries?

Treatments include ...

- Lifestyle changes / Obedience
- Medication / People of God
- Angioplasty / Spirit
- Surgery / Word