

My Heart Is Fixed

I. Introduction:

- A. In Israel's past we see some erred in not setting their heart aright (**Psalms 78:1-8**).
 - 1. Later in the aforementioned context they continued to err because their heart was not right (**Psalms 78:32-37**).
 - 2. When in such a state, God abhorred them (**Psalms 78:58-59**).
- B. Whether in the Old or New Covenants, God wants to be loved by His people with all our hearts (**Deuteronomy 6:5** and **Mark 12:30**).
 - 1. To do so, you have to be decisive (**Joshua 22:5**).
 - 2. In truth [stability; establishment; right; sure, etc.] (**I Samuel 12:24**).

II. Body: **Psalms 57:7** and **Psalms 108:1**

- A. There are multiple meanings to the word translated "fixed" [גָּזֵל] in the two passages we read. Part of the definition is: "sure, firm, prepare, established..." (Strong's # 3559).
 - 1. In one context, that Hebrew word is translated "prepare" talking about the heart (**I Chronicles 29:18**).
 - 2. As a contrast with two kings, we see Rehoboam did evil because he prepared [# 3559] not his heart (**II Chronicles 12:14**) whereas Jehoshaphat did good because he had prepared [# 3559] his heart (**II Chronicles 19:3**).
 - 3. Ezra was like Jehoshaphat in having a prepared heart (**Ezra 7:10**).
- B. In thinking about established [to make firm; Thayer (Strong's # 950)] hearts, one passage says the heart should be established with grace (**Hebrews 13:9**).
 - 1. Jewish Christians in the first century had to learn to look to Christ, the source of grace for us, rather than the Law of Moses (**John 1:17** and **Romans 6:14**).
 - 2. For our lesson, we want to think about being firm; established (**Colossians 2:6-7**; cf. **I Corinthians 15:58**).
 - 3. We have to be aware that our hearts can turn away or be carried away by various things and/or people (**Deuteronomy 17:14-17**, **Deuteronomy 30:15-20**, **I Kings 11:4**, and **Hosea 4:11**).
- C. Think about the grief it causes God when His people do not have their hearts fixed on Him and His will (**Psalms 95:8-11**; cf. **Numbers 13:1-14:38**).
 - 1. Sinful actions hurt God (**Genesis 6:1-6**, **Isaiah 63:7-10**, **Ezekiel 33:11**, **Luke 19:41-44**, **Hebrews 6:6**, and **Hebrews 10:26-29**).
 - 2. We should look back on those days, learn from, and work towards not being like erring Israel of old (**Hebrews 3:1-15**).

III. Conclusion: **Psalms 112:5-7**