

## The Deceitfulness of the Heart

October 19th, 2006

There is not a one among us that has a perfect heart. From the heart flow the issues of life therefore if the heart is not right nothing else can be right. Sadly, many who are so do not have the capacity to hear and come to Christ because they do not have ears to hear. One of the first barriers that were set up against the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ was preconceived prejudice. Many souls were blinded by the circle of friends that told them whom they thought he was. Mark 6:3 says volumes about what they perceived about Christ, "Is this not the carpenter, the son of Mary and the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us? And they were offended at Him." Because of such spawned attitudes, that had their beginnings in someone's heart hindered the work of the Lord in that community. According to Mark 6:5 "And He could there do no mighty work, save that He laid His hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them." On one occasion, Jesus said, "You are either for me or against me." I would hate to be in the way of God's blessings by standing against Him. How will each of us fare when the day of reckoning will come? "Is this not the carpenter's son?" Yes! . . . "Isn't this Mary's son "(6:3)? Yes! The above words were expressed to belittle Jesus. Many, undoubtedly missed heaven because of the above snipers that took away the seed, which otherwise may well have been planted in the hearts of the multitudes. It seems that Jesus did not stay long enough to live down the prejudice for we read that He went on according to 6:6, "And He marvelled because of their unbelief. And He went round about the villages, teaching."

Are we seeking to be "politically correct" at the expense of biblical truth? There is a great need for heaven's divine intervention in church affairs, let alone community and national affairs. When we go about to trip up those who belong to

the Lord and seek to serve him, we are facing very serious backlash. Again, God speaks to the issue, “And as He said these things unto them, the scribes and the Pharisees began to urge Him vehemently, and to provoke Him to speak of many things: Laying wait for Him, and seeking to catch something out of His mouth, that they might accuse Him” Luke 11: 53,54.

How much better to have matters set before us as they are that they may be addressed before eternity begins and brings it’s retributions to bear upon ones soul. May we seek the Lord’s forgiveness where we have not been brave enough to stand up for Him as Peter, when he denied the Lord at His trial. The above is also possible as we be-mean one another and have despairing words to share about a brother or a sister. Jv/dV

Send your comments and questions and we will, prayerfully seek to get back to you as soon as possible. [jandrvdv@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:jandrvdv@nbnet.nb.ca)