

# 119

## MINISTRIES

*“The following is a direct script of a teaching that is intended to be presented via video, incorporating relevant text, slides, media, and graphics to assist in illustration, thus facilitating the presentation of the material. In some places, this may cause the written material to not flow or sound rather awkward in some places. In addition, there may be grammatical errors that are often not acceptable in literary work. We encourage the viewing of the video teachings to complement the written teaching you see below.”*

### **A Man After God’s Own Heart**

Many people refer to David as “*a man after God’s own heart.*” Rightfully so, as Paul said as much to the people in the synagogue on that Sabbath day by quoting YHWH:

#### **Acts 13:22**

“After He had removed him (Saul), He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, ‘I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My heart, who will do all My will.’”

What a great quote...who doesn’t want to be like David in this regard? ... man or woman after God’s own heart! Shouldn’t that be everyone’s goal in their relationship with God. Don’t we want to be close to God? ...have a great relationship with God? Don’t we want to show Him how much we love Him?

How do we get there? What must we do for God to see US this way?  
Well, let’s start by examining what is in God’s heart regarding his people.

In Acts 13:22, the answer immediately follows;

#### **Acts 13:22**

“After He had removed him (Saul), He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, ‘I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My heart, who will **do all My (His) will.**’”

for us to “do all (His) will.” Here’s the word “will” in the Greek; θέλημα or thelēma (G2307). It means, “*What one wishes or has determined shall be done.*” So, what has God determined shall be done?

To answer this, we look for Paul’s source for his quote, which is from a discussion YHWH has with David’s son Solomon.

### **1 Kings 9:4**

“As for you, if you will walk before Me as your father David walked, in integrity of heart and uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded you and will keep My statutes and My ordinances.”

Here’s the Hebrew word for “*integrity*”, תָּמַר or *tōm* (H8537), it means “*completeness, in (moral) innocence.*”

Here’s the Hebrew word for “*upright*”, יָשָׁר or *yosher* (H3476), and it simply means “*doing what is (morally) right.*”

The verse then specifies our instructions for this complete moral innocence; to do what is right, “*doing all that YHWH commands and keep His statutes and ordinances.*”

This is another way of God saying we must be obedient to the same thing that David was obedient to; obeying YHWH by obeying His instructions in the Torah.

This is the same thing we are told about Abraham being blessed after his faith was counted as righteousness:

### **Genesis 26:5**

“... because Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws.”

Abraham would only receive what YHWH had promised him if Abraham also kept his promise, which is described here:

### **Genesis 18:19**

For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord (YHWH) by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord (YHWH) may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.

So, God Himself tells us what He has determined shall be done by those “*with integrity of heart and uprightness*” or “*doing righteousness and justice,*” that is, to do “*all that I (YHWH) have commanded and keep My statutes and My ordinances.*”

YHWH tells us this many times in Scripture, and the more something is repeated, the more important it is for us to hear and to obey.

Here are some examples:

### **Deuteronomy 11:13**

“It shall come about, if you listen obediently to my commandments which I am commanding you today, to love the Lord (YHWH) your God and to serve Him with all your heart and all your soul...”

**Nehemiah 1:5**

And I said, “O Lord (YHWH) God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments,

**Psalm 119:47-48**

“... for I delight in your commands because I love them. I reach out for your commands, which I love, that I may meditate on your decrees.”

*(See also Exodus 20:6, Deuteronomy 5:10, 7:9, 12:1, 11:22, 19:9, 30:16, Joshua 22:5, Psalm 119:127, and Daniel 9:4)*

It is no surprise then, that we also read Jesus, His Hebrew name being Yeshua, saying the exact same thing.

**John 14:15**

“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”

And whose commandments did Yeshua teach? Yeshua taught the Father’s words...

**John 12:49**

For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak.

We also see the people of God keeping the commandments of the Torah in the end times.

**Revelation 14:12**

“This calls for patient endurance on the part of the people of God who keep his commands and remain faithful to Jesus (Yeshua).”

*(See also John 14:21, 15:10, 1 John 5:2-3, 2 John 1:6, and Revelation 12:17)*

Surely, what is in our heart matters to God, but it is ONLY when our heart is aligned with His heart that God will bless us.

**Deuteronomy 11:26-28**

“See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the YHVH your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of YHVH your God, but turn aside from the way that I am commanding you today, to go after other gods that you have not known.”

Thus, when our heart contradicts His heart, we are cursed. After all, Jeremiah 17:9 says,

**Jeremiah 17:9**

“The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it?”

If we desire to be like David as, men and women “after God’s own heart,” if we truly love Him, then we must keep His commandments, statutes, and ordinances.

So perhaps the thought has occurred, “But I’m already saved by grace through faith, do I still need to focus on the commandments? Doesn’t God already love me?” Yes, we are saved by grace through faith, and our Messiah’s death on the cross is proof of his love for us.

### **Ephesians 2:8-9**

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

However, it is through our Messiah that we are enabled; our “obedience of faith”, if you will. Consider this from the new and old testaments:

### **Romans 1:5**

“... Jesus Christ (Messiah Yeshua) our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations....”

### **Ezekiel 36:26-27**

“And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.”

When we become part of the “people of God,” we are given a new heart that precedes His Spirit being within us. Peter likewise conveyed this same concept when he wrote,

### **1 Peter 1:2**

“by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ (Messiah Yeshua)...”

How do we tie all this back to David being “a man after God’s own heart?”

There are many reasons we may surmise God loved David, as revealed in David’s own psalms:

- Psalm 18:3 - He was properly thankful
- Psalm 62:9 – He was humble
- Psalm 27:1 – He trusted YHWH
- Psalm 18:1 – He loved YHWH
- Psalm 25:11 – He was repentant

Scripture also reveals, however, David was not always pursuing righteousness, he was not always being obedient to God's commandments.

In 2 Samuel 11, we read about David, Bathsheba, and Uriah, a story of disobedience to three of the Ten Commandments, adultery, lying, and murder. So, what made David different that God would still say he was "*a man after God's own heart?*"

First, he confessed his sins to God:

### **2 Samuel 12:13**

"David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord (YHWH)." And Nathan said to David, "The Lord (YHWH) also has put away your sin; you shall not die."

Secondly, he was truly repentant, as he pleads in the entirety of Psalm 51, the essence of which is,

### **Psalm 51:1-2**

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!"

Here's the Hebrew word for repent, שׁוּב or *shub* (H7725), and it means to return or to turn back, or as some like to say, that means 180 degrees in the opposite direction.

### **Ezekiel 18:30-31**

"**Therefore** I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the YHWH GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel?"

And as John the Baptist said:

### **Matthew 3:3**

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"

Again, what is "way of the Lord?" What is "the Way of YHWH?"

In our faith, the Spirit gives us a heart of flesh, which prepares and enables us for obedience. If we fail along the way, then confession to God and repentance, becomes an integral part of loving YHWH. Ultimately, this brings us full circle with David,

### **Psalm 119:47-48**

“... for I delight in your commands because I love them. I reach out for your commands, which I love, that I may meditate on your decrees.”

If WE want to be men and women after God’s own heart, then we must have the same “*integrity of heart and uprightness*” that David did in order for us to do “*according to all that YHWH has commanded*” in keeping His statutes and ordinances.

We must have faith as David did, to change our heart, and as our part to show God that we love Him, we must be obedient. We may do so knowing that when we fail, we may remain confident in our faith, and return to God through confession of our failure (sin) and repentance, returning to obedience in The Way of YHWH, which is

**John 14:6**

“Jesus (Yeshua) said to him, “I am the Way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

Thus, Yeshua provides The Way to faith via His willing sacrifice, as well as The Way to obedience, by living as He lived in obedience to the Torah.

If you would like to understand and learn more on the subjects of on grace, faith, and obedience, we would recommend our teaching “[Grace, Faith, and Obedience](#)”.

We hope that this teaching has blessed you, and remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at [www.testeverything.net](http://www.testeverything.net)

**Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.**

EMAIL: [Info@119ministries.com](mailto:Info@119ministries.com)

FACEBOOK: [www.facebook.com/119Ministries](http://www.facebook.com/119Ministries)

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