WATCH OVER YOUR HEART

By Geri McGhee

Many people are distressed and perplexed by the influx of trash and perversion that continually fills their minds, bringing defeat and failure to their lives. Some relish the thoughts, while the godly are tormented, never realizing just how they got there. Even though the Bible explicitly says in Psalms 101:3...

"I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not fasten its grip on me,"

...it is no wonder why there is no victory or holiness in the lives of believers. They continue to violate (sear) their conscious and defile their lives by listening to ungodly music, viewing perverted and polluted movies and television (even news/radio talk shows...etc.), subjecting themselves to ungodly influences, all resulting in seeds of fear, terror, hysteria, torment, adultery, bitterness, lust, greed, sexual perversion, mockery, depression, despair, hopelessness, murder, torment, anger, rage, rebellion, spirit of antichrist, witchcraft, sorcery, strife, violence, profanity, blasphemy, defeat, failure, planted down in the spiritual garden of the heart. You may say, "Not me, I only watch G-rated." It is sad to say that most everything out there is laced with the occult, witchcraft, blasphemy and doctrines of demons, unfit for a believer who wants to live an "overcoming" holy life.

Have you, like me, watched a movie and seen an adulterous affair, only to find yourself coming into agreement with the sin of the adulterer? You compromise the Word of God and before you know it, you are listening to people blaspheme the name of Jesus and taking His name in vain? Over the years, I have had many people come to me for prayer because they were being traumatized by terrorizing dreams-only to find out the source was from watching horror movies. We have all heard, "Garbage in, garbage out." It is a true statement!

I was delivered in 1978 from a movie and TV addiction. Before God delivered me, I had a terrible time staying out of strife. The Lord revealed to me that seeds of strife had been planted in my heart through watching Clint Eastwood and Charles Bronson movies. The enemy told me that this was all "too radical;" but I knew it was true. I was delivered after reading Pastor David Wilkerson's book in which he stated God had told him, "Choose the television or His anointing." Obviously, Pastor Wilkerson chose God's anointing--so much so, he was not invited to many churches in America!

From 1992 to the present, I make it a nightly practice to play the Word of God over me as I sleep to sow the good seed of God's Word into my heart. You may say, how can a person possibly get anything out of that since they are asleep? Well, the Song of Solomon 5:2 answers that question:

"I was asleep but my heart is awake."

In I Corinthians 3:9, it says we are a building, a house and a field. In Mark 4:3-12, Matthew 13:4-8 and Luke 8:5-8, in the parable of the sower, it says the seed sown in the soil is the Word of God. Here in these verses, every human is likened to a type of soil. The different types of soil are: a type of person that totally rejects the seed of the Word of God; a type of person who receives the seed of the Word of God and allows the worries and cares of the world and desire for riches to choke out the Word of God; a type of person that receives the seed of God's Word with joy, but when he learns he must crucify his flesh to walk with God, the Word of God persecutes him and he falls away from the faith; and finally, a type of person that receives the Word of God and produces fruit 30, 60 and 100 fold. These parables indicate that if we do not take care how and what we listen to, what we think we have will be taken away. If you can understand the principles Jesus set down in these parables, Mark 4:13 says, you can understand every parable in the Word of God.

The seed planted can be discerned by the kind of fruit it produces. James 3:14-18 says, "But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace."

Isaiah 5:1-7 also says we are the vineyard of the Lord of Host. This being the case, we are responsible for what we allow to be planted in the spiritual gardens of our heart. The Bible tells us to

"Watch over our hearts with all diligence for from the heart flow the issues of life." Prov. 4:23 Matthew 12:33-37 and 15:19:20 says good or evil words or thoughts come forth from what has been planted in the heart. Every good or evil action begins with a thought. The Bible warns us to not plant two kinds of seed in our vineyard because the bad seed will defile the good.

Deut. 22:9 says,

"You shall not sow your vineyard with two kinds of seed, or all the produce of the seed which you have sown and the increase of the vineyard will become **defiled** (to make foul, dirty, or unclean; pollute; taint; debase; to violate the chastity of; make impure for ceremonial use; desecrate; to sully).

Anyone who has ever had a garden will tell you that you do not have to take care of the weeds--they do just fine! It will not be long before they overtake the good plants. Never will you find the good plants overtaking the weeds.

In I Corinthians 10:4-6, we are commanded by God to take our thoughts captive, but it is impossible to do so without first dealing with the evil seeds that have been planted down in our heart, not only through things we have seen and listened to, but also through sin we have committed and sins that have been committed against us (that are hidden and not yet resolved through asking God's forgiveness and forgiving others). What fruit is actually being produced? Without holiness, no one will see God (Hebrews 12:10). Don't be fooled in believing that you can live in divine health and live a life of victory and continue to corrupt and defile the good seed of God's Word by planting the devil's evil seeds down in your heart.

Failure to guard your heart and tend your vineyard will cause your end to be like the sluggard in Proverb 24:30-34,

"I passed by the field of the sluggard and by the vineyard of the man lacking sense, and behold, it was completely overgrown with thistles; its surface was covered with nettles, and its stone wall was broken down. When I saw, I reflected upon it; I looked, and received instruction. A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest," Then your poverty will come as a robber and your want like an armed man."

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