



Dr. M. Ruth Thomas

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING – THE HEART

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(All Scriptures are taken from The Amplified Bible, unless noted.)

I want to share God's heart with a deep sense of urgency. In a recent Spiritual Awakening Gathering, I delved into the topic of “the heart.” I asked God what He was most concerned about regarding humanity, especially the church, and His response was immediate and clear.

“I do not have the church's heart.” His Word is filled with scriptures that echo this sentiment, such as **Matthew 15:8** – These people draw near Me with their mouths and honor Me with their lips, but their hearts hold off and are far away from Me.

And then there is **Jeremiah 17:9-10** – ⁽⁹⁾The heart is deceitful above all things, and it is exceedingly perverse and corrupt and severely, mortally sick! Who can know it [perceive, understand, be acquainted with his own heart and mind]? ⁽⁴⁰⁾ I, the Lord, search the mind, I try the heart, even to give to every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.

I recall meeting my “now” husband, James A. Thomas. I was a young girl and thought he had to be the best-looking man I had ever seen. He also dressed beyond anything I had ever seen. We eventually connected in 1968, and I was subject to his every whim for several years (several is subjective). He had my heart. There were no limits or boundaries to what I would not do for him – flesh and blood! I functioned from a dysfunctional heart. I eventually became functional and realized that I had him in a place in my heart that “only” belonged to God. I share this to emphasize what we do when someone has our heart. I encourage you to be truthful in whoever and whatever (or both) that has your heart – a place that only belongs to God.

The church has declined for hundreds of years, and God calls it to wake up, repent, and turn its heart to Him. Our country and the world are headed for troublesome times like never before. The Lord said, “It will be those whose hearts belong to Me that will stand and

manifest to the evil principalities My wisdom. They will not have to war, but rest in Me with trust and confidence in My promises.”

It does not matter how much we preach, prophesy, sing, and shout—it is external worship until God has our hearts. The heavenly ruling of the kingdom requires inward reality, not mere outward practice. Such a ruling deals with the actual condition of the heart, not with the expression of the lips.

Well, I pray that you will give energy to the truth of your heart. Our heavenly Father, again, sends this warning to prepare us for the coming times. We are and will be without excuse.

WHO IS SITTING ON THE THRONE OF YOUR HEART?

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