

## Message Notes

Keep your head IN the clouds

## Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

### Introduction - Heart Surgery

### Today's Message: For Pleasure and Duty Deuteronomy 30:1-16

### You're not going to get this right. God will.

Deut. 30:1-5

- Being separated from God is the worst thing that could happen. God will bring you back.

### You can't give yourself heart surgery God will.

Deut. 30:6-10

- We want our pleasure and duty to be the same. - Keller  
- Marriage

### Don't overthink this. The gospel is right in front of you. You're creating systems that don't work.

Deut. 30:11-16

- "Click" of my heart reminds me that my heart has been changed.

### Questions to consider this week

- Are you trying to do heart surgery on yourself?
- Is your pleasure and duty the same?
- How are you reminded of the gospel each day?

### Deuteronomy 30:1-16

When all these blessings and curses I have set before you come on you and you take them to heart wherever the Lord your God disperses you among the nations, 2 and when you and your children return to the Lord your God and obey him with all your heart and with all your soul according to everything I command you today, 3 then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you and gather you again from all the nations where he scattered you. 4 Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the Lord your God will gather you and bring you back. 5 He will bring you to the land that belonged to your ancestors, and you will take possession of it. He will make you more prosperous and numerous than your ancestors. 6 The Lord your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live. 7 The Lord your God will put all these curses on your enemies who hate and persecute you. 8 You will again obey the Lord and follow all his commands I am giving you today. 9 Then the Lord your God will make you most prosperous in all the work of your hands and in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your land. The Lord will again delight in you and make you prosperous, just as he delighted in your ancestors, 10 if you obey the Lord your God and keep his commands and decrees that are written in this Book of the Law and turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. 11 Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. 12 It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, "Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" 13 Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, "Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" 14 No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it. 15 See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. 16 For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

Romans 2:28-29, Romans 10:5-13,



SUMMER SERIES  
2011

HOPE  
BOX





## Deuteronomy 30:1-16

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When all these blessings  
you and you take  
dispersed you among  
return to the Lord  
with all your strength  
today, <sup>3</sup> then the Lord  
compassion on you  
he scattered you  
distant land under  
gather you and bring  
belonged to your  
will make you



before you come on  
Lord your God  
and your children  
all your heart and  
command you  
fortunes and have  
all the nations where  
led to the most  
Lord your God will  
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**presents**

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- Self-exiling behavior – cut ourselves off from God

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# 5 Things People Do To Get Exiled From God!

- Become Hoarders of God's blessings
- See Everyone else as enemies
- Start believing we're self-made people
- Self-exiling behavior – cut ourselves off from God
- Believe we're better than others

John Gottman has become adept at “thin-slicing” conversations between people, focusing on the key aspects of their interactions. Gottman identifies four potential problems in a conversation: defensiveness, stonewalling, criticism, and contempt. By far, the best predictor of a couple’s happiness is the amount of contempt in their conversations. Gottman defines contempt as a form of criticism delivered from “a superior plane” – i.e., a situation in which one person thinks they’re superior to another. Gladwell proposes that the adaptive unconscious is capable of making the same kinds of quick assessments that Gottman has taught himself to make: in other words, to analyze a thin slice of evidence and draw conclusions from it.

Malcolm Gladwell- *Blink*

How will we  
ever make  
things right?





How will we  
ever make  
things right?



You won't.  
God will.

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When Deuteronomy speaks of God circumcising the heart, it's a metaphor for God doing surgery on your heart. Whereas circumcision was a sign of external obedience, entry into the covenant community, and submission to the law of God, heart circumcision is the motivation of inner love to obey.

Peter Craigle, *The Book of Deuteronomy* (The New International Commentary on the Old Testament)



You can't give yourself  
heart surgery.

A person is not a Jew who is one only outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. No, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person's praise is not from other people, but from God.

Paul the Apostle , Romans (2:28-29)

Think about marriage. Over the years, there have been many arranged marriages where the proverbial knot was tied, but there was no love. But when I was falling in love with my wife, and she asked me to make a change in my life, Kathy's wish was my command. I was in love, so I didn't think of it as obeying her or submitting to her will, though in a sense I was. She wasn't demanding anything, but out of love I was changing that thing in my life. What you ought to do and what you want to do become the same thing. **Our pleasure and our duty are the same.** That's a circumcised heart.

Tim Keller



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<sup>11</sup> Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. <sup>12</sup> It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, “Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?” <sup>13</sup> Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, “Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?” <sup>14</sup> No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.

<sup>15</sup> See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. <sup>16</sup> For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

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## Romans 10:5-13

<sup>5</sup> Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: “The person who does these things will live by them.”<sup>6</sup> But the righteousness that is by faith says: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down)<sup>7</sup> “or ‘Who will descend into the deep?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).<sup>8</sup> But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart, that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim:<sup>9</sup> If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.<sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.<sup>11</sup> As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.”<sup>12</sup> For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him,<sup>13</sup> for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

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