



## "Cultivating the Heart "

Henry Clay Easter Series 2004

Sowing good seed, and guarding against pests and plague.

**Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.**

(Prov. 4:23)



### 1. "*Above all else*" God puts a priority on the heart.

	Heart	Hand
1. Gen.1-2	Rest	Work
2. Matthew 6:1-18	Invisible (in secret)	Visible (in public)
3. Matthew 7:24-29	Foundation	Building
4. Mark 3:14-15	Be with Jesus	Labor for Jesus
5. Luke 6:43-45	Root	Fruit
6. John 15:1-8	Abide	Bear Fruit
7. Acts 1:4,8	Remain/receive	Be witnesses
8. Revelation 2:2-4	First love	I know your works

### 2. "*Above all else, guard...*" Cultivation of the heart takes attention.

Every person is appointed by God to be their own keeper and guard. Proverbs 22:3

Why should you guard your heart?

1. If you will not keep yourself, all the world will not be able to keep you.
2. If you will not keep yourself, the Devil will be your keeper. He is a jailor!
3. If you will not keep yourself, then you will never keep those who are committed to your keeping.



Application

1. Don't be slack. Be diligent to keep your heart.
2. Remember that you will have to give an account for yourself one day.

### 3. "*...for it is the wellspring of life.*"

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

Toothpaste tube stepped on: what's on the inside comes out.

What is in your heart? What is flowing out of your life?

Matt. 15:17-19, Luke 6:45

### Conclusion: One day God will have us give an account of our cultivation.



What would he say about your heart today?

You can't hide from God. (Heb.4:13)

He knows right now the condition of your heart. Do you?

You probably know the condition of your finances, your house, your physical health.

a) Would He say your heart is far from Him? (Mark 7:6)

b) Is it completely His? (2 Chronicles 16:9)