

LOST HEARTS, DIRTY HEARTS, AND THE KING OF HEARTS

Matthew 15:1–20

Whether we *realize* it or not, whether we *understand* it or not, and whether we *believe* it or not, we are all at war (Eph 6:10–11). This particular war is not over territory, money, or national peace. This is a war for the human heart and it has been raging for millennia with countless casualties. The Creator God wants our hearts—our reciprocated love, our unwavering loyalty, our undiluted adoration—things he’s clearly owed. The Enemy, on the other hand, wants to prevent that from happening, to steal or distract our attention so we will experience the terrible consequences that always accompany idolatry. Whether or not we *realize* it, *understand* it, or *believe* it, we are in a war for our hearts every moment of every day. Is there hope of winning? How do we advance? Can we avoid missteps and setbacks? What’s the key to victory?

Opposition *Intensified*

vv. 1–2

Hypocrisy *Identified*

vv. 3–9, 12–14

Results *Clarified*

vv. 10–11, 15–20

Authority *Specified*: God’s Word Unrivalled