**"Your Number One Priority….Guard Your Heart!” Prov. 4:23 and Matt. 15:16-20**

**Introduction**

**1 John 2:16 says:**

**16 For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world.**

**A The heart is called “the wellspring of life”, and your ability to live a life that pleases the Lord, depends on the content you allow to enter your heart.**

**B. The Bible says negative things about the heart.**

**C. Jeremiah says that the heart is evil. Then he asks the question "who can know the heart?" No one but God!**

**D. You might think you know the people you love, but you really don’t!**

**E. There are many examples in scripture of evil behavior that stems from an evil heart.**

**1) Jezebel and Ahab (1 Kings 21:1-16), and**

**2) Haman (Esther 7:3-6).**

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