



THE HEART'S COMPASS

LOVING GOD IN EVERY SEASON

Deuteronomy 8:1–18

Choosing Him when you have nothing. Honoring Him when you have everything.

♡ UNDERSTANDING LEV

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART?

CULTURAL DEFINITION

Heart = feelings, emotions

Biblical Definition: *LEV*

Heart = thoughts, desires, will, conscience

| Love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, and with all your strength." — **Deuteronomy 6:5**



THE WILDERNESS

Tests what we desire



THE PROMISED LAND

Tests what we treasure

Deuteronomy 8:1-3

1 Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors. 2 Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. 3 He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

TESTING IN THE WILDERNESS

"He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna... to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord."

— **Deuteronomy 8:2–3**

GOD'S PURPOSE IN LACK

Revealing what our hearts truly desire

- Do we seek the Giver or just the gift?
- Does hardship produce grumbling or trust?

CHRIST'S EXAMPLE

Jesus led into wilderness by the Spirit

- Tested in His humanity
- (Matthew 4)
- Chose God's Word over physical comfort

OUR DRY SEASONS

The Holy Spirit reveals our motives

- When life is hard, where does your will turn?
- His Word is more vital than comfort

Q. Does hardship lead to grumbling or trust?
Where have you been at lately?

Deuteronomy 8:7-10

7 For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; ...10 When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

Q. What is the 'good land' spiritually?

Deuteronomy 8:11-18

11 Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. 12 Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, 13 and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, 14 then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery... 17 You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." 18 But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

THE GREATER DANGER: THE FULL HEART

"Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied... then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God..." — **Deuteronomy 8:11–14**

THE GREATEST THREAT

Not failure, but **success**



FINANCIAL SECURITY

"I earned this through hard work"

THE HEART-TALK OF PRIDE

"My power and strength produced this wealth" (v. 17)



SPIRITUAL GROWTH

"I've become disciplined in my faith"

THE PATTERN WE FALL INTO

Desperate: give God glory
Stable: take the credit



ACTIVE REMEMBRANCE

Trace every blessing back to His grace

THE TRUE SOURCE OF ALL SECURITY

"Remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth..."
— Deuteronomy 8:18



01

OLD COVENANT

God gave the Law

02

NEW COVENANT

God gives the Holy Spirit

03

THE TRUTH

He gives us the *capacity* to function, Spirit in soul

04

THE RESPONSE

Surrender the glory of our lives daily

"Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to your name be the glory"
— Psalm 115:1

Deuteronomy 30:6

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.

THE CIRCUMCISED HEART

THE COMMAND

"Circumcise your hearts" (Deut. 10:16)

THE SOLUTION

God performs the surgery we cannot

1

2

3

4

THE PROBLEM

We cannot do this on our own

THE PROMISE

Heart of stone → heart of flesh (Ezekiel 36:26)

This Week's Challenge: When you make a decision, feel an impulse, or plan your future — stop and ask: does this specific movement of your *lev* (HEART) express love for the Lord.



YOUR WILL

Every decision



YOUR FEELINGS

Every impulse



YOUR THOUGHTS

Every plan