

Questions to Put to Your Heart

by Mary Wilder Tileston

Mary Wilder Tileston's sermon encourages deep self-reflection and honesty during the season of Lent to assess personal character and growth.

Scripture: Psalm 139:23, Proverbs 27:19, 2 Corinthians 13:5, Hebrews 4:12, James 1:23

Topics: "Self Examination", "Spiritual Growth"

Description

Mary Wilder Tileston, preaching on self-reflection during Lent, challenges the congregation to honestly assess their innermost thoughts, desires, and actions. She emphasizes the importance of self-examination, questioning if one's true character aligns with their outward appearance and if they are growing in devotion, unselfishness, and integrity. The sermon encourages individuals to seek God's guidance in revealing any hidden sins or shortcomings, and to strive for continual improvement in surrendering to duty, obeying conscience, and overcoming personal struggles.

Transcript

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

PSALMS 139:23,24

"AM I really what I ought to be? Am I what, in the bottom of my heart, I honestly wish to be? Am I living a life at all like what I myself approve? My secret nature, the true complexion of my character, is hidden from all men, and only I know it. Is it such as I should be willing to show? Is my soul at all like what my kindest and most intimate friends believe? Is my heart at all such as I should wish the Searcher of Hearts to judge me by? Is every year adding to my devotion, to my unselfishness, to my conscientiousness, to my freedom from the hypocrisy of seeming so much better than I am? When I compare myself with last year, am I more ready to surrender myself at the call of duty? am I more alive to the commands of conscience? have I shaken off my besetting sins?" These are the questions which this season of Lent ought to find us putting fairly and honestly to our hearts.

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