



## The Sense of Heart

God gave every human being five senses to be able to function properly in this world: sight, taste, hearing, smell, and touch. Without any of the five senses functioning, people are considered to have a disability. Likewise, as new creations in Christ, God designed us spiritually with a special ability to function in this world as Jesus did. Without it, we would be living in disability like any common person without Christ.

Before Adam's fall, he had the ability to perceive spiritual reality beyond the five senses. This ability, which I call the sense of the heart, is the spiritual sense through which Adam perceived spiritual reality. As a perfect being united with God, Adam's spiritual eyes of the heart were open, enabling him to interact with God and His Kingdom through this spiritual perception.

### **Genesis 3:7, NLT**

“At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.”

When Adam fell, man was reduced to relying on its five senses to perceive the physical world. With his fall, Adam died spiritually, losing the ability to perceive spiritual reality through the sense of his heart. The Bible says his eyes were opened, which I believe marks the moment when Adam began to function solely with his five physical senses, perceiving only the physical world.

The good news is that through Jesus's resurrection, man's ability to perceive spiritual reality was restored. The Bible states, ‘Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.’ (John 3:3). Once we are born again, this special ability is made available to us, but it's not automatic. Let me explain further.

### **2 Corinthians 5:7, NLT**

“For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

All believers in Christ have the ability to walk by the spiritual sense of their born-again heart, but most do not. Many of us are dominated by our five senses more than we like to admit. Many believers in Christ have no idea how to operate in faith or even know that such an ability has been made available because they are unaware what truly occurred at the resurrection. These individuals often preach a gospel of unbelief, claiming it is God's will for us to live a life of suffering and defeat, disregarding the supernatural victory available in Christ.

Every believer in Christ should live by faith to such a degree that the supernatural realities of God become a normal part of daily life. And why wouldn't they? The kingdom of God is

available to us through the Holy Spirit in us and power of His resurrection. This is why it benefits us to gain a deeper understanding of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ because who we are in Christ and what we have in Christ are found in the these events.

**Hebrews 11:1, NLT**

“Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see.”

The death, burial, and resurrection are the foundation by which we live by faith. If a doctrinal belief or anything we seek in the Christian life is not rooted in the death, burial, and resurrection, it is not of the kingdom of God. The resurrection of Christ created an unseen reality accessible to us. Faith is the ability to perceive this reality with our born-again heart and access it. When we perceive this unseen reality caused by the resurrection of Christ with our heart, despite the physical reality, the unseen reality can become the physical reality. This is uncommon today because, to many believers in Christ, the physical reality is more real than the spiritual reality—entangled with worldly cares. We are so accustomed to relying on our five senses that, even after being born again, we continue to be dominated by them. We must learn to develop our spiritual perception to receive all that the Lord has provided through the finished work of Christ.

*-How can we develop the sense of heart?*

The simple answer is begin to see with the imagination, via Scripture, your identity and inheritance in Christ provided in the resurrection of Christ. We allow the Word of God to shape this spiritual perception, embracing the images the Holy Spirit places in our hearts. In the gospels, we find the only instance in the New Testament where this phenomenon is clearly seen.

**Luke 24:31, NLT**

“Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared!”

The two disciples on the Emmaus Road are a complete contrast to what Adam and Eve experienced. Adam experienced the opening of his physical senses, but the two disciples experienced the opening of their spiritual perception. Through one man’s fall, the physical senses were opened, but through one man’s resurrection, spiritual perception was awakened.

It was when the two disciples beheld the resurrected Christ and His grace revealed through Scripture that their spiritual perception was opened. When this happened, they recognized Jesus’ resurrection. In other words, they perceived spiritual reality. Before this, Jesus had walked with them for seven miles, yet they could not recognize Him through their physical senses.

The only way we can perceive spiritual realities—the kingdom of God—is through the revelation of grace that unveils righteousness by faith, where the power of the resurrection is found and acquired by faith. As you grow in this revelation, your spiritual perception will deepen, enabling you to live more fully by faith—through the sense of heart.

By: Joyner Briceño