

Mad Sane Libs

Jeremiah 1:5-10

I knew you before I formed you in your _____ mothers name _____ womb [your childhood, scrapes, burns, stars next to the potty, your mother, father, siblings, spouses, your children, your losses, being fired, paying bills, your accomplishments, your failings, your strengths, your weaknesses... etc. *ad infinitum*]; I set you apart for **me** before you were born; I appointed you to be a _____ ? _____ to your _____ ? _____” [your church, your community, your children, your neighbors, your wife, your husband, your friends, the stranger at Starbucks... etc. *ad infinitum*]

I replied, “Ah, LORD God! Look, I don’t know how to _____ ? _____, because I’m only a _____ ? _____.”

Then the **LORD** told me, “Don’t say, ‘I’m only a _____ ? _____,’ for you will go everywhere I send you, and you will speak everything I command you. Don’t be afraid of _____ ? _____, because I am with you to deliver you,” declares the **LORD**.

The **LORD** stretched out his hand, touched my mouth, and then told me, “Look, **I’ve** put **my** words in your mouth. See, today **I’ve** appointed you to [Calvin inserted “*gird up your loins and rise, and speak*”] _____ about nations and kingdoms, to pull up and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

(Gifts *should* build the church up, not just the individual ~ 1 Cor. 12:7) Each of us have been woven into the *body-politic* of God's church as well as His plan. While we are separate-and-unique... *NOT* created to become automatons [robotic in our expressions of faith and passions]. We are more like a snowflake, unique to our sphere of influence, *just* as God planned.

Our lives are consecrated, doted on by God, and we are blessed in a salvonic order long before our birth. Our entire lives are in focus in an "eternal now" before God.

 IN FOCUS	“build”
<p>(Heb. <i>banah</i>) (1:10; 24:6; Gen. 22:9; Is. 45:13) Strong's #1129: Things described as built using this word are “a new house” in Deut. 20:5, “the altar” in Deut. 27:6, and “the house of the LORD” in 1 Kin. 6:1. The expression “build a house” can also refer to establishing a family (Ruth 4:11) or a dynasty (Ps. 89:4). The word may also be used in the sense of “rebuilding” or “restoring” something that has been destroyed or is in disrepair (Neh. 2:17). Jeremiah's commission as God's prophet included the task of building and planting (1:10). In the present context the term is used figuratively of the prophetic ministry of restoring the people of God, or spiritually rebuilding Israel as the people of God, after the Exile (31:4).</p>	

Focusing on Kardia

The Greek term *kardia* is used in the Septuagint and NT to reflect the Hebrew term *lēb*. It is used in several ways.

1. the center of physical life, a metaphor for the person (cf. Acts 14:17; 2 Corinthians 3:2–3; James 5:5)
2. the center of spiritual (moral) life

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- a. God knows the heart (cf. Luke 16:15; Rom. 8:27; 1 Cor. 14:25; 1 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 2:23)
 - b. used of mankind's spiritual life (cf. Matt. 15:18–19; 18:35; Rom. 6:17; 1 Tim. 1:5; 2 Tim. 2:22; 1 Pet. 1:22)
- 3.** the center of the thought life (i.e. intellect, cf. Matt. 13:15; 24:48; Acts 7:23; 16:14; 28:27; Rom. 1:21; 10:6; 16:18; 2 Cor. 4:6; Eph. 1:18; 4:18; James 1:26; 2 Pet. 1:19; Rev. 18:7; heart is synonymous with mind in 2 Cor. 3:14–15 and Phil. 4:7)
- 4.** the center of the volition (i.e. will, cf. Acts 5:4; 11:23; 1 Cor. 4:5; 7:37; 2 Cor. 9:7)
- 5.** the center of the emotions (cf. Matt. 5:28; Acts 2:26, 37; 7:54; 21:13; Rom. 1:24; 2 Cor. 2:4; 7:3; Eph. 6:22; Phil. 1:7)
- 6.** unique place of the Spirit's activity (cf. Rom. 5:5; 2 Cor. 1:22; Gal. 4:6 [i.e. Christ in our hearts, Eph. 3:17])
- 7.** The heart is a metaphorical way of referring to the entire person (cf. Matt. 22:37, quoting Deut. 6:5). The thoughts, motives, and actions attributed to the heart fully reveal the type of individual. The OT has some striking usages of the terms
- a. Gen. 6:6; 8:21, "God was grieved to His heart" (also notice Hosea 11:8–9)
 - b. Deut. 4:29; 6:5, "with all your heart and all your soul"
 - c. Deut. 10:16, "uncircumcised heart" and Rom. 2:29
 - d. Ezek. 18:31–32, "a new heart"
 - e. Ezek. 36:26, "a new heart" vs. "a heart of stone"

The key to understanding our internal conflict, is knowing that we not only have the Spirit of God working for us, but we have our fallen, broken, base, sinful nature trying to sabotage us. Consequently, we desperately need to be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18) and to be led by the Spirit (as the apostle Paul discusses in Galatians 5:16-18), if we are to see any success in subduing and controlling this selfish, sinister, sabotaging, destructive bent of ours.

"For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (Romans 7:22-25)

"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do." (Galatians 5:16-17)