

Love, Trust, and/ or Guard your heart?

All too often when there is news of a tragedy, such as a mass shooting or a child suffering from bone cancer, there will be someone who will say something like, “God is in control. We must accept that what’s happened is part of God’s plan!”

At the funeral of a young man who died in a mountain climbing accident, the pastor said in his homily, “We must see what has happened as God’s will!” At that, the father of the young man stood and shouted, “NO NO NOT it was not God’s will! When my son died, God was the first one who cried.”

In a televised discussion between a Christian apologist and an avowed atheist, the Christian was stymied when asked, “If an all-powerful and loving God is in control of what happens in this world, then why is there so much suffering?”

POWER = control... LOVE = freedom (w benefits and consequences)

We will get back to that...

The Heart has 4 chambers. 2 intake 2 return - atrium / – ventricle

- **Storge** – empathy bond. Parent / child, Mother/ infant
- Philia – friendship bond.
- Eros – romantic love.
- **Agape** – unconditional "God" love.

Love gives, trust is giving, guarding is protecting.

The Bible says, Love God first, don't put trust in men, protect the sacred.

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

[Proverbs 4:23](#)

As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the heart.

[Proverbs 27:19](#)

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

[Psalms 51:10](#)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

[Proverbs 3:5-6](#)

Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'

[Matthew 22:37](#)

Name that tune...

What does the world think about Love, trust?

Tina Turner...

What's love got to do, got to do with it?

What's love but a second-hand emotion?

What's love got to do, got to do with it?

Who needs a heart when a heart can be broken?

Bo Diddly – 1956 original release

George Thorogood and the Destroyers - 1978

*I walk 47 miles of barbed wire
I use a cobra-snake for a necktie
I got a brand new house on the roadside
Made from rattlesnake hide
I got a brand new chimney made on top
Made out of a human skull
Now come on take a walk with me, Arlene
And tell me, who do you love?*

The Chainsmokers used this phrase on new song released in 2019

21 mill subscribers, 51 mill views on youtube

Ruined it !

Travis Tritt 1992 – can I trust you with my heart?

I don't mind being swept away
If I know right from the start...
So before we go much further
Can I trust you with my heart?

In the time we've spent together
I have learned to trust in you.
So many things you given...
Before I even asked you to.

But reality and romance
Are sometimes far apart.
So, what I really need to know is...

Can I trust you with my heart?

Can I cast my cares upon you?

Can you stand the heavy load?

Can I count on you to walk me, down that long and winding road?

If you promise me these simple things, I can guarantee...

You can always count on me.

Guarantees? Risks?

1 Peter 5:7 -

Casting all your care upon **him**; for he cares for you.

You can throw the whole weight of your anxieties upon him, for you are his personal concern.

Ps 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Ps 146:3 -Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.

Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

[Psalm 37:4](#)

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

[Proverbs 17:22](#)

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

[Ezekiel 36:26](#)

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

[Psalm 119:11](#)

But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation.

[Psalm 13:5-6](#)

“Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.”

Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate,

[Joel 2:13](#)

The 1st and 2nd coming of Christ?

Love, mercy, humble, gentle, sacrificial lamb

Lord and King, Military leader, bringing justice, war, judgement

So how do we know that God is Love and you CAN TRUST in Him alone?

He is all powerful - Omnipotent

All knowing - Omniscient

Present Everywhere... - Omnipresent

Can He be all powerful and all Loving at the same time?

If He loves...why doesn't He ...Heal everyone suffering

Feed everyone hungry

Stop evil from happening?

POWER = Control / Love = freedom

If He controlled everything without choice or consequence,

It wouldn't be love!

Only 1 verse about Him being "omnipotent" KJV

Revelation 19:6

Then I heard something like the voice of a great multitude and like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Omnipotent (Almighty), reigns.

It's in the end. Justice is coming, His control will be in effect.

He chooses to love us and calls us to love Him.

Theologians debate pre destination and Free will... 2 pedals on a bike

Tony Campolo -

I am not questioning the extent of God's power. I believe that God has chosen not to be in control of everything going on in this world. In Christ, we find a God who deliberately gave up power to control everything in order to save the world through sacrificial love (Philippians 2). If God exercised total control over everything we do, we could not love God because love always requires the lover to freely choose to love. God relinquished power in order to give us the freedom to love.

LOVE / TRUST / or GUARD ?

Love approval, acceptance of people?

Trust people who will break your heart?

Guarded against God, afraid to risk surrendering to Him.

YOU want control?