

New Heart: Step One

Ezekiel 36:26

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.

God's Promises for Those with a New Heart

Reclamation

Ezekiel 36:24

“For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land.”

Restoration

Ezekiel 36:25-27

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols.**26** 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. **27** And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Redemption

Ezekiel 36:28-30; 33-36

Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God. **29** I will save you from all your uncleanness. I will call for the grain and make it plentiful and will not bring famine upon you. **30** I will increase the fruit of the trees and the crops of the field, so that you will no longer suffer disgrace among the nations because of famine.

33 “This is what the Sovereign Lord says: On the day I cleanse you from all your sins, I will resettle your towns, and the ruins will be rebuilt. **34** The desolate land will be cultivated instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass through it.**35** They will say, “This land that was laid waste has become like the garden of Eden; the cities that were lying in ruins, desolate and destroyed, are now fortified and inhabited.” **36** Then the nations around you that remain will know that I the Lord have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. I the Lord have spoken, and I will do it.’

What Does God Require for A New Heart?

Humility

Humility does not mean thinking less of yourself but rather thinking of yourself less.

Micah 6:8

"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

"Pride is like a rat, you either learn to live with it, or you kill it."

Proverbs 16:18

"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

Not only does pride distort but pride hinders our greatest needs

Without humility there is no repentance

Without repentance there is no forgiveness.

Our focus on self, hinders our service for God.

Philippians 2:3

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."

Pride Hinders Our Faith in God's Sovereignty

James 4:10

"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

C A Tinsley wrote: "We will understand it better by and by"

Humility Helps Us Understand the Who!

Ezekiel 36:31-32

31 Then you will remember your evil ways and wicked deeds, and you will loathe yourselves for your sins and detestable practices. **32** I want you to know that I am not doing this for your sake, declares the Sovereign Lord. Be ashamed and disgraced for your conduct, people of Israel!

Not You, Then Who? God and His Kingdom

Story of Anita and Carol: *Our husbands gave their lives to get this message to you. Would you please come to church? We would be so grateful."*

John 12:32

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

Truth:

If We Do Not Humble Ourselves Before God; God Will Take Matters into His Own Hands