

Take 5!

5 Verses, 5 Questions, 5 Minutes!

Heart Transplant!



Please take a moment to confess any sin that is on your heart and ask God to fill you afresh with His Holy Spirit!

Now please read Ezekiel 36:24-28.

(While the book of Ezekiel was written to those who remained in Jerusalem before its final destruction, we can apply many of the truths from this book to our lives as New Testament believers).

In verse 24, God has promised to call Israel out of the nations to which they had been exiled. He was not willing that they should be apart from Him for long.

**How does this promise from God apply to New Testament believers?**

If and when we wander from God, He is constantly working to draw us back to a close vibrant walk with Him. Once we are His, we will never be able to run away from Him. His Word says: "Where can I go from Your presence? If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me."  
Psalm 139:7-10

**What will God do for us once we have decided to turn back to Him (Ez. 36:25)?**

The Hebrew word for *clean* used in verse 25 is *taher* which means to be clean, to be pure to be conspicuous, to shine. *Taher* also means to be physically, ceremonially and morally clean. Halleluiah! When we are cleansed from our sins, we will shine like a beacon against the darkness of our world. Others will see our cleanness and wonder.

**According to verse 26, what else will God do for us when we turn back to Him from our times of wandering?**

He will give us a new heart and a new spirit! The original word used for *new* in this verse is *chadash* and its meaning is very interesting! It means: *new, fresh, fresh this year* (emphasis mine).<sup>1</sup> I'm just wondering if anyone needs a fresh start this year? *Chadash* is derived from another Hebrew word which literally means cutting or polishing. Let's apply what we have just learned about the word clean: God creates a new heart for us, *cuts* out the old heart of stone and transplants the new one in its place.

Our old hearts were made of stone. Think for a moment about a "heart of stone."

**What would it be like to have a heart of stone?**

It can feel nothing. It can do nothing. It's heavy to carry. It's cold. It cannot sustain life. Stones are good for nothing but building walls and keeping people out. Let's give Him our hearts of stone.

The heart is the center of all emotions, thinking, problem solving, decision making, world view, wisdom, passion, appetites, courage etc. Therefore, when God gives us a new heart, everything about us will be different!

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<sup>1</sup> Blue Letter Bible. "Dictionary and Word Search for *chadash* (Strong's 2319)". Blue Letter Bible. 1996-2010. 24 Jun 2010. < <http://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strong's=H2319&t=KJV> >

## **When God gives us a new spirit, what will we be able to do?**

We will never be able to walk the Christian life by our own power; we need the power of His Holy Spirit in us.

When we turn back to God, He will give us a new heart and spirit so we will be able to follow Him. Then, he will lead us into our Promised Land! For a New Testament believer the Promised Land is God's will for our lives!

In closing, please write the last half of verse 28 in the space provided:

Have a blessed day!

Mary Kane  
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