

An Old Heart or a New Heart Ezek. 36:17-35

This prophecy was given right around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians.

I. Vs. 17a We defile ourselves in our own rebellion.

a. Jer. 34:9-16

b. Isa. 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray...

c. Rom. 3:10 There is none righteous, no not one...

d. Rom. 3:23 All have sinned and fallen short...

e. The result of our willfully defiling ourselves is death.

i. Rom. 6:23 The wages of sin is death...

ii. Zech. 3:3 Shows us how we appear before God when we approach Him in this state. Deliberate sin isn't the only sin that defiles like this.

II. 2 Peter 3:9 It is not God's desire that we remain in this state. It is not God's will that even one perishes. So God designed a solution.

- III. Ezek. 36:25 God promises us a cleansing. It is available. He will cleanse you from your filthiness.
- IV. Ezek. 36:25 God's promise is a new heart and a new spirit.
- a. 2 Cor. 5:17 Old things have passed away and all things are now new.
 - b. Paul didn't hold on to the old, nor did other heroes of the faith such as John G. Lake, Abraham, etc.
- V. What old is there in your heart tonight?
- a. Fighting or rebellion against your parents?
 - b. Cheating, stealing, sexual experimentation?
 - c. What benefit does this "old" bring to you?
 - d. What benefit does keeping your heart hard bring to you?
- VI. Vs. 27 The soft, pliable heart will truly benefit you. God puts His Spirit within us so we can obey Him.
- VII. Vs. 28 They shall then dwell in the land. Remember Vs 17, they defiled it, so God removed them.

VIII. Vs. 29 Delivered from uncleanness, God brings prosperity.

a. Jer. 29:11 This is God's plan/destiny for our lives.

IX. Vs. 30 God's blessing

X. Vs. 33-35 How much He will bless us