



Repentance Tabernacle Church

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One Heart!

Question: When you read the Word of God from Genesis to Revelation do you see yourself?

Scripture: Ezekiel 11:14-21

God promised the exiles in Babylon that he would continue to be their God regardless of where they were and restore the faithful few to their homeland. **His arms are now open to receive those who will repent of their sins.** God was a sanctuary for the righteous remnant. Idolatrous people, even though they worshiped in the Jerusalem Temple (Ezekiel 11:15), would find no true sanctuary; but the faithful exiles, even though they were far from home, would be protected by God. Likewise, our external circumstances do not truly indicate our standing with God. We can depend on God to keep us safe if we commit our lives to His care.

“**One heart**” indicates a unanimous singleness of purpose. **The one heart is a radical transplant of the hard, deaf, immovable one for a tender, receptive, and responsive one.** No longer will God’s people seek many gods; they will be content with God. Jesus had to die to provide new heart for those who come to Him. We are empowered by the blood of Jesus Christ. The power is in the blood. That new spirit is the Spirit of God (Holy Ghost). This new life can only be the work of the Holy Ghost. It is God’s work, but we must recognize and turn from our sin. When we do, God gives us new motives, new guidelines, and new purposes.

A heart of flesh has been changed by God and is responsive to His will. A person with a heart of flesh has a tenderness toward sin and a desire to obey God’s laws and commandments. And it’s the opposite of a stony heart, which is hard, proud, and rebellious against God. It consists of humility, love, and obedience to God, has the Holy Ghost, and is pure and holy. **You will no longer be filled with your own ways, instead, you will allow God to direct your life and know without Him, you are nothing.** You will also be easily corrected when you are wrong and you will no longer try to justify your wrongs as unsaved sinners with a hardened heart do. But will repent and seek to apologize and make things right if necessary.

They shall give themselves to Me, to love Me, trust Me, and to worship and obey Me, and I will take them to be mine; I will approve, encourage, bless, guide, and protect them, that it shall be seen they are my peculiar people. But if they don’t change from the things mentioned in Proverbs 6:16-19 the things the Lord finds detestable. God will punish them because they have abandoned Him, and profaned His temple, according to their deserts, by the sword, famine, pestilence, and captivity.

God had Ezekiel prophesy to the children of Israel the same thing he told them in Ezekiel chapter 11:14-21 and chapter 36:21-28. In Ezekiel 36:21, God wanted to protect His holy name—His reputation—among the nations of the world. **He was concerned about the salvation not only of His people, but also of the whole world.** To allow His people to remain in sin and be permanently destroyed by their enemies would lead other nations to conclude that their heathen gods were more powerful than Israel’s God. To protect His holy name, he would return a remnant of His people to their land. **God will not share His glory with false gods—He alone is the one true God.** Israel had the responsibility to represent God properly to the rest of the world. **We have the same responsibility to represent God to the world!**

God promised to restore Israel not only physically, but spiritually. To accomplish this, He would give them a new heart for following Him and put His Spirit within them (Ezekiel 11:19-20). Psalm 51:7-11 is a song David wrote, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone into Bathsheba. But it’s a song to transform us and empower us to do His will.

The new covenant was promised, ultimately to be fulfilled in Christ. **No matter how impure your life is right now, God offers you a fresh start.** You can have your sins washed away, receive a new heart from God, and have His Spirit within you. **Why hold on to your old life when you can have a new life in Christ!** As stated by Paul to the church at Ephesus, “*That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish*” (Ephesians 5:26-27).

May you be blessed with the Word of God on how to get one heart of flesh!