

Ezekiel 11:19

by Chuck Smith

God promises to give His remnant a new heart and a new spirit, transforming them into His people and making Him their God.

Scripture: Psalm 51:10, Jeremiah 31:33, Ezekiel 11:19, Ezekiel 36:26, John 14:17, Romans 12:2, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 5:22-23, Hebrews 8:10, 1 Peter 2:9

Topics: "New Heart", "Transformation"

Description

Chuck Smith emphasizes God's promise of transformation in Ezekiel 11:19, where He pledges to give His people a new heart and spirit, replacing their hardened hearts with hearts of flesh. This transformation is essential for a loving relationship with God, moving away from a legalistic approach to one motivated by love and desire to follow His ways. Smith reflects on the challenges of feeling like a stranger in a morally declining world, yet reassures that God will be a sanctuary and protector for His remnant. He highlights the importance of a changed heart that leads to a new attitude towards sin and a genuine desire to serve God. Ultimately, this new heart signifies a deep connection where God becomes our God and we become His people.

Transcript

A New Heart

Intro. In the first part of the chapter Ezekiel is prophesying of the coming destruction of Jerusalem and the scattering of the people into all of the world. He then addresses his message to those who have been scattered abroad.

I. God's promise to His remnant. A. I will be as a little sanctuary unto them, in the lands where they had been scattered. 1. He would watch over them in the alien, and hostile environment. 2. He would be as a shield of protection for them. 3. Oftentimes I feel like a stranger in this world in which we live. a. I watch with dismay as a judge orders the Boy Scouts to admit into the scouting program two little brothers who object to the word God being in the scout oath. b. The scouting program was initiated to instill strong moral values in the young people.

Their aim has been to teach a loyalty to God and country. 1. If the atheistic parents don't like that, then let them start another club for their children. 2. Homosexuals are pressing to become scout leaders, what would be your reaction to sending your boy to a summer camp led by a pedophile? 3. If they want to start their own club for young men let them do so, and if any parents are so stupid as allow their children to join, so be it. But don't tamper with a program that is already established with higher moral values. 4.

Homosexual activity is immoral, and under no circumstances can be considered natural. God in speaking of it, speaks of reprobate minds, and calls it unnatural affections. c. I wonder how long before the pledge of allegiance to the flag is ruled unconstitutional by some Brown appointed judge because it speaks of one nation under God. 4. These things cause me to feel like I don't belong in my own country, I like Abraham feel like a stranger and a pilgrim on this planet, and I am looking for a city which has a solid foundation whose maker and builder is God. 5.

You who long for the kingdom of God to come, for His will to be done in this earth, even as it is in heaven, God has promised to be as a little sanctuary to you. He will surround you and protect you. B. He promised to deliver them from their captivity and to give to them the land of Israel. C. He promised to give to them one heart, and put a New Spirit within them. 1. He said that He would remove the heart of stone, and give to them a heart of flesh. 2. The problem with many people today is that they have hardened their hearts so long against God and the things of God that their hearts have become as a stone. a.

They are set in their ways of sin, and have no intention of changing. b. All of the pleading, and entreaties from God are met with a stony resistance. 3. There is another analogy that is used in the scriptures concerning the heart. God promised Jeremiah the prophet, that day would come when God would no longer write His laws on tables of stone, but upon the fleshly tablets of a mans heart. a. God was declaring that He was not seeking some legal relationship with man, but was looking for a loving relationship. b.

God is not interested in binding you to some legal contract written in stone. He desires that you serve Him with a heart that is motivated by your love for Him. c. He does not want to bind you with chains to force obedience, but wants your love for Him to exceed your love for anything else, and your service to Him to rise spontaneously from a heart of love. d. The story of Ulysses and Orpheus. D. This heart of flesh was that they might walk in His statutes and keep His ordinances to do them.

Not by force, but by desire. 1. God will not force you to love Him or force you to serve Him. 2. He will give to you a heart of flesh that is after Him. 3. I have observed with keen interest how a person changes when they have received Jesus Christ as their Savior. I have watched a person who was so hard and bitter, become tender and loving. a. The Air Force captain that lived next door to us in Tucson. E. This heart of flesh will be accompanied by a new spirit. 1. New attitudes toward the detestable things of the world.

Many times a person when He has received Jesus Christ finds, that the things he once loved, he now hates, and visa versa. 2. Paul tells us that if any man be in Christ, He is a new creature, the old things have passed away, and behold all things become new. F. He promises to them that with this change of heart and spirit, they will become His people, and He will become their God.

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