

Good Tidings The New Heart



“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.”

Ezekiel 36:26-27

The Good News

We are new creations, we are individuals, spiritually gifted with perfectly fitting plans and purpose's

Our identity is that we are righteous, we are holy, we are blameless and furthermore everything that Jesus Christ is

This status as new creations, new persons, is irrevocable, it cannot be undone, our God will never leave us, nor forsake us, we are His forever

Why?

Why don't I feel perfect?

Why do I say and do stupid things sometimes?

Why do I think awful things on occasion?

Why do I still get anxious or depressed?

Why have most of the decisions in my life been flawed in some way?

Why do I come so close to the edge, knowing I walked myself there?

The New Heart

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Being Human

You don't have to be a Christian to be a good human!

But you do have to be a Christian for God to be made manifest in us.

For the goodness of God, His identity, His plans, and His purpose, His irrevocable gifts to be worked out of our new creation life, our new creation spirit

Human Hard Drive

When God gave us a new heart of flesh, although it is brand new, He didn't erase all the prior programming that the heart of stone had

Many Christians I have met; said they noticed some sort of changes in their heart soon after being born again

Some people confuse the heart with the soul, they are two different things. The soul is made up of our mind, our will, and our emotions

The mind being our thinking centre, the will through which we choose and the emotions through which we feel

The Storehouse

“Whilst we encounter life through the three primary faculties of the soul being the mind, will and emotions – yet the heart is the place where we store the most significant experiences of life. This storehouse now influences and determines the way we live our lives today.”

“A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.”

Luke 6:45

The Storehouse

“Every day your heart is being programmed by what you are choosing to retain in your heart, from all that is happening in your life. Your life flows out from your heart. Every response, reaction, decision and choice you make is determined by whatever is predominant in your heart.”

Ken Legg

The Storehouse

It's what's going on in our heart that will determine the outcome, that's why even though we are perfect new creations, things can skew off in all sorts of directions depending on the condition of our hearts

What do you expect, we live in a fallen world, in an unredeemed body with a mortal human soul?

Fortunately, we have an immaculately and beautifully perfect Christ centred new creation person undergirding and influencing the whole dynamic

Established in Grace

“Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.”

Proverbs 4:23

“My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh.”

Proverbs 4:20-22

Choosing Life

“It’s better to suffer rather than sin”

Often, we have to choose not to sin, by way of **choosing life**, especially when we are training ourselves away from entrenched dysfunctional behaviours

When sin knocks at the door, we engage our minds, and remind ourselves of **who we are**... new creations... new persons!

We adopt a righteousness consciousness rather than a sin consciousness

Conditioning

We receive good and bad conditioning right through our childhoods and teenage years and then into our adult years thereafter

Even as a mature Christians, we have to watch what we fill our eyes and ears with, who we spend time with, what we get involved in, because through our senses, through our action, through our associations, we can start to condition our hearts negatively

But on the counter to that, we can have positive conditioning as we walk in the spirit, and let the goodness of God both in us and surrounding us influence our thoughts, our choices, our actions, our emotions and our environment

The Word of God

Foraging through God's word and mining it for its precious gems, is the surest way in replacing the old with the new

When we know differently, we think differently

When we think differently, we feel differently

When we feel differently, we act differently

If you don't know God's word, you won't feel God's word

The Word of God

The word of God is just so beautiful, and as we read, whether we are always fully understanding what we are reading or not, this living word that is Christ Jesus inked on paper, calms the storm, renews our minds, cleanses our hearts, and sets us upon the rock again and again and again, as it teaches us from within to trust in Him, to have faith across our lives, as we look intently at Him for the truth of who He is in our new creation person, to be made manifest in our hearts, in our souls and through every member of our bodies

Who are You?

In order to know **who you are**, you need to know **who's you are!**

The only way to know **who's you are**, is to read the book about the author and finisher of our faith, so that the, **who in you**, making you the, **you in you**, lives the **LIFE** you have been chosen for, designed for, and destined for!

Established in Grace

If you aren't being established in **grace**, you are **fighting** a losing battle!

God has got you all sorted, His **Finished Work**, His **Good News**, a new covenant made between the Father and the son that we are partakers of, we have been included, we have been grafted in

“And we know that in all things **God works** for the **good** of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

Romans 8:28

Organic Grace

Don't be in a hurry for change, God's timing is His timing

Grace is natural and organic, and we still have our high moments and our low moments, but when we have our eyes on Christ, His hand is always in ours, leading us, drawing us and encouraging us in His word, in His truth, in His wisdom, through many, many different facilities, especially through His life that is the intertwined source of our new creation life that dwells within this earthly body of ours, that wonderful new person that we are!

The Apostle Paul

In labours more abundant
In stripes above measure
In prisons more frequently
Faced death often

From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one

Three times I was beaten with rods

Once I was stoned

Three times I was shipwrecked

A night and a day I have been in the deep

In journeys often

In perils of waters

The Apostle Paul

In perils of robbers
In perils of my own countrymen
In perils of the Gentiles
In perils in the city
In perils in the wilderness
In perils in the sea
In perils among false brethren
In weariness and toil
In sleeplessness often
In hunger and thirst
In often fastings
In cold and nakedness

The Apostle Paul

Given a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet him (2 Corinthians 12:7)

Abandoned by all his friends while imprisoned (2 Timothy 1:15)

Despaired even of life (2 Corinthians 1:8)

The Apostle Paul

“For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good. But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.”

The Apostle Paul

“I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!”

Romans 7:15-25

The Battle of Conditioning

Paul could see the raging battle going on in his heart

Just as Paul walked this earth in Christ, so do we

Just as Paul's spirit within him earnestly motioned to his soul, to his heart, to do the will of God... It sometimes didn't produce the fruit that he longed for it to produce, and that's the same for us

We are the same, we have a wild, wild flesh, we have a holy, holy spirit and we have in the middle our precious new hearts, made for us by God, with unlimited potential to express all that God has made us for and gifted us for

You are Good Enough

Jesus won the battle on the cross

Every day is a new beginning

We have grace just for today

tomorrow will have its own full measure of grace waiting for you
when you get there

Your best efforts are a delight to God

And even when you fail and fall flat on your face, His grace is sufficient, His love is all encompassing, His care is endless, for you are His cherished and beloved child

God's Promise

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13