

Getting a New Heart, Part 1

Eze 36:26-27 – “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 softness (flesh). I will put My Spirit within you and *move* you (cause you) to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them (obey My commandments).” It says He will *move* us to keep His commandments. I’m thankful He *moves* us; He causes a *change*, a transformation. He *causes* us to change. There are so many wonderful things about our Father.

Our Father doesn’t require of us anything that He doesn’t provide the grace to obey. If He did, He’d be a hard taskmaster. He doesn’t require *anything* He doesn’t give us the grace to obey. He *loves* to provide for us. We know He transforms us by the renewing of our minds and hearts (Rom 12:1-2). Faith comes by hearing (Rom 10:17). It’s what our Father provides for us to believe. Faith approaches us by hearing and faith comes to us until we *move*. We get faith as we *hear*. Rom 12:1 – “... *in view of God’s mercy.*” He doesn’t require anything that He doesn’t provide the grace for. We need to understand this or we’ll think He’s a hard taskmaster. (The servant didn’t understand and he hid his talent.)

Rom 12:1-2 says, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” His good, pleasing and perfect will; if we don’t see that, then something is amiss and we’ll get exasperated. He has *all* the grace we need. We just have to turn our hearts to Him. Our Father was lonely and He *wanted* man (us). He wanted a home. And I want to provide a home for Him. He provides a home for the lonely. I’m thankful to be here where we have a home together.

There is nothing more wonderful than submission. People will see our submission and be won over to our Master. We win our Master by submission – like husbands and wives are

submissive to one another out of reverence for Him. This is how we are to be *glued* together, never to part.

Eze 18:31 says, “*Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourself a new heart and a new spirit.*” He wouldn’t tell us to “get” it unless He was going to provide a new heart for us. The Proverbs tell us to “get” wisdom. To “get” wisdom you have to “get” it.

Hobab: I’m thankful for the words I’m hearing this morning; that we are to *love* and *serve* one another. That’s what our Master would do if He were here on earth. It reminds me of the story Yoneq told about the gathering that John went to before he died and how he told the people to “*Love one another.*”

I read the first four chapters of 1 John and I can see that the people were fallen away and how John was trying to bring them back to the age-long foundation; the simple truth. And this is what’s before us. If we are loving one another He will establish the tribes and everything. But if not we will just be doing the deeds of the flesh.

I’m thankful to be alive in His house.

Malachi: This morning I was reading Pr 14:22 and I saw something that encouraged me. It says, “*Do they not go astray who devise evil? But mercy and truth belong to those who devise good.*” I always think of the word “devise” as a negative thing (like to “devise” evil), but it says “devise good” which means not allowing the evil one’s schemes in our lives, but considering how to love one another. It means we *help* one another out of our problems. I want to be that way. This is how we’ll be ruling in the next age.

Chets Barur: Eze 18:31 says that we have to “cast away” all our transgressions in order to “get” a new heart. And further down in Eze 36:25 –26 it says, “*Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you.*” I was thinking about that, “*I will give you a new heart ...*” and from reading Eze 18:31 I saw that we have to “get” a new heart. We can’t just be a “freeloader” and expect to get a new heart. It has to be something that we *desire* to have. It says that He will cleanse us from all our idols; from anything in our lives that’s a substitute from us receiving the grace we need.

I want to learn to have a new heart.

This life we're living now is just a foretaste of the age to come. In the next age we'll be teaching peace to the nations, but in this age the evil one will try to get to someone today. We have to help each other. We need our friends to help us. We are His friends, aren't we? We *need* one another.