

# The Heart of the Matter

## A Theology of the New Heart

Introduction: The Purpose of Our Salvation

- Benefit vs Purpose

## The Need for a New Heart

John 4:21-24

The Story of the Woman at the Well

The Nature of True Worship

- Cutoff From a Particular Place (4:21)
  - The Multiple Worship Sites
  - The Supremacy of Jerusalem
- Conveyed from a Connection with God (4:22)
  - ➔ A well of truth and a relationship with God are necessary components to biblical truth.
- Carried out by a Genuine Worshiper (4:23a-b)
  - The Era of the Genuine Worship
  - The Genuine Worshiper Identified
    - true describes a thing that corresponds to what actually exists
    - genuine or real
  - Genuine Worship Illuminated
    - truth = true revelation
    - spirit = inner man
- Crewed by God Himself (4:23c)
  - seeks look for, desire, demand

# The Gift of a New Heart

## Ezekiel 36:26

### Introduction

- The Background of Ezekiel
  - The Book
  - The Message of General
  - The Message of Restoration in Specific

### Salvation, the Means of Restoration

- The Cause of Their Salvation (36:22-24)
  - Stated
  - Illustrated
- The Accomplishing of Their Salvation (36:25-27)
  - A Change of Status (36:25)
    - Water and Cleansing in the Law
      - The Ordinance of the Red Heifer (Num. 19)
      - Uncleanliness Due to Human Discharges (Lev. 15)
    - Ceremonial vs Actual Cleansing
  - A Change of Nature (36:26)
    - The Nature of New Heart
    - The Reason for the New Heart
  - A Change of Behavior (36:27-28)
    - ➔ Tied to the New Covenant

# The Disposition of the Heart

Introduction:

Our Approach

- By Way of Analogy
- By Way of Affirmation
- I. Adam: Inclined Towards God and Holiness
  - A. Theologically Described
  - B. Biblically Affirmed (Eccl. 7:29)
    - 1. The Fact Man was Created Upright
      - upright                straight, level, or right
    - 2. The Reason Man was Created Upright
- II. The New Man: Inclined Towards Holiness (Eph. 4:24)
  - A. The Model of the New Self (4:24b<sub>1-6</sub>)
  - B. The Source of the New Self (4:24b<sub>7-9</sub>)
  - C. The Moral Nature of the New Self (4:24b<sub>10-16</sub>)
    - righteousness    legal term, conformed to the law
    - holiness            devoutness or piety
    - truth                upright, sincere, or genuine
- III. The New Man: Tuned to Love (Rom. 5:5)
  - Context: The Benefits of Our Justification (Rom. 5:1-4)
    - proven character    trial, proving, approval
  - Affirmation: The Basis of Our Hope (Rom. 5:5)

# The Battle over the New Heart (1)

1 Peter 2:11

Introduction:

The Reality of the Already/Not Yet

The Consequence of the Already/Not Yet

The Context of 1 Peter 2:11 – Our Identity

- I. The Seriousness of the Battle (2:11a<sub>2-4</sub>)
- II. The Combatants (2:11a<sub>1, 5-8, 12-13</sub>)
  - A. The Allied Forces (2:11a<sub>1, 5-8</sub>)
    - beloved          dearly loved
    - alien            to dwell beside or near; a non-citizen
    - strangers        a temporary resident alien
  - B. The Axis of Evil (2:11a<sub>12-13</sub>)
    - lust              a deep desire for something, longing or craving
    - fleshly          human, material, worldly, fallen

# The Battle over the New Heart (2)

1 Peter 2:11

## Introduction

- III. The Battle (2:11b<sub>1-3</sub>)
  - The Fact of the Battle
    - wage war to do or make war; to undertake a military campaign
  - The Nature of the Battle
- IV. The Battlefield (2:11b<sub>4-6</sub>)
  - Its Identity: Where It is Taking Place
  - Its Role: How It is Taking Place
- V. The Response (2:11a<sub>9-11</sub>)
  - What One Must Do
    - abstain receive; keep away from or keep apart
  - How One Must Do It