

Christmas at the Movies

THE GIFT OF A NEW HEART

Mark 17:21-23 (NLT)

For from within, out of a person's heart, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, lustful desires, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness. All these vile things come from within; they are what defile you."

Jeremiah 17:9 (NLT)

"The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?"

I. The Problem With Our Old Heart.

1. Our Old Heart is Sinful.
2. Our Old Heart is Selfish.
3. Our Old Heart is Sick.
4. Our Old Heart is Stubborn.
5. Our Old Heart is Stony.

II. The Promise of a New Heart.

Ezekiel 36:26 (NIV)

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you;
I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you
a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 36:16-17 (NLT)

Then this further message came to me from the Lord: "Son of man, when the people of Israel were living in their own land, they defiled it by the evil way they lived. To me their conduct was as unclean as a woman's menstrual cloth.

Ezekiel 36:18-19 (NLT)

They polluted the land with murder and the worship of idols, so I poured out my fury on them. I scattered them to many lands to punish them for the evil way they had lived.

Ezekiel 36:20 (NLT)

But when they were scattered among the nations, they brought shame on my holy name. For the nations said, 'These are the people of the Lord, but he couldn't keep them safe in his own land!'

Ezekiel 36:21 (NLT)

Then I was concerned for my holy name, on which my people brought shame among the nations.

Ezekiel 36:22 (NLT)

“Therefore say to the Israelites, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: It is not for your sake, people of Israel, that I am going to do these things, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone.

Ezekiel 36:23 (NLT)

I will show the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, the name you have profaned among them. Then the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Sovereign Lord, when I am proved holy through you before their eyes.

1. Our new heart is a gift
of God’s grace.

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

2. Our new heart brings about restoration and reconciliation.

Ezekiel 36:24 (NIV)

For I will take you out of the nations; I will
gather you from all the countries and bring you
back into your own land.

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 (NLT)

Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person.
The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this
is a gift from God, who brought us back to Himself
through Christ.

3. Our new heart has been washed clean from sin.

Ezekiel 36:25 (NIV)

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be
clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and
from all your idols.

Psalms 51:1-2 (NIV)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing

love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Hebrews 10:21–22 (ESV)

And since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

4. Our new heart has the Holy Spirit within it.

Ezekiel 36:26 (NIV)

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you;
I will remove from you your heart of stone and give
you a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 36:27 (NIV)

And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

5. Our new heart brings about a whole new relationship with God.

Ezekiel 36:28 (NIV)

Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God.

Colossians 1:21 (NLT)

This includes you who were once far away from God.
You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions.

Colossians 1:22 (NLT)

Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault.

6. Our new heart hates to sin.

Ezekiel 36:27 (NIV)

And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Ezekiel 36:31 (NIV)

Then you will remember your evil ways and wicked deeds, and you will loathe yourselves for your sins and detestable practices.

John 3:3 (NIV)

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

John 3:4 (NIV)

"How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

John 3:5 (NIV)

Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit."