



Notes

If you have questions during the week, please drop us an e-mail at jim@calvaryroswell.com or phil@calvaryroswell.com

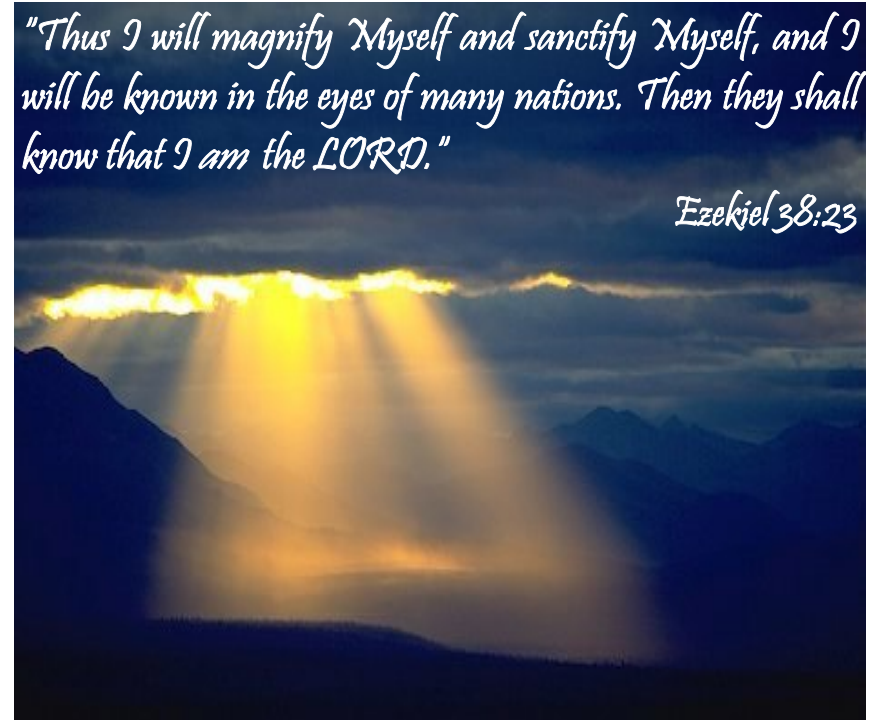
For a digital form of this booklet, an mp3 version of the teaching and/or powerpoint slides from the teaching, visit our website at <http://www.calvaryroswell.com/biblestudies/index.htm>



Thru the Scriptures 2006-08

"Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD."

Ezekiel 38:23



Ezekiel 33-39

May 29th-June 4th, 2008

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Ti 3:16-17)

Ezekiel-

Written by an exile carried to Babylon before the final assault on Jerusalem, Ezekiel uses prophecies, parables, signs, and symbols to dramatize God's message to His exiled people. Though they are like dry bones in the sun, God will reassemble them and breathe life into the nation once again. Present judgment will be followed by future glory.

-Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996).

*Nelson's complete book of Bible maps & charts :
Old and New Testaments.*

"Completely revised and updated comfort print edition";
Includes indexes. (Rev. and updated ed.). Nashville,
Tenn.: Thomas Nelson.

Helpful Study Links:

Additional Commentary: (Great Resource!)

<http://preceptaustin.org/hebrews.htm>

Sermon Links:

“The Necessity of the Spirit's Work” by C. H Spurgeon

<http://www.spurgeon.org/sermons/0251.htm>

“Jehovah-Shammah” by C. H Spurgeon

<http://www.spurgeon.org/sermons/0536.htm>

Commentary:

The commentary used with permission throughout this
booklet is

With the Word Bible Commentary

by Warren W. Wiersbe.

ISBN 0-8407-9108-9

Daily Bible Study

Thursday, May 29th, 2008

Passage for today: **Ezekiel 33**

Questions to Ponder

1. What is the responsibility of the watchman? What are the limits of his responsibility? What was the viewpoint of the people concerning God's judgment? Why were they wrong?
2. Why couldn't the people possess the land? What is the application for us? Look at verses 30-33. What is the key principle and application?

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 33

God warns (1–11). God had ordained Ezekiel to be a watchman (3:16ff.), but now the people were to ordain their own watchmen in each territory. The three key words are *sword*, *trumpet*, and *blood*. When you see the sword coming, blow the trumpet and warn the people; otherwise, their blood will be on your hands (Acts 20:26–27). (See Prov. 24:10–12.)

God is fair (12–20). Review chapter 18 where Ezekiel defended God's fairness in sending judgment to His people. This is a plea for repentance, for God wants each of us to have a broken and a contrite heart (Ps. 51:17). We should not judge God but allow Him to judge us. (See Mic. 7:18–19; Heb. 10:11–18.)

God judges (21–29). For seven years, the prophet had been silent except when delivering a message (3:26). His words about Jerusalem had been fulfilled, and he could engage in normal conversation again. But his first words had to do with the nation's sins! How could the people call God unfair when they were so guilty before the law of God?

God sees the heart (30–33). Imagine calling a watchman's warnings "a very lovely song"! They did not take God's Word seriously; if they had, they would have obeyed it (James 1:21–27). Complimenting the preacher is not the same as obeying the Master. (See Isa. 29:13; Matt. 15:8–9.)

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary*
(Eze 33:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Daily Bible Study

Friday, May 30th, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 34

Questions to Ponder

1. What is God's complaint against the leaders in Israel? In what ways did they fail to shepherd the people? What does this chapter say of the awesome responsibility of leadership?
2. What was God's complaint against the flock? In place of the faulty shepherds, who will shepherd the people? What promises are given to Israel in this chapter?

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 34

The watchman serves the people in times of danger, but the shepherd cares for them day after day; and we need both. The civil and religious leaders were expected to shepherd the nation by feeding them, uniting them, and protecting them from enemies. But Israel's leaders exploited the flock in order to feed themselves, scattered the flock, and failed to protect the flock from danger. See Acts 20 for Paul's example of faithful shepherding.

One day God will seek His people and bring them back to their land, and He will be their shepherd. Note the "I will" statements in this message, and see what assurance they bring to hearts even today.

Today, Jesus Christ is the Great Shepherd of the sheep (Heb. 13:20–21), and He cares for His own. He sends "showers of blessing" on the dry land and makes it into a garden (vv. 26, 29). What a difference it makes when the Lord is in control!

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Eze 34:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Daily Bible Study

Saturday, May 31st, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 35

Questions to Ponder

1. In this chapter God declares the reasons for His judgment upon Mt. Seir and all of Edom. What are they?
2. Why did God take personal offense over their actions? What judgments will come upon them? How do their judgments coincide with their sin?

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 35

God announced blessing for Jacob, but He pronounced judgment on Edom, the descendants of Jacob's brother Esau (25:12–14). The Edomites were guilty of sins that are still practiced today.

Hatred (5). Their grudge went all the way back to Genesis 27, and they would not forgive and forget. How tragic that brothers could not dwell together in unity (Ps. 133)!

Anger and envy (11). When you hate others, you are envious of their blessings and angry when they succeed. The Edomites revealed their anger when they helped the Babylonians ravage Jerusalem (Obad. 10–14). Are you envious when others succeed and glad when they fail? Then you may be carrying a grudge. Beware! The judgment you want to fall on your enemy may fall on you (v. 15)!

Pride (12). The Edomites boasted of their great security in the rocks (Obad. 1–4), but God would bring them down in humiliation (Jer. 49). God still resists the proud—whether in nations or individuals—but gives grace to the humble (1 Pet. 5:5).

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). With the word Bible commentary (Eze 35:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Daily Bible Study

Sunday, June 1st, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 36

Questions to Ponder

1. In contrast to the previous chapter, God promises blessing for Israel. What do you think is the intended purpose for this chapter?
2. To whom does it apply? What are the specific promises given in this chapter? For whose sake will the Lord bring restoration?

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 36

From this chapter on, the prophet focuses on reinhabiting the land, rebuilding the temple, and restoring the kingdom to the glory of God.

In His grace, God will bring the land from desolation to delight (vv. 33–36), and His people from dispersion to regathering (v. 24) and from defilement to cleansing (vv. 25–29). God will remove the disgrace of the people and bring great glory to His name (vv. 20–23). “I am for you!” says the Lord (v. 9); and “if God is for us, who can be against us?” (Rom. 8:31).

There is no future for those who persist in their sins, but those who confess and forsake their sins shall always find mercy with God (Prov. 28:13).

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Eze 36:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Daily Bible Study

Monday, June 2nd, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 37

Questions to Ponder

1. Ezekiel sees an amazing vision in chapter 37. Notice the question and response in verse 3. What can we learn from this?
2. What do the dry bones symbolize? There are two phases as the bones come to life. What do these phases likely symbolize? What does this chapter teach us about the reunification of the nation?

With the word Bible Commentary

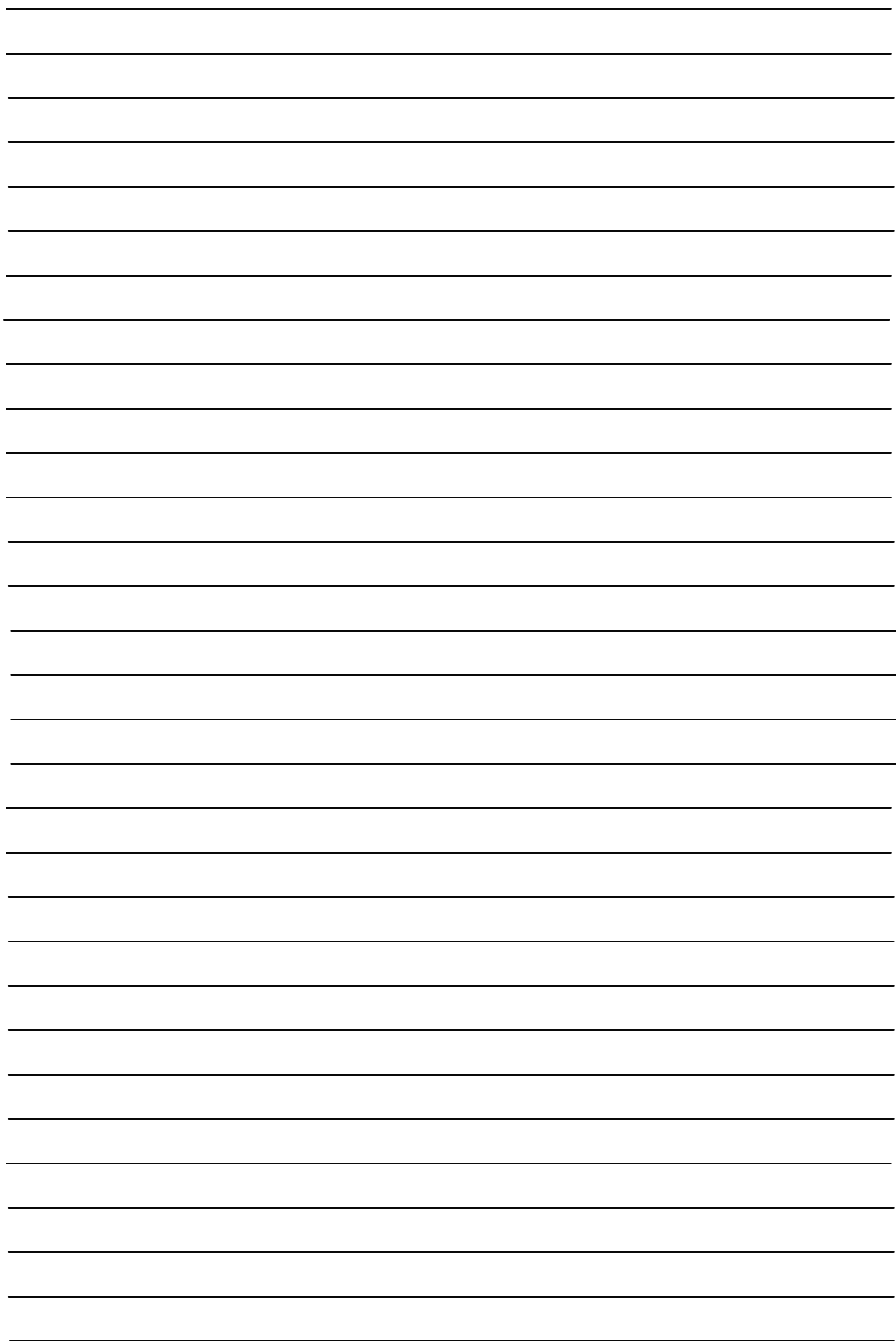
Ezekiel 37

Resurrection (1–14). The nation seemed to be hopeless, like an army of skeletons in a desert. But God can give life through His Word (vv. 4, 7) and His Spirit (v. 14; the Hebrew word for “breath” also means “Spirit”). One day, the nation of Israel will be resurrected spiritually and will know their God.

Reconciliation (15–28). Not only will the dead nation receive life, but the divided nation will be united in a covenant of peace. There will be no more “Ephraim” and “Judah,” but one nation with one king and one temple.

According to Ephesians 2, God is doing this today. He is raising lost sinners from the dead (Eph. 2:1–10) and reconciling Jews and Gentiles into one temple (Eph. 2:11–22). These spiritual miracles take place when you and I share the life-giving Word in the power of the Spirit of God.

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Eze 37:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.



Daily Bible Study

Tuesday, June 3rd, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 38

Questions to Ponder

1. Chapter 38 and 39 deal with God's judgment upon Gog. We are left with unanswered questions about the identity of certain nations.
2. However, what is revealed to us about the vast army assembled against Israel? What is their motive for attack? How will God defeat this army? According to verse 23, what will be the outcome of God's judgment?

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 38-39

God's people will have enemies until the very establishing of the kingdom. These two chapters describe a coalition of gentile nations in the latter days (38:16) as they attack Israel when she is at peace in her land (38:14). God will defeat the invaders with an earthquake (38:19–20), a storm (38:22), and the confusion of the enemy so they start to kill each other (38:21).

Why does God do this? So that the nations will know that He is the Lord (39:6) and that His name is holy (39:7), and so that Israel will know that He is their God (39:21ff.). In punishing them, God hid His face (vv. 23–24); but now He will reveal Himself to them and they will receive His Spirit (v. 29).

The day will come for God's people when every enemy will be defeated, every sin washed away, and every believer sharing in the glorious reign of the Son of God. What a day that will be!

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Eze 38:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Daily Bible Study

Wednesday, June 4th, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 39

Questions to Ponder

1. What does God reveal in this chapter concerning the destruction of Gog? What does God want His people to see concerning this?
2. What is God's aim in His judgment upon Gog? What does God tell Ezekiel to do? How is this a sign to the people?

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 38-39

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—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Eze 38:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson

Overall Outline

I. Ezekiel called to serve God (1-3)

II. The Condemnation of Judah (4–24)

1. A disobedient nation (4–7)
2. A departed glory (8–11)
3. A disciplined nation (12–24)

III. The Condemnation of the Gentile Nations (25–32)

IV. The Restoration of Israel (33–48)

1. Return of Israel to the land (33–39) ←

This Weeks Study

2. Restoration of Israel in the Kingdom (40-48)

This Week's Outline

1. Return of Israel to the land

A. The Key place of Shepherds (33-34)

- 1) Re-commission of Ezekiel as Watchman (33)
- 2) The worthless shepherds (34:1–10)
- 3) The worthy Shepherd (34:11–31)

B. The Restoration of Israel

- 1) Preparation for restoration: Edom destroyed (35)
- 2) Explanation of restoration: Land and hearts renewed (36)
- 3) Vision of restoration: Dry bones rejoined (37)

C. Coming War of Gog and Magog

- 1) Predicted Invasion of Gog and Magog (38)
- 2) God's Intervention and Victory over Gog (39)

“They Hear Your Words, But They Do Not Do Them”

Ezekiel 33:31

When hearing the word of God being read, preached, taught, etc; is it truly your heart's desire to *do* that which you hear? Here in Ezekiel 33, we find the Lord giving His prophet a view into the lives of those he had been ministering to. The Lord told him that the crowds were eagerly coming and hearing his words, but they were not doing what they had heard.

Jesus spoke of this to the multitudes during His days of ministry on earth when He asked, “But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord’, and not do the things which I say?” He went further to tell a parable that we are all familiar with. The parable ties right in with what we see of the Israelites here in Ezekiel 33. Jesus said, “Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like. He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against the house and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock.” His words here make it clear that coming to Him, hearing His words and *doing* what He says to do will assure stability in a person's life when (not if) the storms of life come. He went on to add, “But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built his house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream (torrent) beat vehemently, and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great.” This contrast gives us a clear understanding that one can come to Jesus and hear what He says and then do nothing with it. This leaves that one in a state of instability. And for him, when (not if) the storms of life beat against him, he will find himself immediately fallen and ruined.

Jesus' words are provoking. The people of Israel that Ezekiel was ministering to came and listened, but they never acted upon what they heard. And their lives showed their neglect of action. They saw Ezekiel as being entertaining. And they even invited others to join them in hearing him. But that is as far as they took it. They heard, and they were even excited to hear, but they refused to do what they heard. This is sad, but isn't this still the practice for many today? Many enter church on Sundays. Many hear the radio broadcasts of

men teaching the word of God. But their lives do not bear the fruit of one who looks distinctly into the word, sees his shortcomings and then longs with the help of the Lord to right his wrongs and live out God's will for his life. James 1:23-25 tells us, "For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in the mirror, for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does." God seeks our full devotion to continue in His word by doing what we hear when His word is laid open before us.

Another meaning for this word *do* in the original language is *to practice*. Practice is a word that we use to describe a lawyer who practices law or a doctor who practices medicine or an athlete who practices his skill. With devoted practice, our lives begin to produce the outflow of a permanent ability or action. Today, are you a doer of the word of God? Are you practicing His ways so as to make His truths permanently dwell within you? Does your life show that you have taken hold of the word of God and are putting it into practice? This is a serious matter no doubt. Jesus told us in His word that if we love him we will do what He commands. And in another place, we find that it is not the hearers of the word, but the doers of it who are righteous. With that, may the Lord find us doing His word today!

"I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing."

Ezekiel 34:26

Devotional From *Morning and Evening*

By C H Spurgeon

Here is sovereign mercy-"I will give them the shower in its season." Is it not sovereign, divine mercy?-for who can say, "I will give them showers," except God? There is only one voice which can speak to the clouds, and bid them beget the rain. Who sendeth down the rain upon the earth? Who scattereth the showers upon the green herb? Do not I, the Lord? So grace is the gift of God, and is not to be created by man. It is also needed grace. What would the ground do without showers? You may break the clods, you may sow your seeds, but what can you do without the rain? As absolutely needful is the divine blessing. In vain you labour, until God the plenteous shower bestows, and sends salvation down. Then, it is plenteous grace. "I will send them showers." It does not say, "I will send them drops," but "showers." So it is with grace. If God gives a blessing, he usually gives it in such a measure that there is not room enough to receive it. Plenteous grace! Ah! we want plenteous grace to keep us humble, to make us prayerful, to make us holy; plenteous grace to make us zealous, to preserve us through this life, and at last to land us in heaven. We cannot do without saturating showers of grace. Again, it is seasonable grace. "I will cause the shower to come down in his season." What is thy season this morning? Is it the season of drought? Then that is the season for showers. Is it a season of great heaviness and black clouds? Then that is the season for showers. "As thy days so shall thy strength be." And here is a varied blessing. "I will give thee showers of blessing." The word is in the plural. All kinds of blessings God will send. All God's blessings go together, like links in a golden chain. If he gives converting grace, he will also give comforting grace. He will send "showers of blessing." Look up to-day, O parched plant, and open thy leaves and flowers for a heavenly watering.

“Thus shall they know that I the Lord their God am with them, and that they, even the house of Israel, are my people, saith the Lord God.”

Ezekiel 34:30

Devotional From *Faith's Checkbook*

By C H Spurgeon

To be the Lord's own people is a choice blessing, but to know that we are such is a comfortable blessing. It is one thing to hope that God is with us and another thing to know that He is so. Faith saves us, but assurance satisfies us. We take God to be our God when we believe in Him; but we get the joy of Him when we know that He is ours and that we are His. No believer should be content with hoping and trusting; he should ask the Lord to lead him on to full assurance, so that matters of hope may become matters of certainty. It is when we enjoy covenant blessings and see our Lord Jesus raised up for us as a plant of renown that we come to a clear knowledge of the favor of God toward us. Not by law, but by grace do we learn that we are the Lord's people. Let us always turn our eyes in the direction of free grace. Assurance of faith can never come by the works of the law. It is an evangelical virtue and can only reach us in a gospel way. Let us not look within. Let us look to the Lord alone. As we see Jesus we shall see our salvation. Lord, send us such a flood-tide of Thy love that we shall be washed beyond the mire of doubt and fear.

"Whereas the Lord was there."

Ezekiel 35:10

Devotional From *Morning and Evening*

By C H Spurgeon

Edom's princes saw the whole country left desolate, and counted upon its easy conquest; but there was one great difficulty in their way-quite unknown to them-"The Lord was there"; and in his presence lay the special security of the chosen land. Whatever may be the machinations and devices of the enemies of God's people, there is still the same effectual barrier to thwart their design. The saints are God's heritage, and he is in the midst of them, and will protect his own. What comfort this assurance yields us in our troubles and spiritual conflicts! We are constantly opposed, and yet perpetually preserved! How often Satan shoots his arrows against our faith, but our faith defies the power of hell's fiery darts; they are not only turned aside, but they are quenched upon its shield, for "the Lord is there." Our good works are the subjects of Satan's attacks. A saint never yet had a virtue or a grace which was not the target for hellish bullets: whether it was hope bright and sparkling, or love warm and fervent, or patience all-enduring, or zeal flaming like coals of fire, the old enemy of everything that is good has tried to destroy it. The only reason why anything virtuous or lovely survives in us is this, "the Lord is there. "

If the Lord be with us through life, we need not fear for our dying confidence; for when we come to die, we shall find that "the Lord is there"; where the billows are most tempestuous, and the water is most chill, we shall feel the bottom, and know that it is good: our feet shall stand upon the Rock of Ages when time is passing away. Beloved, from the first of a Christian's life to the last, the only reason why he does not perish is because "the Lord is there. " When the God of everlasting love shall change and leave his elect to perish, then may the Church of God be destroyed; but not till then, because it is written, JEHOVAH SHAMMAH, "The Lord is there. "

“Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.”

Ezekiel 36:25

Devotional From *Faith's Checkbook*

By C H Spurgeon

What an exceeding joy is this! He who has purified us with the blood of Jesus will also cleanse us by the water of the Holy Spirit. God hath said it, and so it must be, "Ye shall be clean." Lord, we feel and mourn our uncleanness, and it is cheering to be assured by Thine own mouth that we shall be clean. Oh, that Thou wouldst make a speedy work of it! He will deliver us from our worst sins. The uprisings of unbelief and the deceitful lusts which war against the soul, the vile thoughts of pride, and the suggestions of Satan to blaspheme the sacred name - all these shall be so purged away as never to return. He will also cleanse us from all our idols, whether of gold or of clay: our impure loves and our excessive love of that which in itself is pure. That which we have idolized shall either be broken from us or we shall be broken off from it. It is God who speaks of what He Himself will do. Therefore is this word established and sure, and we may boldly look for that which it guarantees to us. Cleansing is a covenant blessing, and the covenant is ordered in all things and sure.

"And I will give you an heart of flesh."

Ezekiel 36:26

Devotional From *Morning and Evening*

By C H Spurgeon

A heart of flesh is known by its tenderness concerning sin. To have indulged a foul imagination, or to have allowed a wild desire to tarry even for a moment, is quite enough to make a heart of flesh grieve before the Lord. The heart of stone calls a great iniquity nothing, but not so the heart of flesh.

"If to the right or left I stray,
That moment, Lord, reprove;
And let me weep my life away,
For having grieved thy love"

The heart of flesh is tender of God's will. My Lord Will-be-will is a great blusterer, and it is hard to subject him to God's will; but when the heart of flesh is given, the will quivers like an aspen leaf in every breath of heaven, and bows like an osier in every breeze of God's Spirit. The natural will is cold, hard iron, which is not to be hammered into form, but the renewed will, like molten metal, is soon moulded by the hand of grace. In the fleshy heart there is a tenderness of the affections. The hard heart does not love the Redeemer, but the renewed heart burns with affection towards him. The hard heart is selfish and coldly demands, "Why should I weep for sin? Why should I love the Lord?" But the heart of flesh says; "Lord, thou knowest that I love thee; help me to love thee more!" Many are the privileges of this renewed heart; "'Tis here the Spirit dwells, 'tis here that Jesus rests." It is fitted to receive every spiritual blessing, and every blessing comes to it. It is prepared to yield every heavenly fruit to the honour and praise of God, and therefore the Lord delights in it. A tender heart is the best defence against sin, and the best preparation for heaven. A renewed heart stands on its watchtower looking for the coming of the Lord Jesus. Have you this heart of flesh?

“And ye shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves.”

Ezekiel 37:13

Devotional From *Faith's Checkbook*

By C H Spurgeon

Indeed it must be so: those who receive life from the dead are sure to recognize the hand of the Lord in such a resurrection. This is the greatest and most remarkable of all changes that a man can undergo—to be brought out of the grave of spiritual death and made to rejoice in the light and liberty of spiritual life. None could work this but the living God, the Lord and giver of life. Ah, me! How well do I remember when I was lying in the valley full of dry bones, as dry as any of them! Blessed was the day when free and sovereign grace sent the man of God to prophesy upon me! Glory be to God for the stirring which that word of faith caused among the dry bones. More blessed still was that heavenly breath from the four winds which made me live! Now know I the quickening Spirit of the ever-living Jehovah. Truly Jehovah is the living God, for He made me live. My new life even in its pinings and sorrowings is clear proof to me that the Lord can kill and make alive. He is the only God. He is all that is great, gracious, and glorious, and my quickened soul adores Him as the great I AM. All glory be unto His sacred name! As long as I live I will praise Him.