

## NEW COVENANT: New Heart and Grace – Study 6

### What is a New Heart?

- Most often the heart refers to the soul of a human that controls the will and emotions...The “inner man”.
  - Therefore we do not lose heart. Though our outward man is decaying, yet our inward man is renewed day by day. 2 Corinthians 4:16
- The result of receiving a New Heart will be obedience to God’s commands – to be fulfilled in the Millennium.
  - and in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written, "The Deliverer shall come out of Zion. He shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob. Romans 11:26
- The human heart was created to mirror God’s own heart.
  - God created humankind in His image, in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them. Genesis 1:27
- We were designed to love Him, love righteousness, and walk in harmony with God and others (Micah 6:8).
  - He has told you, humanity, what is good, and what ADONAI is seeking from you: Only to practice justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8
- Part of God’s design is **free will**, which carries with it the opportunity to abuse it, (Adam and Eve).
- God desires that we choose to love and serve Him. When we stubbornly refuse to follow God, our hearts, which were designed to communicate with God, are hardened. God compares rebellious hearts to stone.
  - Indeed, they made their hearts as hard as flint preventing them from hearing the Torah or the words that ADONAI-Tzva'ot sent by His Ruach through the former prophets. Consequently, great wrath came from ADONAI-Tzva'ot. Zechariah 7:12
- A heart of stone finds it impossible to repent, to love God, or to please Him.
  - However, you are not in the flesh but in the Ruach - if indeed the Ruach Elohim dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Ruach of Messiah, he does not belong to Him. Romans 8:9
- The hearts of sinful humanity are so hardened that we cannot even seek God on our own.
  - What then? Are we better than they? No, not at all. For we have already made the case that all - both Jewish and Greek people - are under sin. <sup>10</sup> As it is written, "There is no one righteous - no, not one. Romans 3:9-10
- Jesus said no one can come to Him unless the Father first draws him.
  - Yeshua answered, "Stop grumbling among yourselves! <sup>44</sup> No one can come to Me unless My Father who sent Me draws him - and I will raise him up on the last day. John 6:43-44
- We desperately need New Hearts; we are unable to soften our hard hearts on our own. A change of heart toward God requires a supernatural transformation – we must be “**Born Again**”.
  - Yeshua answered, "Amen, amen I tell you, unless one is born of water and spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be surprised that I said to you, 'You all must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." John 3:5-8
- When we are **Born Again**, God performs a heart transplant – we receive a New Heart!
- With New Hearts we are declared righteous before God.
  - He made the One who knew no sin to become a sin offering on our behalf, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

- The Holy Spirit gives us a desire to please God that we couldn't do in our hardened state. We are being transformed into His image...which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.
  - But to this day, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart. <sup>16</sup> But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit and where the Ruach ADONAI is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory - just as from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:15-18

**The New Covenant of Grace** is the gospel or Good News of Jesus Christ/Yeshua...To whom did it come to first?

- But He responded, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Matthew 15:24
- For I am not ashamed of the Good News, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who trusts - to the Jew first and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16
- He came to His own, but His own did not receive Him. John 1:11

Sometimes we forget that although now the church is composed mainly of Gentiles, the Gentiles are the ones who are grafted into the life of God.

- If the firstfruit is holy, so is the whole batch of dough; and if the root is holy, so are the branches. <sup>17</sup> But if some of the branches were broken off and you - being a wild olive - were grafted in among them and became a partaker of the root of the olive tree with its richness, <sup>18</sup> do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, it is not you who support the root but the root supports you. <sup>19</sup> You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." <sup>20</sup> True enough. They were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but fear - <sup>21</sup> for if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will He spare you. Romans 11:16-21

What is the Gentile's relationship to the covenants of promise?

- Therefore, keep in mind that once you - Gentiles in the flesh - were called "uncircumcision" by those called "circumcision" (which is performed on flesh by hand). <sup>12</sup> At that time you were separate from Messiah, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Messiah Yeshua, you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of the Messiah. <sup>14</sup> For He is our shalom, the One who made the two into one and broke down the middle wall of separation. Within His flesh He made powerless the hostility - <sup>15</sup> the law code of mitzvot contained in regulations. He did this in order to create within Himself one new man from the two groups, making shalom, <sup>16</sup> and to reconcile both to God in one body through the cross - by which He put the hostility to death. <sup>17</sup> And He came and proclaimed shalom to you who were far away and shalom to those who were near - <sup>18</sup> for through Him we both have access to the Father by the same Ruach. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household. <sup>20</sup> You have been built on the foundation made up of the emissaries and prophets, with Messiah Yeshua Himself being the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In Him the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple for the Lord. <sup>22</sup> In Him, you also are being built together into God's dwelling place in the Ruach. Ephesians 2:11-22

When were followers of Yeshua first called "Christians"?

- (Christianoi - Gk.) and (M'shicim - Heb. – Messianics): Then Barnabas left for Tarsus to look for Saul, <sup>26</sup> and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met together with Messiah's community and taught a large number. Now it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called "Christianoi." Acts 11:25-26

## WHAT IS THE GRACE OF GOD?

**Grace** (charis: Greek) – **A free gift**, Divine favor, God's redemptive mercy.

- contrasting with **works**; But if it is by grace, it is no longer by works; otherwise, grace would no longer be grace. Romans 11:6
- and **law**: Torah was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Yeshua the Messiah. John 1:17
- For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace. Romans 6:14
- You who are trying to be justified by Torah have been cut off from Messiah; you have fallen away from grace. <sup>5</sup> For through the Ruach, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. <sup>6</sup> For in Messiah Yeshua, neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any meaning - but only trust and faithfulness expressing itself through love. Galatians 5:4-6

**Grace** began in the Garden of Eden when God killed an animal to cover the sin of Adam and Eve. (Genesis 3:21)

- He could have killed the first human beings right there for their disobedience. But rather than destroy them, He chose to make a way for them to be right with Him. That **Grace** continued throughout the Old Testament when God instituted blood sacrifices as a means to atone for sinful man. It was **the Grace of God that forgave those who trusted in Him.**
  - For the one who has entered God's rest has also ceased from his own work, just as God did from His. Hebrews 4:10

The most important use of **charis** in the New Covenant, frequently expressed in the phrase "**the Grace of God**" refers to the merciful act of God through His Son Yeshua, by which human beings are saved.

- For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, <sup>12</sup> training us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live in a manner that is self-controlled and righteous and godly in the present age. Titus 2:11-12
- But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared - <sup>5</sup> not by deeds of righteousness which we had done ourselves, but because of His mercy - He saved us through the mikveh of rebirth and renewing of the Ruach ha-Kodesh, <sup>6</sup> whom He abundantly poured out on us through Messiah Yeshua our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that being set right by His grace, we might become heirs with the confident hope of eternal life! Titus 3:4-7

God's saving **Grace** includes justification, sanctification and glorification.

- They are set right as a gift of His grace, through the redemption that is in Messiah Yeshua. Romans 3:24
- So we urged Titus that, just as he had made a start before, he should also complete this gracious service for you. <sup>7</sup> But as you excel in everything - in faith and speech and knowledge and all diligence, and in your love for us - also excel in this grace. 2 Corinthians 8:6-7
- But we see One who was made for a little while lower than the angels - namely, Yeshua. He is now crowned with glory and honor, because of the death He suffered so that, by the grace of God, He might taste death for everyone. Hebrews 2:9
- Therefore, let us draw near to the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace for help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16

**Charis** also carries the idea of strengthening believers (Heb. 12:15; James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5, 10-12)

- Paul stresses that the gifts of the Spirit are gifts of God's grace. (Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12)
- To fully understand grace, we need to remember who we were without Yeshua and who we become with Him in our lives.
  - a) We were born in sin (Ps. 51:5)
  - b) Guilty of breaking God's holy laws (Rom. 3:9-20, 23; 1 John 1:8-10)
  - c) Enemies of God ((Rom. 5:6, 10; 8:7; Colossians 1:21)
  - d) Deserving of death (Rom. 6:23a)
  - e) Unrighteous (Rom. 3:10)
  - f) Without means of justifying ourselves (Rom. 3:20)
  - g) Spiritually destitute, blind, unclean and dead. Our souls in peril of everlasting punishment.
  - h) Then came **Grace** – God extended His favor (charis) freely bestowed to us.
  - i) **Grace** saves us (Eph 2:8)
  - j) **Grace** is the essence of the Gospel (Acts 20:24)
  - k) **Grace** gives us the victory over sin (James 4:6)
  - l) **Grace** gives us “eternal encouragement and good hope” (2 Thess. 2:16)
  - m) **Yeshua** is the embodiment of **Grace** and truth (Eph 3:2,7; John 1:14)

God shows mercy and grace, but they are not the same. Mercy withholds a punishment we deserve; grace gives a blessing we do not deserve. In mercy God chose to cancel our sin debt by sacrificing His perfect Son in our place. He is giving the greatest **Gift** to us, the least deserving.

- For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16