

## A New Spirit in You

Six hundred years before Jesus came, God spoke to the people of Israel through the prophet Ezekiel. And the Lord made a beautiful promise to His children, saying:

*“I will give you a new heart and will put a new Spirit in you. I will cut out your stone hearts and replace them with hearts of flesh. Then you’ll heed my statutes and be careful to obey my commands. You’ll be my people, and I will be your God!” (Ezekiel 11:19-20)*

God had to deal with a rebellious and stubborn people in Ezekiel’s day—I guess that’s not so much different than many times in history. Yet God was promising a day that their hard-hearts would be replaced with true, life-giving hearts. Their lives would be transformed by a new spirit, God’s own Holy Spirit.

In this new time, under a new covenant, and through God’s Savior Son, obedience would come from the transforming power of His Spirit. The Spirit of God would transform the people as He called and empowered them to obedience through knowing the will of God.

In 2 Corinthians 3, Paul discusses how this new Spirit-filled life is different than life in the old times. Unlike Moses, who would veil his face so that the people could not see God’s glory, Christians today get to experience God more directly through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

*“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)*

In Romans 8, Paul proclaims the blessedness of living by the Spirit and being children of God through the Spirit’s presence in our lives.

*“If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you.... because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.... And by Him we cry, ‘Abba, Father.’ The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.” (Romans 8:11-16)*

The Holy Spirit makes us new and transforms us to be like Jesus as we live in the way of the Spirit. This is the new life so often talked about in Christian circles —  
The Spirit-filled Life!

## A Prayer

O Father God, please work your will in my heart and empower me to live before you with holiness, honor, and obedience through the transforming power of your Holy Spirit. I am thankful to be your blessed child.

In Jesus’ name I pray, Amen.

*Scott*