



"HEART TRANSPLANTS MADE HERE"

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HEART TRANSPLANTS MADE HERE

Having experienced a major heart attack April 9, 1967, I am vitally interested in a new heart!

Early ideas of science cause us to smile as we contemplate their rare beliefs and experiments. However, giant strides in controlling disease and in preserving the human body are being made every year. Transplants of kidneys have been successful and hearts in human beings are now transferred from one body to another.

The heart weighs from 8 to 12 ounces. Already "Heart Banks" are being established. (Penn. Heart Association — January 20, 1968) and donors signing up! Dr. Christian Barnard of Cape Town, South Africa, has removed a worn heart and replaced it with one in working condition. This has been performed in America. But the question is — who can get a heart transplant?

Note four SPECIAL features involved:

1. A special selection is made. The person with the greatest need is chosen. A person with only a few days to live — near the end of life in this world! Need controls the selection.
2. A special surrender is demanded. The person in need is informed of his condition. He is told of the dangers. Doctors do not have the final say; the patient

must sign up to surrender his life into the hands of science.

3. A special surgeon is responsible. The person relies upon not just any surgeon, but a specialist. A surgeon skilled in working with the "spare parts" of a human heart is in charge.
4. A special situation is imperative. The person must be moved to a place where precision equipment is at the surgeon's finger tip. It cannot be done in the average hospital. Proper instruments and a team of experts are "ultimate" among requirements.

The offer of a heart transplant was made to man many, many years ago! God made this offer through the Prophet Ezekiel (36:25-38). An EKG recorded spiritual heart failure and the Prophet announced the remedy.

Note four principles involved:

1. A special selection is made. The indication in Verse 25 is that filthiness has clogged the heart. The heart controls life. Last year heart disease was the cause of more deaths than any other cause. This dreaded trouble strikes young and old. Man is not in need of a mended heart, or a repaired heart, but a new one. "The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked." (Jeremiah 17:9). Hearts that need cleansing are selected. "The fool hath said in his heart

there is no God." The empty, aching, hungry heart is in desperate need.

2. A special surrender is demanded. We are told why this is so in Verse 26. Man has a heart of stone and by nature does not bend towards God's will. A stone is hard and cold. Man's heart is prone to grow cold and remain unaltered until yielded unto God. "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts . . . they made their hearts as an adamant stone." (Matt. 15:19, Zech. 7:12).

3. A special surgery is required. The emphasis in Verse 26 is upon *NEW!* It takes a special surgeon to put a new heart in a man. The Bible says you need the new birth — a new heart. Removal of the old is necessary because you cannot have two hearts! "Thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thine heart." Spiritual surgery will cause you to want more of God, not less. You must place your sinful heart into the hands of God. "Let us draw near with a true heart in fullness of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience." Hebrews 10:22. Christ in the heart is the only hope of glory. "For in their hearts people exercise the faith that leads to right standing, and with their lips they make the acknowledgment which means salvation." Romans 10:10.

4. A special satisfaction is promised. The transplant by earthly doctors may increase your days, and even help overcome some diseases. However, there is no permanent hope in receiving a new physical heart.

How different with a transplant from glory — your new heart will never wear out or need replacing forever! Ezekiel said this heart of flesh would receive a new spirit. This means a new way of life. A clean heart will enable you to walk in the right way. "For it is good that the heart be established by grace." Hebrews 13:9. "To the end he may establish your hearts unblameable in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints." I. Thessalonians 3:13.

There will be no need for a resuscitation machine to keep the new heart beating during the critical hours. The new heart will beat in perfect love. Your spiritual pulse will beat with burning interest in living the Christian life. You will be prepared to face temptation as exemplified in Daniel. "But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself." Daniel 1:8.

The greatest satisfaction of your entire life will come because the Psalmist said, "The meek shall eat and be satisfied . . . your heart shall

live forever." Psa. 22:26. Real meaning will be found in John's record of "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." "Blessed are the pure in heart." Matthew 5:8.

If you believe that men today can transplant a human heart, why should it be difficult for you to believe that God can give you a new heart? "Today if ye will hear his voice harden not your heart." Hebrews 3:15.

A most amazing thing happened the day that the title "Heart Transplants Made Here" appeared in the church bulletin board (as pictured on this pamphlet). Grade school children were making their way along the sidewalk. One lad read the sign and immediately came inside to the church office. He expounded the question, "I read the sign, can I get my heart examined?" The inquiry was amusing and yet contained a note of simple faith.

The truth was explained to this little boy that the sign meant that an old sinful heart could be transplanted with a heart of love, and a heart of peace, by the power of Jesus. Why not "Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart?" Colossians 3:15.

"My son give me thine heart." Prov. 23:26. Spiritual healing is available to those with non-physical ailments of the heart.

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