
God breaks hearts of stone, and makes hearts of flesh

Psalm 114:8 (God) Who turns the rock into a pool, the hard rock into springs of water.

Ezekiel 11:19 I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 36:26 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.

John 15:11 (RSV) These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

John 16:20 Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy.

Matthew 18:3 (RSV) "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Whoever humbles himself like this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Key: p 1: Fallen. Delightful.

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The Fallen World

Re-Routing: God's Back Roads to Joy—part 5

July 7, 2024

What is Joy?

Definitions of joy: Certainty, Hunger, Belovedness, Glad surrender.

Re-routing:

Re-Routes to Joy: Shattered dreams, Unmet longings, Brokenness, Loss of control.

Route to Joy #5: The F World.

Joy definition #5: D dependence.

The Garden of Eden

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." ²⁹ Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.

³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground--

everything that has the breath of life in it--I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

Genesis 1:31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning--the sixth day.

The exit: east of Eden

Genesis 3:21 The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

²² And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever."

Genesis 3:23 So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.

Genesis 3:24 After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

Our fallen world

Romans 8:18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

¹⁹ The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.

Romans 8:20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it ...

Romans 8:21 ..., in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

A redemptive fall needed

Matthew 7:13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

We live in a hard world where
what is hard can break hard hearts.

Zechariah 7:12 They made their hearts as hard as flint and would not listen to the law or to the words that the LORD Almighty had sent by his Spirit through the earlier prophets. So the LORD Almighty was very angry.

Jeremiah 17:9 (RSV) The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately corrupt; who can understand it?

Ecclesiastes 8:11 (RSV) Because sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the heart of the sons of men is fully set to do evil.
