

Read Ezekiel 36:22-38. Speaking to a people whose faith had been shattered by exile, God rebuilds their hope by revealing His plan to do something entirely new. The restoration of Israel would not merely be a return to land, but a renewal of heart, spirit, and relationship. But note that God is acting “not for your sake... but for My holy name.” Israel’s future rests not on their merit, but on God’s faithfulness. And what follows is a beautiful picture of transformation that ultimately finds its fulfillment in the Gospel of Christ.

God describes this renewal in a series of powerful movements. First, He gathers His people (v.24), then He cleanses them (v.25). This is not outward ritual, but deep moral and spiritual purification, which is later echoed in the priestly work of Jesus (*Hebrews 10:22*). Next comes the inner transformation (v.26). The God who once wrote His law on tablets now writes it within His people. And then comes empowerment (v.27). Obedience is no longer merely commanded, but is enabled by the indwelling presence of God Himself.

The result of all of this is a restored people living in covenant fellowship (v.28). The blessings of fruitfulness, provision, and the removal of reproach flow from this restored relationship. But alongside these blessings is also a humble awareness (v.31). This is not meant to be a toxic, shaming despair, but rather, clarity. The redeemed never forget what they have been saved from. They recognize that their salvation is entirely an act of grace. Grace humbles us before it lifts us.

Finally, God invites His restored people into partnership through prayer (v.37). The once-scattered people will multiply like a holy flock, filling what was once desolate. This promise began to unfold when exiles returned to the land, but its greater fulfillment is found in the Kingdom of Christ. Through the Gospel, God brings people out of the captivity of sin and into a better country, a living, spiritual kingdom (*Hebrews 12:22*). What Ezekiel foresaw is now a present reality: a cleansed, Spirit-filled people walking in fellowship with their God, bearing witness to His restoring power.

Prayerfully consider the following this week: Take a moment to remember anew your experience of God’s cleansing and renewal in your own life. Ask God if there are areas where a “heart of stone” still resists His shaping, and how you might surrender those to Holy Spirit? In what ways can your life reflect the fruitfulness and restoration of God’s sanctifying work so that others are drawn to seek and glorify Him?

Weekly Memory Verse:

“And by the river on its bank, on one side and on the other, will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither and their fruit will not fail.”

Ezekiel 47:12

Weekly Affirmation:

**I WILL BEAR THE FRUIT
OF HOLY SPIRIT!**

MARCH 2026 GROWTH GOALS

- Read the Book of Ezekiel
- Watch the Bible Project video on Ezekiel (*available on the website*).
- Memorize one of the weekly memory verses.
- Listen to or sign a hymn or praise song as part of your daily devotion time this week.