

The New Heart at Salvation

- I.** “Heart” connotes a person’s intent, or purpose.
1. The natural heart originates thoughts that produce unrighteous activity (Mt. 15:19; Gen. 6:5).
 2. The holiness of God is the characteristic that each Person of the Godhead maintaining the completeness of His own perfection. God’s holiness demands judgment against all that is unlike Him—unholy (1 Jn. 4:10).
- II.** The new heart at salvation.
1. An individual believes in his heart to be saved (Rom. 10:9-10).
 2. Belief in the Gospel is the one requirement for salvation (Rom. 4:5). (*step?*)
 3. The natural heart cannot know the spiritual significance of the Gospel, might know the historical facts (1 Cor. 2:14).
 4. Believing the Gospel is the result of divine enabling, not self-determination, or salesmanship (1 Cor. 3:5; Phil. 1:29; Gal. 3:22).
 5. The unsaved are blinded to the import of the Gospel by Satan (2 Cor. 4:3).
 6. Satan blinds by disrupting their rational process: produces wrong conclusion (2 Cor. 4:4).
- III.** The Holy Spirit shines the truth of the Gospel into the person (2 Cor. 4:4).
1. The Holy Spirit lifts the Satanic blindness.
 2. The Holy Spirit illumines the person to the truth of the Gospel.
 - 1) Of sin, disobedience of not believing God (Jn. 16:8-9).
 - 2) Of the righteousness of Christ (Jn. 16:10).
 - 3) Of judgment, because all unrighteousness will be judged—even Satan is judged (Jn. 17:11 *cf.* 14:30).
 3. The illumination to the Gospel corresponds to the new believer’s conception (1 Jn. 3:9; 1 Pet. 1:23).
 4. Conception precedes birth; they are not the same: both physically and spiritually (Jn. 3:4).
 5. The illumination from the Holy Spirit is using the individual’s new mind given at conception.
- Conclusion:** Salvation is a gift, freely given by grace, not earned, and the work of the Holy Spirit—not the human.