

New,
Expanded
Edition

My Heart- Christ's Home

Robert Boyd
Munger

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CHRIST'S HOME**

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In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul writes these words: “That [God] may grant you to be strengthened with might through his Spirit in the inner man, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith” (Eph 3:16-17). Or, as another has translated, “That Christ may settle down and be at home in your hearts by faith” (Weymouth).

Without question one of the most remarkable Christian doctrines is that Jesus Christ himself through the Holy Spirit will actually enter a heart, settle down and be at home

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there. Christ will live in any human heart that welcomes him.

He said to his disciples, “If a man loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him” (Jn 14:23). But he was also telling them that he was soon to leave them (Jn 13:33). It was difficult for them to understand what he was saying. How was it possible for him both to leave them and make his home with them at the same time?

It is interesting that Jesus uses a similar concept here (*home*) that he uses earlier in John 14: “I go to prepare a *place* for you . . . that where I am, you may be also” (vv. 2-3). He was promising that just as he was going to heaven to prepare a place for them and would one day welcome them there, so it would be possible for them to prepare a place for him in their hearts now. He would

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come and make his home with them right here.

This was beyond their comprehension. How could it be?

Then came Pentecost. The Spirit of the living Christ was given to the church and they experienced what he had foretold. Now they understood. God did not dwell in Herod's Temple in Jerusalem—nor in any temple made with hands! Now, through the miracle of the outpoured Spirit, God would dwell in human hearts. The body of the believer had become the temple of the living God and the human heart the home of Jesus Christ. Thirty minutes after Pentecost the disciples knew more about Jesus than they had known in the three years previously. It is difficult for me to think of a higher privilege than to make for Christ a home in my heart, to welcome, to serve, to please and to know him there.

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