



# NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

**“Turn to Christ today, because like the Green Stamp program, your opportunity for redemption will expire.”**

## Green Stamps

*When I was growing up, I remember my mother would go to stores and get Green Stamps as a bonus for her purchases. I remember spending hours licking those stamps in books. I remember going to the S&H Green Stamp Redemption Center on Roosevelt Ave in York. We would redeem those books of stamps for a lot of good items instead of using money. (See [1975 Green Stamp catalog](#).)*

*“S&H Green Stamps were trading stamps popular in the US. They were distributed as part of a rewards program operated by the Sperry & Hutchinson company (S&H). S&H began offering the stamps, in 1896, primarily to supermarkets, gasoline filling stations, and stores. They bought the stamps from S&H and gave them as bonuses to shoppers based on the dollar amount of a purchase. (During WWII, York’s A.M.F. plant gave them to their employees as incentives to meet goals). Customers were to paste the S&H stamps into booklets, and when they had accumulated enough booklets full of S&H stamps they could “redeem” them at an S&H Green Stamp redemption center for “gifts”—merchandise, such as golf clubs or blenders. S&H accounted for 40% of the US trading stamp business and more than 60% of US consumers saved S&H stamps; the industry annually issued 400 billion stamps to more than 200,000 stores, and they were distributed to the public in connection with retail sales of \$40 billion. (They produced three times more stamps than the US Postal Service. One school in Erie, Pa saved up 5.4 million Green Stamps to buy a pair of gorillas for a local zoo.) The program had its greatest popularity during the mid-1960s, but a series of recessions during the 1970s decreased sales of green stamps. The value of the rewards also declined creating a general downward spiral.” [S&H Green Stamps Wikipedia Trading Stamp Story](#) and [S&H Stamp Trading Company Wikipedia](#).*

*Redemption comes from the Latin word redimere, a combination of re(d), meaning “back,” and emere, meaning “buy.” With S&H, they sold the stamps to the merchants. The merchants gave them to the consumer. The consumer in turn sold or exchanged them back to S&H for items.*

*When God created the earth, Adam, and Eve everything was perfect. Then mankind sinned and everything became imperfect and evil. “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned” Rom 5:12 Then God sent His Son Jesus to buy mankind back. “If by one man’s offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.” Rom 5:17 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.” Rom 3:23, 24*

*Like with Green Stamps, you may have the item for redemption in your hand but unless you go to the redemption center, the credit for the free gift will do you no good. Once you confess to God that you are a sinner, and believe that the Lord Jesus died on the cross for our sins, then you can be marked as one of the **redeemed**. Your S&H stamp will then be **Saved & Heaven Bound**. Your gifts will be a new life, forgiveness, love, joy, peace, hope, salvation, eternal life and so much more. Become redeemed today!*



*Charles L Stambaugh*

*Mt Wolf, PA 3/2017*

*In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace. Eph 1 :7*



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