

A RESTORED CHURCH

Lesson 11

Introduction: Several years ago I did my one and only Christian television appearance. On that show I shared with the watching audience **4 Pictures of the Church**. I shared that these 4 pictures were **four values** upon which we were building our local church. Since that time the Lord has added 3 more for a total of **7 Pictures/Values**. Over these next 7 weeks, as we share these values, you will clearly understand what is important to us and where our emphasis will be.

***IN THIS CLASS WE WILL DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING POINTS...**

- A Restored Church: What is it?
- A Backward Look: What does it look like?
- A Forward Look: Why it's so important to God and us.

***MT 16:16 – “I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH, AND THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT OVERCOME IT.”**

1. A RENEWED CHURCH → A RESTORED CHURCH

Ez 37:4-7, 10 – “Then He said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make **BREATH enter you and you will come to life. I will **attach TENDONS** to you and **make FLESH** come upon you and cover you with skin’ ... and the **BONES** came together, bone to bone ... **THEY CAME TO LIFE AND STOOD UP ON THEIR FEET – A VAST ARMY.**”*

A. WE TEND TO WORSHIP THE “MOVES OF GOD”, RATHER THAN THE “GOD WHO MOVES”!

Is 43:18-19 – “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, **I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?”*

1. Article: THE RENEWAL IS DEAD.
2. The “BUDDING ROD”

B. TRUTH IS: BOTH ARE NEEDED, BUT RESTORATION IS BEING EMPHASIZED!

2. A BACKWARD LOOK – WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

A. **RESTORATION** – *“The act of restoring something to a former condition ... the process of repairing or renovating something”*

- **REPAIRING & RENOVATING → FORMER CONDITION**
- **REMOVAL / RECOVERY → ORIGINAL & PATTERN**

B. THE PATTERN

Heb 8:5 – “ They serve in a system of worship that is only a copy, a shadow of the real one in heaven. For when Moses was getting ready to build the Tabernacle, God gave him this warning: “Be sure to make everything according to the pattern that I have shown you...**”*

**1 Cor 3:10 – “...I laid a foundation as an expert builder, ... but each one should be careful how he builds.”*

**Acts 2:42-47 – “They devoted themselves to the Apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe and many signs and wonders done ... All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”*

1. PURITY

**Mk 11:11, 15 – “Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the temple. He looked around at everything ... the next day ... Jesus entered the temple area and began driving out...”*

- JOHN, JESUS, PETER – 1ST MESSAGE: REPENTANCE
- EVERY MAJOR REVIVAL IN HISTORY BEGAN WITH REPENTANCE AND PURITY!

**Acts 5:12-14 – “The apostles performed many miracles, signs and wonders among the people ... No one else dared joined them, even though they were highly regarded by the people. Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number.”*
(This is after the death of Ananias & Sapphira for lying to the Holy Spirit)

**Acts 19:18-20 – “Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed their evil deeds. A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly ... In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.”*

2. PRAYER

**Mk 11:17 – “My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.”*

**Acts 1-13 – Prayer is mentioned in every chapter except for 5 & 11!*

**Luke 18:7 – “Now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night...”*

**Lev 6:13 – “A fire shall always be burning on the altar, it shall never go out.”*

- GOD IS RAISING UP “IHOPS” IN DAYTON!

3. PRAISE

**1 Chron 23-25 – King David organized 4,000 musicians and 288 singers to worship around the clock.*

**Acts 15:16 – “After this I will return and rebuild David’s fallen tent. It’s ruins I will rebuild, and I will restore it.”*

**Lev 6:13 – “A fire shall always be burning on the altar, it shall never go out.”*

- THE IHOP MODEL COMBINES PRAISE & PRAYER!

4. POWER

Mt 21:14 – “The blind and the lame came to Him at the temple, and **He healed them.”*

Acts 1:8 – “You will receive **power when the Holy Spirit comes on you”*

1 Cor 12:1 – “Now concerning **spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant.”*

- Analogy of “Stereo Systems NOT PLUGGED IN”
- WE WILL NEED POWER IN THESE LAST DAYS!

5. POSITIONS

- FIVE-FOLD LEADERSHIP

Eph 4:11 – “It was He who gave some to be **apostles, some to be **prophets**, some to be **evangelists** and some to be **pastors** and **teachers**.”*

**Mark 3:5 – “‘Stretch out your hand.’ He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored.”*

- ELDERS

Acts 14:23 – “Paul and Barnabus **appointed elders for them in each church...”*

- MINISTERING BODY (E.M.I. / T.E.A.M.)

Rom 12:5-6 – “...so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. **We have different gifts.”*

*1 Cor 14:26 – “When you come together **everyone has a hymn**, or word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation...”*

- SERVANTS

Mt 23:11 – “The greatest among you will be your **servant.”*

**Jn 13 – An entire lesson will be devoted to this later!*

6. PARTNERS (RELATIONSHIPS)

Acts 2:44 – “All the believers were **together...”*

7. PROGRESS / PLENTY / PLUNDER

Mk 16:15 – “Go into all the world and **preach the Gospel...”*

**Act 1:8 cf 8:1 – When the early church became introverted and was failing at the Great Commission, God drove them out!*

3. A FORWARD LOOK – WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?

A. SECOND COMING

Acts 3:21 – “He must **remain in heaven until the time come for God to restore everything...”*

- **JESUS IS HELD BACK UNTIL THIS HAPPENS!**
- **WE HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE TIMING**

B. PREPARE

1. THE WAY OF THE LORD

**Lu 3:4 – “V voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way of the Lord’”*

- **If a King were coming the roads were improved...**
- **Intercessors, Evangelist, etc...**

2. THE BRIDE OF CHRIST

**Rev 22:17 – “The Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come’”*

**Eph 5:27 – “...and to present her to Himself as a radiant church without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish...”*

- **The chief identity of the Church in the final days will be as a Bride longing for the Bridegroom!**

CONCLUSION: On June 4, 1977, at the very on-set of our ministry and again on March 25, 1984 at the beginning of the first church plant, God showed me that I would have a part in this restoration ministry by giving me the same scripture (Isaiah 58:10-12); first to myself from Him directly, the second time through a prophet...

**Isaiah 58:10-12 –*

10 ...if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.

11 The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.

*12 Your people will **REBUILD** the ancient ruins and will **RAISE UP** the age-old foundations; you will be called **REPAIRER** of Broken Walls, **RESTORER** of Streets with Dwellings.*