

# RESTORATION REVIVAL

lesson seven

BACK TO PENTECOST

The title of our radio broadcast is  
**Restoration Revival Hour.**

In this series of lessons, we want to study the meaning behind that title. This should give greater awareness of the need of the hour in which we live. It is an hour when God is wanting to restore and revive His people, that they may be found watching and waiting - ready at the coming of the Bridegroom for His Bride.



# BACK TO PENTECOST



## LESSON SEVEN

In light of what we have studied thus far, we can see that restoration is pretty important!

Many of God's people have to be restored today. Maybe this is true with you. Maybe there are some things in your life that need to be restored.

When someone's health has failed, he needs to have his health restored if he's going to be well once again. Can God restore your health?

We all know He can. He can bring mighty healing and deliverance to one whose whole health has failed.

Can God restore a marriage that is falling apart?  
Can God put a marriage back together? Can God do it?

And, where restoration is needed, can God restore? Let's accept in our hearts that we can't do it - but God can.

Yes, it takes God to bring forth restoration. But one thing it also takes if we want God to restore is for us to reach out in faith - and, from the depths of our hearts, look to God; believe God; stand with God; ask God; and He will do it.

### RESTORATION IN OUR DAY

In this last day, we need to see God bring forth a great revival that will bring restoration to the church. The church needs to go back.

Remember, now, revival won't take you forward - it will always take you back. . . and, from that point, you will start to go forward.

### HOW FAR BACK?

We need to go all the way back  
to the Book of Acts.

Acts 2:41

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Acts 4:4

Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

Acts 5:14

And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.

As we look at the church in the book of Acts - we look with envy. We look at those precious saints of God - at their dedication; at the way they lived; at the power and blessing of God that was upon Him and we realize that this is the way it ought to be today.

In that one book we see the message of God carried forth with power from Jerusalem to the rest of Judaea, on into Samaria, and out to the heathen in the regions beyond - all in that one book of the Bible.

God was moving in wondrous ways back then.  
And He's wanting to move the same way today!

What they had in those days,  
the world needs now.

If those saints were here in this world today -  
with that same power  
that same enthusiasm  
that same anointing  
that same determination -  
I wonder if this world would be a better place to live in.

I wonder what type of messages they'd carry into some of the churches today. I'm sure they'd bring a sin-killing message.

They said it like it was in those days, and multitudes were saved. They didn't tolerate sin in their camp for one moment!

We've got too many examples to show us that they weren't fooling around. They had the power and the unction and the anointing - and God was with them!

Wouldn't you like to have been there in some of those great churches that Paul founded out amongst the heathen? Wouldn't you like to drop in during one of those services?

**What about the Corinthian church?** Many label it as the carnal church - but, if they call that church carnal, what would they call the church of today?

God didn't call that church the carnal church - some carnal preaches of our day do, but God didn't.

Granted, they had their problems - there were loads of people coming in and getting saved, and they brought problems with them. Whenever you bring new converts into the church, they'll come with problems.

But we've got to be willing to meet those problems when they come, and face up to the reality that people need help, they need unshackled and delivered.

Yes, they need to receive sound teaching, that they might get into the place of receiving the full blessing of God in their lives.

Go back to that glorious day of Pentecost - when the power fell! Wouldn't you like to have been there? What an anointing they received that day!

Acts 2:2

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

Now, do we **really** want restoration?

Would we **really** want to go all the way back to Pentecost?

Do we **really** want to be restored all the way back to the basics of the early church?

**We might have to change some things!** We might have to change a lot more than we think if we want to go all the way back there to the basics.

They had such a power and such an anointing - they had such a love and such a fellowship and such a kinship: nobody considered anything they possessed as being their private property.

## ALL THINGS COMMON

Do you still want to go all the way back? Would you be willing to have all things in common with the other believers?

Acts 2:44

And all that believed were together,  
and had all things common;

That will be the day when I consider what I possess as not being my own!!

But that's the way the early church was - and they were all in one mind and one accord. And with great power they gave witness to the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

Do we have to be restored back that far? Couldn't we be restored back just a few hundred years?

How far back do you really want to go? That's a good question. Think about it. How much do you really want restoration? How much do you really want God to restore of the lost blessings to the church?

## BACK TO PERSECUTION!

Do you want to go back to the days of persecution that came upon the early church because they had so much power with God?

Acts 5:17-18

Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison.

Acts 7:54

When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

Acts 8:3-4

As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison. Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

Acts 12:1-2

Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

**How far back do you really want to go?**

Do you **really** want to go all the way back? Do you **really** want to be a disciple of Jesus? Do you **really** want to walk with Jesus in the manner the Word implies you're to walk?

Luke 9:23

And He said to them all,  
If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself,  
and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

**Are you willing to do this?** Are you willing to take up your cross daily to follow the Master?

If you want to see true restoration, that's the place you have to begin.

**If you want to see the fullness  
of the blessing and power of God restored,**

**YOU HAVE TO GO GOD'S WAY!.**

Listen, do you think the church is going to get such a great blessing as this without Satan standing to interfere and oppose and resist?

**When you stop to look at it, the church has been given over to the hand of the devil.** They have made it very easy for him, by getting more and more and more lukewarm.

**BEING LUKEWARM  
IS AN OPENING FOR THE DEVIL**

You don't really realize how lukewarm the churches are. If you only knew how lukewarm many of the churches are throughout the world today!

If you understood how lukewarm they really are - yet they continue on, boasting and thinking everything is just fine - thinking they have need of nothing - just like they did in the Laodicean church.

I can preach to you the fulness of God's blessing, preach to you God's desire to bring restoration - but it's up to you whether or not you take it to heart.

It's up to you to take it into your prayer closet and tell God how far back you want to go.

**Go back** to the fulness of the blessing that God once delivered unto the saints.

**Go back** to that blessing, back to that salvation that was once delivered unto the saints.

**How far back do you want to go?**

Is it in your heart to want to go back to the blessing of Pentecost, yet you find you have reservations? - reservations about committing yourself to going all the way back.

**How far back do you want God to take us?**

Would you want us to go back to the fulness and power of the blessing of Pentecost again?

back to the place where the power of God is so strong that someone like Ananias and Sapphira would fall down dead - because they, like Achan, defiled God's people?

Do you really want the blessing?

How much of that old way do you really want?

Are you willing to go back to the Gospels and the teaching of the New Testament - and live by all of it?

**Not just picking and choosing that which you want - but living by all of it?**

**Do you really want to go back?**

**Do any of your garments have to be changed?  
Are any of them filthy?**

I'm not talking about going back under the law. I'm talking about going back under grace! restored back to that place of the fulness of the power of the blessing of God. Do you want to go back?

Oh, I'm saved!  
I'm comfortable just the way I am!  
I'm happy with the blessings I already have!  
I'm ready for the coming of Jesus!

So why don't you forget about restoration, and just continue on the way you are? you don't need any more - or do you?

Are you stuck with a little bit of your own ways? your own self-will? stuck with some of the old man, yet?

Maybe you're all set the way you are now! Maybe you have it made already! Maybe you shouldn't even consider that there would be a need of restoration, a need of going back!

Are you satisfied right where you are spiritually? Or do you want that old-fashioned blessing in your life?

You know where you stand. Do you need more? Do you want more? Do you think God wants you to have more? Are you willing to submit to God in order to receive more?

Hosea 10:12

Sow to yourselves in righteousness,  
reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground:  
for it is time to seek the Lord,  
till He come and rain righteousness upon you.

Are you willing to go all the way in reaching out to God that He might begin a new work in your life to prepare you for true restoration?

Remember, now, restoration is going all the way -  
**ALL THE WAY BACK!**

Would you like to go back to the book of Acts?

The early church really magnified the Lord. I wonder how they worshipped Him in the early church. I wonder if they got excited. I wonder if they ever had a hallelujah time.

- see [1 Corinthians 14:40](#) Notice that this verse doesn't tell us to keep quiet in church, to be stiff and formal. It says to let all things be done decently and in order.

If you want to praise God, praise Him - but be decent and in order - not shouting praises to God while He is trying to speak through prophecy - yet shouting praises to God when it is in order, when it is time to praise the Lord.

You say you wouldn't mind going back and seeing some of those great things of God - even if it brought tribulation and suffering but I don't know about that!

**Are you really willing  
to go through the consequences of true revival?**

Wouldn't it be wonderful to have God restore you right back in the book of Acts, right on those pages of the New Testament.

### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT!**

This modern way isn't as good as people think it is. God looks at this modern way and says, **You say you're rich and in need of nothing - and yet don't know that you're actually poor and wretched; naked and blind.**

### **In the previous lesson:**

I took time to bring things to your heart and mind from the Scriptures that reflect prophecy - God dealing with the children of Israel about the 70 years of captivity because of their ungodly ways.

God allowed Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, to carry Israel out of their land.

They were disinherited from that promised land and brought to Babylon, where they remained in captivity for 70 long years.

Seventy years is a long time to be under the chastening hand of God.

**LET'S LOOK FURTHER AT THIS TOPIC**

**OF RESTORATION**

**OF A COMING BACK**

Zechariah 3:1-2

And he shewed me Joshua the high priest  
standing before the angel of the Lord,  
and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.

And the Lord said unto Satan,  
The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan;  
even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem  
rebuke thee:  
is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

We see restoration at work - but, along with restoration, we see someone else at work.

Joshua the high priest was standing before the angel of the Lord - and we see that Satan came to stand there as well, attempting to resist him.

You know, the evil one will put up a battle. He will put up a fight - doing anything and everything he can to hinder revival, to hinder restoration, to hinder people getting saved, to hinder people getting closer to Jesus, to hinder people from going on and going all the way with the Lord.

EXPECT OPPOSITION

You can count on it!  
It will be that way every time!

When we're drawing closer to Jesus, we wonder why we meet such opposition, such hardships.

When we're striving to really bring revival blessing to God's people, we wonder why there is all of this resistance facing us.

Here, in this account about Joshua the high priest, we find God wanting to move and to bless - and we find the devil at work to resist.

Yes, he was right there to hinder in every way he could.

Way back in the wilderness Jesus met the devil head on. He stood against the wiles of the devil with the Word of God.

He was severely tested and tried - yet He came forth as gold tried in the fire.

While you're on this earth there will always be that opposition. The devil is ever standing to resist you and hinder you in what God has for you to do.

**THE MINISTRY  
is the first  
TO BE OPPOSED BY THE ENEMY**

As we look at this account in Zechariah, first of all let's put it in context: note that it was the high priest that was being resisted here.

The ministry is the first to expect that the devil will be on the job in whatever way he can to hinder them from what God calls them to do.

If you think you can have an effective ministry without any opposition, you're sadly mistaken.

**You're out of touch with reality  
if you think you can have e a great blessing  
and not find opposition.**

The enemy is ever there to oppose anything and everything that God does to restore.

**The only way to avoid his opposition is to join ranks!**

The devil was glad to see the children of Israel cast out of their land. He rejoiced at that.

He was glad to see them meet the sword and the famine, to see multitudes perish.

They didn't all get carried away to Babylon. Many died in the land in the midst of the war. Yes, many died in the battle that was fought before the remnant was carried to Babylon. Many met the sword and famine and pestilence - and never made it to Babylon.

God allowed the rest to be carried away to Babylon **for their own good!** - that He might preserve a people for Himself, raising up a remnant to go back home.

He raised up those who would be glad to be back home, who would desire the blessing - **and who would enter into the blessing when it came.**

The only way they could break out of the spiritual rut they were in was for God to utterly root them up - but Satan rejoiced at that.

The last thing in the world Satan wanted to see was for the temple to be built again; the last thing he wanted to see was for the presence of the Lord to return to the temple, and for the children of Israel to be loving and serving God.

Yes, the last thing Satan wanted to see was a restoration of the nation Israel. He knew what all of this meant, and he'd do anything he could to destroy the children of Israel.

In this account he now sees the blessing coming, and stands at the door to resist and hinder.

Does this add up to you?

Can you see the pattern  
of the way things are  
when you want a blessing?

I don't think we ought to be ignorant, then, of the devil's devices.

You want God to do something in your life! you want a blessing! you want God to do some great things in your church and in the nation!

- and you find the enemy resisting  
every step of the way.

Do you think it makes the devil glad when you're crying out to God, seeking out restoration? Do you think he's happy with your prayers? Do you think he's happy to see you faithfully attending prayer meeting?

Do you think all this makes him happy? or do you think he's standing to resist you?

Many of the things we face and go through are nothing more than Satan standing against us to resist the move of God.

Back in Zechariah, now, we see where the devil was standing to resist Joshua the high priest.

He was standing to resist what God was about to do.

**The stage is all set:** there's going to be a blessing, and Satan is going to do his best to hinder it.

Here is an angel of the Lord - and here also is a fallen angel. They are both standing by Joshua the high priest, each with a different purpose.

**The Lord certainly had something to say in this battle - even to Satan.**

Zechariah 3:2

**And the Lord said unto Satan,  
The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan.**

There's the best solution I know of to get the devil off your back: for you to stand in the holy place with God, where God will rebuke the devil - and you can quote God, speaking His words with authority - because they are His words.

I thank God for the privilege of being able to quote Him as His child: **Satan, the Lord rebuke thee!**

That's much more effective, and carries a lot more weight than for me to say, **Satan, I rebuke you!** After all, who am I in comparison to God?

Luke 10:19

**Behold, I give unto you power  
to tread on serpents and scorpions,  
and over all the power of the enemy:  
and nothing shall by any means hurt you.**

When we use that mighty name of Jesus, coming against Satan in His name - that's the Lord rebuking the devil!

We recognize, then, there is power in that name to rebuke the enemy - and he should be rebuked. He needs to be rebuked.

Here he is resisting God, resisting the move of God -

**and shouldn't he be rebuked  
for resisting God Almighty?**

I think people ought to be rebuked, too, when they resist God. There are always those folks that won't get into the move of God - yet stand to hinder those who would enter in.

Now, in this account, we see Satan intends to do his best to try and hinder - and we also see God rebuking him.

God is saying, then, that He's not about to let Satan prevail in what he's standing here to resist and do.

Daniel was in Babylon during that captivity - and he relates how some were tried - being thrown into the fiery furnace; cast into the lion's den - [Daniel 3 & 6](#) - yet came forth as gold tried in the fire.

Israel needed this same kind of counsel while they were in Babylon. God told them they were to be carried out of the land, dispersed among the nations, losing everything, uprooted and carried abroad - [and then, when they got over there, they found the white raiment the Lord wanted to give them to replace their filthy garments.](#)

They found over there that they had taken God for granted. They didn't realize He intended to do just as He said He would do.

And, now,  
what are we going to do  
with this last day church?

We realize that this lukewarm, last day, apostate church will be cast right into the tribulation. It will be brought to that place that's spoken of in the Word - thrown into the valley of Achor - [Hosea 2:15](#)

[The valley of Achor](#) was a place of judgment for sin. In the days of Joshua we find a man named Achan - [Joshua 7](#).

Achan defiled the whole army of God by his sin. He brought the battle to conquer the promised land unto a screeching halt - until Joshua fell on his face, crying out to see what was wrong:

[Why did we have such a victory at Jericho - and yet meet such a defeat against such a small army in the city of Ai?](#)

God said to Joshua, **I'm not going to deal with you any more.** He became very alarmed. God said He wasn't going to deal any more - **EXCEPT. . .**

**except Joshua rise up to get the sin out of the camp.**

There wasn't much hope of God's blessing any more, until the children of Israel - all those God considered to have sinned - were cleansed and set free.

God was going to bring judgment for that sin - not just the fact that Achan had sinned - but that he had sinned against God, and brought the army to a halt.

Yes, Achan brought God's nation into a place of condemnation.

So they took Achan and his family out into the valley of Achor, where judgment was brought down on them for that sin. They were stoned and burned. And a pile of rocks was left there to show others that this is where God stopped and got the sin out of the camp.

**This army's going to march on. This army's going to conquer the land. But first sin had to be dealt with.**

Oh, we like to have revival - but we don't like sin to be dealt with. You want great blessings on your life - but you don't want sin to be dealt with in your life.

This is the problem many face. The Lord is saying that the church needs help; it's going to need deliverance - but it's not going to want its sins dealt with.

In Revelations we find the Lord is rebuking them and saying they are lukewarm - miserable - naked - wretched - and blind.

They need a covering for their sin. They need to get back to basics - they need to get restored, and get back to the foundation of Jesus Christ - and Him crucified!

When Achan sinned,  
God dealt with that sin  
that sin had to be confessed

**People want revival! they want restoration!  
- but they don't want sin dealt with.**

God not only dealt with the sin -

He dealt with it according to the law  
and Achan had to be stoned to death!

That was legal, and according to the law. They weren't  
out of bounds to bring such an end to the matter.

They made an example of Achan, that others  
shouldn't want to follow his pathway.

We look at the valley of Achor and see that awful  
judgment which came to Achan and his house.

And this is a figurative picture that's carried out  
through the Scripture - looking at the valley of  
Achor as a place of judgment, a place where  
God will deal with sin in a firm, severe way.

When the children of Israel were carried away to  
Babylon, God dealt with the sin in their land. He dealt  
with them time and again.

Judgment had to come forth -  
and God allowed it to come.

The fiery indignation of the Lord was upon them - He  
was punishing them, yet in His heart He was going to  
keep them unto Himself.

He was going to send them to Babylon as an act of  
judgment, and then raise up a people out of them,  
bringing this remnant back to set them up again in the  
land.

WHEN SIN IS IN THE CAMP -

WE NEED RESTORATION!



In our next lesson  
we will take a look at what is involved  
in having restoration  
in YOUR temple.

Take the Test