

# Renewal, Restoration and Rebuilding

2021 HNI North Regional – Sept. 30-Oct.1

Three Categories of “Newness” a Christian leader must respond to:

**1. Changes that are forced upon us. Here are some examples:**

- **Automobiles and the mobility they made possible**
  - **The internet**
  - **The COVID related restrictions/shutdowns**
  - **Every “next” generation with shifting experiences and resultant worldview**
  - **What are some others?**
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- What has changed in the past 100 years?
  - What has changed in the past 75 years?
  - What has changed in the past 50 years?
  - What has changed in the past 25 years?
  - What has changed in the past 2 years?

**2. Changes initiated by the Lord**

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.* Isaiah 43:19 (NIV)

**When New Wine needs New Wineskins**

*Then John's disciples came and asked him, "How is it that we and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom mourn while he is with them? The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; then they will fast. "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment, making the tear worse. Neither do men pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved."* Matthew 9:14-17 (NIV)

**3. Times of refreshing and revitalizing a people who have become disconnected**

*"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.* John 15:5-8 (NIV)

*"And now, brethren, I know that you acted in ignorance, just as your rulers did also. "But the things which God announced beforehand by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled. "Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time.*

Acts 3:17-21 (NASB)

#### **4. When Retro is Relevant and Renewing**

*This is what the LORD says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. But you said, 'We will not walk in it.'*

Jeremiah 6:16 (NIV)

#### **An Old Puritan Proverb:**

*"Good religion gave birth to prosperity and prosperity rose up and killed its mother."*

What are the nonnegotiable things of the Kingdom that tend to slip away, especially in times of prosperity and success?

- Passion for and dependence on the "Master"
- Region or Relationship? God's desire is New Birth, not just orthodox belief
- Prayer in all its kinds. Worship, intercession, repentance
- On-going commitment to personal growth – Becoming more and more like Christ
- Listening to the Holy Spirit rather than following "common sense" alone
- Obedience regardless of personal cost
- Giving priority to the Great Commission and ministries of compassion

#### **What are the "ancient paths?"**

*The believers 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 wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. 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.*

Acts 2:42-47 (NIV)

1. Apostolic \_\_\_\_\_
2. Each \_\_\_\_\_
3. Being in daily \_\_\_\_\_ (Including eating together)
4. Worship: \_\_\_\_\_ God with gladness and sincerity

#### **What was the result?**

Favor from \_\_\_\_\_ and

Spontaneous \_\_\_\_\_ of the believing community!