

✓ Don't Drawback

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Don't Draw Back - Engage Again

I. The Need for Revival

1. There has been a Global shaking during these past three years...and More is to come

- Believers have experienced pressure and challenges
- Churches have gone through upheaval and diminished or closed
- All these things are prophesied in the Bible in OT and in NT
- Everything will be shaken that can be shaken Hag.2:7, Heb.12:26-28
- [Hag 2:7](#) and I will **shake all nations**, and they shall **come to the Desire of All Nations**, and I will fill this temple with **glory**, 'says the LORD of hosts.
 - **Global Shaking...nations, finances**
 - **End-Time Harvest**
 - **Glory of The Lord**

2. The Valley of Dry Bones

- [Ezk 37:1](#) The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the **midst of the valley; and it was full of bones.**
[Ezk 37:2](#) Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, **there were very many** in the open valley; and indeed **they were very dry.**
- [Ezk 37:10](#) So I prophesied as He commanded me, and **breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.**
[Ezk 37:11](#) Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are **dry**, our **hope is lost**, and we **ourselves are cut off!**'"
- Valleys in the Bible were places of battle
- The Valley was full of bones...people who had fallen in the battle..very many
 - *Very Dry*.....withered and having no life at all
 - *Lost Hopes*.....dreams and expectations for the future lost
 - *Cut off*.....become disconnected from God, from one another, from destiny as people
- The prophetic word cause life to come again...a great endtime army

II. Don't Draw Back!

1. What does it mean to "Draw Back?"

- [Heb.10:38](#) Now the just shall live by faith, but if **anyone draws back my soul has no pleasure in him**
- God desires a personal relationship with us that brings him pleasure and joy
 - We are made right with God by faith in Christ.
 - God desires that we continue in faith as a lifestyle
 - *Without faith we cannot please God (Heb.11:6)*
- Heb.11 is full of people in different generations that brought God pleasure by their faith
 - They were not perfect people...they had flaws but God drew pleasure from their faith
 - They have all run their race ...now it is our turn
- "Draw back"Greek.....hupostello....
 - *To withdraw oneself*
 - *To withhold out of sight*
 - *To shrink away*
 - *To become timid, or fearful*
 - *To hold back from declaring*
- To "draw back" means to be unwilling to commit to, or to declare what we believe to be true
 - Drawing back is a **heart condition**
 - It is a loss of trust or confidence in God and His Word
 - It is an unwillingness to yield and surrender to Him

2. What Happens when People "Draw Back"?

- "Drawing back" can be a **slow process** that we **may be unaware of**
 - Our heart gradually withers and **withdraws** from close connection

- Our heart and **passion** for the presence and Word of God slowly dries up
 - We draw back from the Supernatural and from risk taking
 - When passion and hunger for God goes we spiritually **stagnate** and grow cold
 - **We become “religious” having a form but no power, and living out of yesterdays testimony**
- **The Consequences of drawing back become evident gradually not usually immediately**
- Relationship and intimacy with the Lord dries up...withered, stagnant
 - We become focussed on **avoiding risk or responsibilities**
 - Our wife and family become uncovered in the spirit because their prayer life has vanished
 - There is a corresponding **Increase of demonic activity**
 - We become **drawn to distractions and unclean defiling substitutes**
 - There is a **decline in our spiritual leadership** of the family
 - There may develop relational dysfunction in marriage and family
 - Destructive patterns in relating form, that can become generational
 - We find ourselves in a “**spiritual and relational cave**”
- 3. What are the Consequences of Drawing Back?**
- There are always consequences when we draw back from God
1. We are **no longer living by faith** in God and His Word. (Heb.10:38)
 2. We **lose access** to God’s blessing and provision. (Heb.11:6)
 3. God has **no pleasure** in our relationship with Him. (Heb.10:38)
 4. We **lose the spiritual authority** attached to our assignment. (Lk.4:6)
 5. We become **vulnerable to demonic attack**. (1Kg.19:3-4)
 6. Those under our care and protection become **spiritually uncovered**.
 7. **Loss of the favour and approval** of God and **Reward** in the Kingdom. (Mt.16:27)

III. People who Drew Back

- 1. OT: Elijah (1King.19:1-4)**
- [1Ki 19:1](#) *And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword.*
- [1Ki 19:2](#) *Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."*
- [1Ki 19:3](#) *And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.*
- [1Ki 19:4](#) *But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, "It is enough! Now, LORD, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!"*
- **Why did Elijah Draw Back?**
- **Jezebelic attack! Witchcraft!**
- **What happened to Elijah when he drew back from his assignment?**
- He drew back under demonic attack.....(vs.3)
 - He **lost his spiritual positioning**.....(vs.3)
 - He refocussed on saving himself.....(vs.3)
 - He **isolated** himself..... (vs.3)
 - He became **passive**.....(vs.4)
 - He became **depressed and exhausted**.....(vs.4)
 - He entertained **suicidal** thoughts.....(vs.4)
- 2. NT: Jesus Teaching on End-Times**
- [Mat 24:42](#) *Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.*
- Jesus is teaching his disciples on the signs of the end of the age and of His coming again
- He repeatedly warns His disciples to **watch, and to be ready** because His coming will be sudden and secret
- **What does it mean to “Watch?”**
- *Watch.....Greek ...gregoreo*
 - *To stay alert*
 - *To be vigilant*
 - *To take heed lest calamity suddenly overtake you because of neglect of responsibility*
- **Watching is always connected with strong prayer, and cultivating a heart condition of faith and purity (Prov.4:23, Luk.21:34)**

3. Jesus Parables Warning His Disciples

- Jesus gives three parables to illustrate the need to be watchful and ready
 - **The focus of each parable is being ready.....not drawing back**
 - Each parable has more to say about the **one who drew back than the one who prepared**
 - Each parable reveals reward for the one who did not draw back but prepared
- **The Parable of the Wicked Servant (Matt.24:45-51)**
 - He drew back from **transformation of His character**
 - *"He said in his heart...My Lord delays His coming"(vs48)*
 - *"He began to mistreat the fellow servants and eat and drink with the drunken"*
 - Living in expectation of the King coming motivates us to endure difficulties and grow in character and glory
- **The Parable of the Foolish Virgins. (Matt.25:1-13)**
 - They drew back from **prayer and intimacy** and process which gives access to the anointing
 - *"Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out" (vs.8)*
 - *"No.....go rather to those who sell and buy for yourselves" (vs9)*
 - There is a personal price to pay to be ready for Jesus return
- **The Parable of the Talents (Matt.25:14-30)**
 - He drew back from **serving and buried his talent**
 - *"I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground" (vs25)*
- In each parable the ones that drew back and failed to fulfill their assignment suffered serious loss

IV. Key Reasons People Draw Back

Each is a heart issue.....and energised by demons

1. Fear: People become Fearful, Intimidated

- [2Ti 1:6](#) *Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.*
- [2Ti 1:7](#) *For God has not given us a **spirit of fear**, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*
 - Fear is a **demonic spirit** that opposes and intimidates the people and work of God
 - **Fear causes the heart to lose courage**
 - Fear causes people
 - To surrender to the influence of a Demonic Controlling Power
 - To cease operating in the supernatural
 - To draw back from serving and taking new territory
 - To focus on ourselves and our personal comfort
- The Constant media message of Covid season: **Be Afraid...Save yourself**
- Your **safe zone** during the crisis becomes your **prison zone** after the crisis

2. Offence: People become Offended

- [Mat 24:10](#) *And then **many** will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.*
 - Offense is a major weapon used by Satan against believers
 - **Offense is a heart issue energized by demons**
- **What is Offence?**
 - *Offense is a wall around the heart, built with pride and the refusal to forgive and extend grace*
 - Unresolved offenses lead to bitterness, demonization, and withdrawal from engagement

3. Disappointment: People become Disappointed

- [Pro 13:12](#) *Hope deferred makes the heart sick, But when the desire comes, it is a tree of life.*
- **What is Disappointment?**
- *Disappointment is a deep feeling of loss and sadness that what we expected or hoped for did not occur*
- **Disappointment is a heart issue energized by demons**
- **Five Consequences of Disappointments**
 - They **accumulate** if not resolved
 - They cause **loss of passion and expectation** for the future
 - They lead to **fear** of further disappointment
 - They cause a **drawing back from intimacy** and relationship with God
 - They are **exploited by Satan** to draw you from your assignment and destiny

4. Loss of First Love- Passion for The Presence of God

- [Rev 2:1](#) *"To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, 'These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden*

lampstands:

Rev 2:2 "I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars;

Rev 2:3 and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary.

Rev 2:4 **Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.**

Rev 2:5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place— unless you repent.

- **What is First Love?**
 - "Proton"....first in priority, rank, or importance
 - "Love".....agape....sacrificial covenant love
 - "Left"...aphiemi...to let go, like releasing, or a husband divorcing his wife

- **How do People Lose their First Love?**
 - Hidden sin....Heart grows cold
 - Neglect of heart condition
 - Neglect or personal Intimacy..hearing freshly
 - Familiarity
 - Weary in Well Doing
 - Lack of Appreciation
 - Distractions

V. Don't Draw Back- Resolve and Engage

1. Engage your heart!

- What Caused you to Draw Back?
- When did you draw back? Why?

- **Resolve your heart issues with help of Holy Spirit**
 - Recognise and take Responsibility
 - Grieve over the pain or loss openly before The Lord
 - **Repent** of drawing back from trusting
 - Forgive those who hurt and offended you

2. Engage Your Assignment

- **What do we mean "Engage"?**
 - "To become connected to and involved with"
 - "To participate actively"
 - "To assume an assignment or responsibility"
 - "To enter into the conflict or battle"
 - "To occupy your attention and efforts"

- **Every believer has their own assignment and a local church to belong to and participate in**

- **Example of David**
 - *Wept and strengthened himself in The Lord (1Sam.30:6)*
 - *Ran to his Goliath. (1Sam.17:47-48)*

- **Engage:**
 - Engage the Lord
 - Engage the Supernatural Realm
 - Engage the Vision
 - Engage your Assignment
 - Engage the Harvest

VI. Ministry

1. Salvation Altar Call
2. Restoration:
 - Fear
 - Offence
 - Disappointment

