

Restoration

“Restoration”: we will err, if we create our own definition of what biblical restoration means. We can always read into it what we want it to mean based on our imagination and experiences. We’re in danger of doing eisegesis, rather than exegesis, making scripture say what we want it to say, instead of what God wants it to say.

Let’s go into this with hearts open, no preconceived ideas.

1. RESTORATION BEGINS PROPHETICALLY.

“This is what the Lord says: “You will be in Babylon for seventy years. But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and I will bring you home again. For I know the plans I

have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me. I will be found by you,” says the Lord. “I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes. I will gather you out of the nations where I sent you and will bring you home again to your own land.””

Jeremiah 29:10-14 NLT

- BRING YOU HOME**
- PRAYER AND SEEKING**
- FREEDOM**
- MATERIAL PROSPERITY**

2. RESTORATION IS THE FRUIT OF SPIRITUAL AWAKENING.

“In the first year of King Cyrus of Persia, the Lord fulfilled the prophecy he had given through Jeremiah. He stirred the

heart of Cyrus to put this proclamation in writing and to send it throughout his kingdom:”

Ezra 1:1 NLT

“Then God stirred the hearts of the priests and Levites and the leaders of the tribes of Judah and Benjamin to go to Jerusalem to rebuild the Temple of the Lord.”

Ezra 1:5 NLT

3. RESTORATION BEGINS THE ALTAR.

“In early autumn, when the Israelites had settled in their towns, all the people assembled in Jerusalem with a unified purpose. Then Jeshua son of Jehozadak joined his fellow priests and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel with his family in rebuilding the altar of the God of Israel. They wanted to sacrifice burnt offerings on it, as instructed in the Law of Moses, the man of God. Even though the people

were afraid of the local residents, they rebuilt the altar at its old site. Then they began to sacrifice burnt offerings on the altar to the Lord each morning and evening.”

Ezra 3:1-3 NLT

PASTOR MIRIAM.....

If we skip the “altar”. Remove it from the temple. Refuse to rebuild it. We will still have something, but it will not be real spiritual life with Jesus. It will be all feelings, without the fire.

“Beloved friends, what should be our proper response to God’s marvelous mercies? I encourage you to surrender yourselves to God to be his sacred, living sacrifices. And live in holiness, experiencing all that delights his heart. For this becomes your genuine

expression of worship. Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern God's will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes."

Romans 12:1-2 TPT