

*Restore
What Has Been
Taken*

Philadelphia Church
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Definition

Restore - repair, renovate to original condition, rebuild, reinstate or bring back.



BEFORE



*Restore
damaged,
old photo*



AFTER



Joel 2:25

25 “I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm my great army that I sent among you.

Question

What have I lost spiritually that needs restoring?

Joel 2:25-32

25 “I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm my great army that I sent among you. 26 You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the Lord your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed. 27 Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the Lord your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed.

Joel 2:25-32 Cont.

28 “And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. 29 Even on my servants, both men and women I will pour out my Spirit in those days. 30 I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and billows of smoke. 31 The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. 32 And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved; for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance, as the Lord has said, even among the survivor whom the Lord calls.

2 truths

1. Judgment is a consequence of our actions
2. Warning is a display of His Mercy







How “Locusts” Eat Way At Us

1. Ineffectiveness
2. Hurt or loss
3. Selfishness
4. Rebellion or disobedience
5. Stubbornness
6. Lacking passion or love

Deuteronomy 30: 3-13 (MSG)

Here's what will happen. While you're out among the nations where God has dispersed you and the blessings and curses come in just the way I have set them before you, and you and your children take them seriously and come back to God, your God, and obey him with your whole heart and soul according to everything that I command you today, God, your God, will restore everything you lost; he'll have compassion on you; he'll come back and pick up the pieces from all the places where you were scattered. No matter how far away you end up, God, your God, will get you out of there and bring you back to the land your ancestors once possessed. It will be yours again. He will give you a good life and make you more numerous than your ancestors.

Deuteronomy 30: 3-13 Cont.

God, your God, will cut away the thick calluses on your heart and your children's hearts, freeing you to love God, your God, with your whole heart and soul and live, really live. God, your God, will put all these curses on your enemies who hated you and were out to get you. And you will make a new start, listening obediently to God, keeping all his commandments that I'm commanding you today. God, your God, will outdo himself in making things go well for you: you'll have babies, get calves, grow crops, and enjoy an all-around good life. Yes, God will start enjoying you again, making things go well for you just as he enjoyed doing it for your ancestors.

Deuteronomy 30: 3-13 Cont.

10 But only if you listen obediently to God, your God, and keep the commandments and regulations written in this Book of Revelation. Nothing halfhearted here; you must return to God, your God, totally, heart and soul, holding nothing back.

Deuteronomy 30: 3-13 Cont.

This commandment that I'm commanding you today isn't too much for you, it's not out of your reach. It's not on a high mountain you don't have to get mountaineers to climb the peak and bring it down to your level and explain it before you can live it. And it's not across the ocean you don't have to send sailors out to get it, bring it back, and then explain it before you can live it. No. The word is right here and now as near as the tongue in your mouth, as near as the heart in your chest. Just do it!

How Does God Restore

1. He gives back sometimes even better
2. He increases fruitfulness
3. He uses short-term suffering for long-term gain

Joel 2:12-13

12 “Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” 13 Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

Joel 2:25

25 “I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm my great army that I sent among you.