

## Introduction

- a) 1 Corinthians 5:7.
- b) On this last day of Passover, when the church celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, I want to share a message of what I believe the Spirit is saying to the church.
- c) To begin, we have to go back to this time last year. I will never forget driving to our old church building on Good Friday to record my message for Resurrection Sunday. There were hardly any cars on the roads. Not really knowing about Covid-19, most were scarred to death of this virus. Many of us, at that time, were disinfecting our groceries and food deliveries. It was a time of great uncertainty and anxiety.
- d) Preaching to an *empty room* about an *empty tomb* was surreal. I don't think I will ever forget that moment.
- e) 2020 was definitely a time of breaking, tearing, wounding, and death. It was as if the entire church throughout 2020 was being personally identified with the crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ. Last Passover and Resurrection Sunday, the church was corporately placed, experientially, into the crucifixion of our Lord and Savior.
- f) But 2021 seems to be a time of corporate resurrection. Many in the church are coming up out of this wilderness experience leaning on their beloved.
- g) I believe the Lord is initiating a *great reset in His church*. This is not to be confused with the *Great Reset* led by globalists, as they attempt to establish a one-world government and a one-world economy.
- h) Four months into 2021, Jesus is initiating a *great reset in His church*. Today is the first message of the series, *The Great Reset in the Church*.
- i) This great reset in the church includes . . .
  - *A reset in our personal vision*, where we live to know Him, live by His life, and see His eternal purpose fulfilled;
  - *A reset in our corporate vision*, where our personal ambitions are laid aside so we can pursue His presence together, make ourselves ready for Him, prepare His bride locally, nationally, and internationally, and become a true spiritual family;
  - *A worship reset*, where we shift from outer court worship that sings about the Lord and what He has done to holy-of-holies worship that sings to the Lord and ministers to Him face-to-face;
  - *A presence of God reset*, where we realize we can no longer do church without His ever-increasing, manifest presence and glory;
  - *A church reset*, where we understand that we don't go to church, but we are the church—a living, organic, corporate expression of the body of Jesus Christ in a local community;
  - *A ministry reset*, where we recover what it truly means to be a prophetic people—forerunners in the spirit and the power of Elijah, who are making ready a people prepared for the Lord locally, nationally, and internationally;
  - *A multiplication reset*, where the pruning of the past season now produces an exponential multiplication of ministry in the nations, preparing the church for the Lord's return.

## Hosea 6:1-3

- a) Hosea prophesied, “Come, let us return to the Lord. For He has torn us, but He will heal us; He has wounded us, but He will bandage us. He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day, that we may live before Him. So let us know, let us press on to know the Lord. His going forth is as certain as the dawn; and He will come to us like the rain, like the spring rain watering the earth” (Hos. 6:1-3).
- b) Historically, this passage has been interpreted in two ways.
1. A messianic passage that foretold Christ’s crucifixion, burial, and resurrection, followed by the outpouring of the Spirit at Pentecost.
    - Israel experienced the tearing and wounding as their Messiah was crucified;
    - Israel, at least a remnant, experienced a reviving and resurrection on the third day, when Jesus was resurrected;
    - Then, as this prophecy predicted, the Lord came to Israel like the spring rain on the day of Pentecost and the gospel produced great fruit in Jerusalem, Israel, and the nations.
  2. An eschatological passage that foretold God’s severe judgment on Israel for 2,000 years and the end-time revival they would experience afterwards.
    - Israel experienced a great tearing and wounding from the Lord as He used the Roman army, starting in 66 A.D., in what is known as the War of the Jews;
    - God temporarily rejected Israel for 2,000 years (2 days), from 66 A.D. until 2037 A.D. (I will spare you the math for now).
    - On the third day, or at the beginning of year 3,000 (2038 A.D.), God would accept, heal, revive, and resurrect Israel, resulting in the Kingdom Age commencing with the coming of the Messiah and the establishment of His worldwide kingdom from Jerusalem.
- c) In this message, however, I want to apply this passage to us prophetically for the next several years ahead. I believe the Lord is speaking this passage to His church as we emerge from the shaking and pruning of 2020. Four months into 2021, I believe we are poised for a great revival, resurrection, reset, and release of fruitful ministry.

## Come to Me

- a) The first word Hosea prophesied was *come*.
- b) Last Passover and Resurrection Sunday, when the Spirit led me to teach from John 6, the phrase He really put on my heart was *come to Me*. I believe He is still saying that to us in 2021 also—*come to Me*.
- c) In the Gospels, Jesus talked several times about coming to Him, but in John 6, He used this phrase several times (John 6:35, 37, 44-45, 65). For example, Jesus said, “I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst” (John 6:35, emphasis mine).
- d) Jesus invites us to come to Him. He calls out, “Come and dine together with Me.” Jesus Himself is the meal we eat when we dine with Him. Jesus is the Lamb and the bread we eat and the wine we drink when we dine together with Him (John 6:53,55). We feast upon Him in our spirits as we experience spirit-to-Spirit communion with the indwelling Spirit.

e) In John 6, Jesus calls us to:

- *Come to Him* to experience intimacy with Him (6:35);
- *Believe in Him* to experience rest in our souls (6:29);
- *Eat of Him* to experience satisfaction in our hearts (6:35);
- *Drink of Him* to experience refreshment in our mind, will, and emotions (6:35);
- *Behold Him* to experience an unfolding revelation of who He truly is (6:40);
- *Abide in Him* to experience constant connection with His life (6:56);
- *Live by Him* to experience power to overcome the world, the flesh, the devil, and ourselves (6:57).

## Let Us Return to the Lord

- a) The Lord said in Isaiah 30:15, "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength" (NKJV).
- b) He also promises that if we return to Him then He will return to us (Zech. 1:3; Mal. 3:7).
- c) Jesus told the church of Ephesus, "You have left your first love" (Rev. 2:4). If we have left our first love, then returning to Him involves making Him the first love of our hearts and souls forever.
- d) In short, returning to Him involves repenting of any and all sin; returning to our first love; returning to dining and communing with Him regularly; returning to purchasing the oil of intimacy; and returning to abiding in Him continually.
- e) However, this exhortation is not merely individual. It's also corporate. The word of the Lord to His church, to us at Restoration Life, is "let *us* return to the Lord."
- f) This means not forsaking our gathering together as the local *ekklesia*; breaking our addiction to online church; and arriving to church on time ready to worship.
- g) It also means rekindling a passion for our mission and mandate as a church to make ourselves ready as a bride for Jesus Christ; to make the bride ready locally, nationally, and internationally; and to radically pursue His presence together every Sunday.

## He Has Torn and Wounded Us

- a) Hosea continued, "For He has torn us . . . He has wounded us" (Hos. 6:1). The church has experienced, in a corporate way, co-crucifixion with Jesus during this time.
- b) From 2020 to March 2021, it has been a time of tearing and wounding—from the shaking caused by the pandemic; to church coming to a screeching halt; to all the confusion, uncertainty, division, and anxiety in our nation; to the civil unrest in the summer; to the craziness of the election; and to the death of our political and spiritual leadership idols.
- c) The Lord used all of this to bring a tearing and wounding to His people—a deep pruning so that we can bear more fruit. During this time, the Lord has been judging His church. Judgment has come to the house of God. See also 2 Thessalonians 1:4-5.
- d) Isaiah 6:1, I believe, is a verse for the church in 2021. "In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple."

- e) As when King Uzziah died and Israel's political hope died with him, there's presently no political solution to the crisis our nation faces.
- f) But here's the good news. Only when our hope in earthly messiahs die are we able to see the glory of the Lord enthroned in the temple. Therefore, the death of a political solution in America means we are about to see the glory of the Lord, for only He is our ultimate solution. Only He is the stability of our times.

## He Will Heal and Bandage Us

- a) Hosea continues, "But He will heal us . . . He will bandage us" (Hos. 6:1).
- b) We have entered into a season of healing in the church, including physically, emotionally, and spiritually.
- c) Because Jesus died on the cross for our sins, He purchased our healing from sickness, disease, infirmity, and the effects of sin. Because Jesus was raised from the dead by the Spirit of God—the same Spirit who dwells inside of us—we have newness of life. *Jesus is alive in you.*
- d) The Lord wants to heal the brokenness and pain in His church caused by the past season. Jesus is the healer. His nature and character are to heal us. Jesus wants to heal whatever is out of alignment in our bodies, hearts, and souls. He wants to release His presence into us and heal us of all the effects of this past season of tearing and wounding.

## He Will Revive and Resurrect Us

- a) Inspired by the Spirit, Hosea promised, "He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day" (Hos. 6:2).
- b) After the cross, there is a resurrection. After the death of Christ, His resurrection followed on the third day.
- c) After the church's co-crucifixion with Christ in 2020, there's coming a co-resurrection with Him in 2021. We're entering into a season of revival and resurrection.
- d) This Passover and Resurrection Sunday marks a new day in the church. It's a day of revival and resurrection. Luke 24:5-6 states, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead? He is not here, but He has risen."
- e) Let this life-changing truth be implanted in your heart: *Jesus is alive in you.*
- f) The Lord is releasing a bridal revival in His church to awaken His beloved bride and prepare her for the soon coming wedding to Christ the heavenly Bridegroom.
- g) The church has been through a deep pruning, a severe judgment, and a thorough scourging of the Lord. For those who have taken this time serious—repenting deeply and returning to Him wholeheartedly—upon these the Lord is releasing a bridal revival, resurrecting us from the deep death-to-self in the past season.
- h) In our journey as followers of Christ, there are seasons when the Lord unites us more deeply with the crucifixion of Christ. The dying of Jesus works deeply in us so the life of Jesus more thoroughly possesses us at the deepest levels. 2020 was definitely a work of the dying of Jesus in His church. But 2021 is a time of resurrection, revival, and reset.
- i) Paul said, "Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death [in 2020], so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life [in 2021]. For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death [in 2020], certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection [starting in 2021]" (Rom. 6:4-5).