

Pastor Ron Case
2/1/15

“Restoration” (5)

“Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil.” (Psalm 90:15)

Payback for the Past

Isaiah 54:4-8, 11 – (4) “Fear not, for you will not be ashamed; be not confounded, for you will not be disgraced; for you will forget the shame of your youth, and the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more. (5) For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. (6) For the LORD has called you like a wife deserted and grieved in spirit, like a wife of youth when she is cast off, says your God. (7) For a brief moment I deserted you, but with great compassion I will gather you. (8) In overflowing anger for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the LORD, your Redeemer. (11) O afflicted one, storm-tossed and not comforted, behold, I will set your stones in antimony, and lay your foundations with sapphires.”

Joel 2:17-21, 23-25 – (17) “Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, ‘Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’” (18) Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people. (19) The LORD answered and said to his people, ‘Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations. (20) I will remove the northerner far from you, and drive him into a parched and desolate land, his vanguard into the eastern sea, and his rear guard into the western sea; the stench and foul smell of him will rise, for he has done great things. (21) Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! (23) Be glad, O children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given the early rain for your vindication; he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the latter rain, as before. (24) The threshing floors shall be full of grain; the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. (25) I will restore (payback, compensate) to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent among you.”

Key Point: The Pain of the Past will not Last, God Will Reward His Faithful Ones

Recast the Past

**“Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you.”
(Philippians 3:13-15)**

“For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.” (1 Corinthians 15:9-10)

“I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel,” (Philippians 1:12)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

How much do I focus on the past?

Am I learning to recast the past in light of God’s larger work?

**Do I believe God will restore/reward me for pain in regards to my past?
(Ps. 126:5; Rev. 14:13)**