

**The Journey
From Here to There
Philippians 3:12-14
The Restoration of all things**

Introduction:

1. We are going to draw some lessons out of the Book of Job today
2. Paul in trying to reason out this thing called grace in the Book of Romans raises the question after presenting the case for grace asks this ***"now does that mean that we should sin so that we should see grace abound"*** - Then he says ***"God forbid"***
3. ***! Kings 17*** – the story of widow with the last of her flour
4. ***2 Kings 4*** – The destitute widow of a prophet
5. ***John 10:10 declares: "The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows)" (The Amplified Bible). (Joel 2:25-26; Acts 3:19-21)***
6. Why are verses like this in the bible if we can't believe they are meant for us today?

The Target:

1. ***Haggai 2:9 "and the glory of the latter house will be greater than the former"***
2. Sometimes we have an initial target but that is not the ultimate target
3. God's initial "target" was being born again – the ultimate is for you to live in the fullness of Christ
4. The true latter house is you and I who are under a new covenant
5. ***Psalms 84:1-2 "oh God of heavens armies you find so much beauty in your people they are like lovely sanctuaries of your presence so deep within me are these lovesick longings, desires and daydreams of living close to you. When I am near to you my heart and my soul will sing with joyful songs of you my true source and spring of life"***
6. God wants to demonstrate who He is through restoration in our lives
7. ***Hosea 3:5 Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the Lord their God, and David their king, and they shall come in fear to the Lord and to his goodness in the latter days.***
8. ***Jeremiah 32:40 it says "I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts, that they may not turn from me."***
9. Notice that these scriptures speak of a fear of the Lord that comes from His goodness
10. What is promised for the last days is that the goodness of God will bring a measure of the fear of God into the earth that did not exist before

The Goodness of God:

1. Let us just take a look at the goodness of the Lord being manifested in your life
2. Let me encourage you to use this 21 day Daniel Fast to mount a strong challenge against the strategies and wiles of the devil and give him no space or cause in your life
3. Testimony of Chad and Kristi – we serve a miracle working God
4. The Lord is actually going to be doing will be so liberally manifest that if you were to step back and take a look at it you would have to acknowledge that it can only be God
5. In the midst of that battle – whatever it might be – keep thanking the Lord and remember, even if it might seem so – He has not forgotten you – you are His beloved

Job a Righteous Man:

1. In chapter 1 he offers sacrifices for his children – this is model for us
2. Everyone abandons him - even his friends accuse him of secret sin
3. **Job 42:1 -3** *"Then Job answered the Lord and said: "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know"*
4. **Job 42:4-6** *"Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you make it known to me. I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore, I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."*
5. **Job 42:8** *"And my servant Job shall pray for you, for I will accept his prayer not to deal with you according to your folly."*
6. God rebukes the friends severely for their arrogance and attitude of self-righteousness
7. **Job 42:10** *"... And the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before"*
8. Story of Joseph - *"what you intended for evil God intended for good so as to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today"* **Genesis 50:20**
9. I do not believe God orchestrates evil but I do believe that anything that comes our direction He Himself to redeem it
10. God will step in and uses the thing that was intended for evil to propel us into breakthrough

God the Restorer

1. God's heart is 100% set on restoring every broken and lost thing in our lives
2. This is who God is – He is a restorer and the revelation of His goodness in the last days is something we will see so that we can be part of the message for the end-time harvest
3. People need to see what God is actually like and how can they do that without you and I being the carriers of the Good News and being able to tell of His grace in our own lives
4. There is a draw – it is not casual – it is not a hype or a performance - It is a fearful draw – a fear of the Lord that affects everything in my life
5. I read this recently and I want to challenge you with it today - *our task is not to protest the world into a certain moral conformity but to attract the world to the saving beauty of Christ*
6. The disciples understood that the kingdom of God is a new arrangement of society and because Jesus is Lord over all the world is to be redeemed and not left in ruin.
7. **Philippians 3:13-14** - *"not that I have already attained THIS ONE THING I I 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."*
8. The Lord's heart has to be seen and when He takes a broken you – or even a broken part of your life and He restores it
9. Prophetic word *"I am not going to remove the scars from your life but I am going to arrange them to where they have the appearance of carving on a fine piece of crystal*
10. For restoration to come about there needs to be the following:
 - a. We saw with the two stories out of Kings with the two widows – believing God will do what He says He will do is essential
 - b. Forgiveness is critical – not only forgiving other, it means forgiving yourself as well

