

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY NOTES

Grace and Peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;... 2 Peter 1:2

He Is Restoring the Years

For the Lord is With You

Pastor Anthony Trezza

- **This message is for those who have had their dreams hindered, even shattered at times.**
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- **For those whose hopes seem to be fading away as you struggle to hold on to things not yet seen**
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- **For those who have had weeks turn to months, months turn to years, and years turn to decades as you wait for the promises of God to materialize**
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- **This message is for you who have had no shortage of malice directed toward you by the brethren who seem to side more with your enemy than with your Lord**

The Lord says this to you:

Joel 2:23 So rejoice, O sons of Zion, And be glad in the LORD your God; For He has given you the early rain for [your] vindication. And He has poured down for you the rain, The early and latter rain as before.

- **The promises from God that you have received**
- **The dreams He has given you that have burned in your inner man**
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- **These have been given to you by God as a vindication for your past, present, and future**
- **Whom the Lord has vindicated, let no man touch**

He goes on to Say:

Joel 2:25 "... I will make up to you for the years That the swarming locust has eaten, The creeping locust, the stripping locust and the gnawing locust, ...

2 Corinthians 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

- **Though everything in the natural realm seems to be going in the opposite direction than the promises you hold on to**
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- **And though you are not getting younger, but getting older**
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- **Your inner man is not affected by age or the weakness that seems to come with the endless waiting**
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- **Your inner man is being renewed day by day**
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- **This can only happen if you keep your hope alive by not growing weary in your waiting**

There is a Ministry of the Holy Spirit that very few ever take a moment to consider:

- **And yet, it is the key to our victory**

Joel 2:28 "It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, *Your old men will dream dreams*, Your young men will see visions.

- **Without a vision people perish**
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- **Without a dream older men just die...**
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- **The Holy Spirit has come to give us purpose and a goal to press into and reach up for**
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- **For those of us who have remained faithful throughout the years and have still not yet seen the fulfilment of His promises to us**
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- **To us He has given a dream**

Joseph Had a Dream:

Genesis 37:3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his sons, because he was the son of his old age; and he made him a varicolored tunic. **4** His brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers; and [so] they hated him and could not speak to him on friendly terms.

Genesis 37:5 Then Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more.

Genesis 37:6 He said to them, "Please listen to this dream which I have had; **7** for behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and lo, my sheaf rose up and also stood erect; and behold, your sheaves gathered around and bowed down to my sheaf."

Genesis 37:9 Now he had still another dream, and related it to his brothers,...

Genesis 37:11 His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying [in mind.]

Josephs brothers tried to kill his dream:

- **Josephs brothers sold him into the hands of Midianite traders, who in turn sold him to Potiphar**

Here is the Key- If the Lord is with you no one can kill your dream:

Genesis 39:2 *The LORD was with Joseph*, so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian.

For Joseph things went from bad to worse:

Genesis 39:20 So Joseph's master took him and put him into the jail, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; and he was there in the jail. **21** *But the LORD was with Joseph* and extended kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer.

Time is not your enemy; it is your proving ground:

Joshua 14:6 Then the sons of Judah drew near to Joshua in Gilgal, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, "You know the word which the LORD spoke to Moses the man of God concerning you and me in Kadesh-barnea. **7** "I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh-barnea to spy out the land, and I brought word back to him as [it was] in my heart. ... **9** "So Moses swore on that day, saying, 'Surely the land on which your foot has trodden will be an inheritance to you and to your children forever, because you have followed the LORD my God fully.'

Joshua 14:10 "Now behold, the LORD has let me live, just as He spoke, these forty-five years,...; and now behold, I am eighty-five years old today. **11** "I am still as strong today as I was in the day Moses sent me; as my strength was then, so my strength is now, for war and for going out and coming in.

Listen to what Caleb said:

Joshua 14:12 "Now then, give me this hill country about which the LORD spoke on that day, for you heard on that day that Anakim [were] there, with great fortified cities; *perhaps the LORD will be with me*, and I will drive them out as the LORD has spoken."

What do we do while we are waiting?

Philippians 3:1 Finally, my brethren, *rejoice in the Lord*. To write the same things [again] is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you.

Philippians 3:2 Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision;

- **Don't let anyone rob you of your hope, enthusiasm, or confidence. Do not become demoralized...**

Philippians 3:3 for we are the [true] circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and *put no confidence in the flesh, ...*

Philippians 3:12 Not that I have already obtained [it] or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of [it] yet; but one thing [I do:] forgetting what [lies] behind and reaching forward to what [lies] ahead,

- **Forgetting what lies behind**
- **The hurts, the words, insults, malicious striking's meant to derail your confidence**
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- **If you are going to move forward into your prophetic destiny you can not bring any of these things with you on your journey**
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- **Like going to an airport, there are just some things you cant take with you on your journey**

While we are in this season of waiting there are only two directions we can go:

- **Upward or Downward**

Philippians 3:14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the *upward call of God* in Christ Jesus.

- **We are going to press on to the upward call of God**
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- **God is always calling us upward closer to Him**
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- **We need to be like Joseph thrive in whatever season we are in until the suddenly comes, for it will come**
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- **We need to be like Caleb, a people who are of a different Spirit**
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- **While others are giving in to time and the weakening and weariness that comes with growing older**
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- **We are being supernatural renewed in our inner man day by day**
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- **Not getting weaker, but getting stronger**

Joel 2:25 "Then I will make up to you for the years That the swarming locust has eaten, The creeping locust, the stripping locust and the gnawing locust,...

Joel 2:26 "You will have plenty to eat and be satisfied And praise the name of the LORD your God, Who has dealt wondrously with you;...

Joel 2:27 "Thus you will know that I am in the midst of Israel, And that I am the LORD your God, And there is no other; And My people will never be put to shame.

Are you waiting on a promise from God? Then know this:

Numbers 23:19 "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should (change His Mind); ***Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not (bring it to Pass)?***