

WHAT WAS LOST CAN BE RECOVERED AND RESTORED

Lost is not always the end. With God, restoration is possible. There are seasons when life seems to take more from us than what it gives us. People may lose opportunities. Families may lose peace. Relationships may suffer. Dreams sometimes are delayed. Health may decline. Businesses may struggle. Spiritual passion may also diminish, and what took years to build may disappear in a moment.

But the Bible tells us that loss is not the last chapter of a believer's story.

1 Samuel 30:1-8 | Joel 2:25

Pay attention to what God says. God did not say that years had not been lost. He acknowledges the devastation. But even with the devastation, He said He will restore.

The enemy wants you to interpret loss as final. But God wants you to see that restoration is possible. The Bible says that with God all things are possible (**Matt. 19:26**). All things include restoration of years.

Faith does not mean that loss does not hurt. You can have faith and still cry. You can trust God and still feel disappointment. You can believe in restoration while grieving what happened. But you must not allow your pain to determine your next call to action. You must not let your disappointment take your eyes off what God is doing and what He promised to do.



RECOVERY BEGINS WHEN YOU STRENGTHEN YOURSELF IN GOD.

There was a shift in David mind. David was greatly distressed... but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God. A champion's mind doesn't give up. A winner's mindset doesn't easily surrender. But David encouraged himself in the Lord his God.

You cannot, on your own power, recover what was lost, but when you strengthen yourself in your God, He restores your courage. He restores your prayer life. He restores your confidence, hope, vision, and expectation. You need all of these because you cannot effectively pursue recovery while believing that everything is hopeless and over.

BEFORE RECOVERY TAKES PLACE AROUND YOU, FAITH MUST RISE WITHIN YOU.

David did not simply run after the Amalekites. He first sought God. And God said to him, "Pursue, for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all."

Now let us look critically at how God responded. God did not just say, "You Will Recover"

God said, "Pursue...overtake---recover.

There are things God restores sovereignly, but there are also restorations that require faith-filled participation. Prayer does not eliminate pursuit. Faith does not eliminate action, and God's promise does not eliminate responsibility.

Faith says, "If God says restoration is possible, then I refuse to surrender to defeat, denial, or failure. I will not let my medical report steal God's supernatural healing touch from me."

Hebrews 11:6

THE ROLE OF PURSUIT IN THE RESTORATION PROCESS.

God said to David, pursue. What does it mean to pursue? It means refusing to allow what happened yesterday to determine what is possible tomorrow. It means refusing to let disappointment and failure sit you down, preach, and feed you with the pain of their actions.

There are some things you must pursue again.

- You may need to pursue your relationship with God again.
- You may need to pursue your marriage again.
- Maybe you need to pursue your dream, education, reconciliation, business, spiritual discipline, and the opportunity you abandoned because of disappointment.

People who sit beside what they lost, rehearsing what could have been, never recover anything they lost. David did not sit down and tell God, “God, look at what the enemy has done.

This is the situation with many believers. We are always telling God what the enemy has done instead of asking God, what shall I do to get my life, family, and destiny back. Brethren, your restoration requires movement.

HOW DOES DETERMINATION AFFECT RESTORATION?

The restoration journey begins with pursuit. Determination keeps you moving when the journey becomes difficult. The road to restoration will test your determination. You may face exhaustion, delays, and discouragement, and you may meet people who cannot continue with you. The journey of recovery and restoration is singular. It requires self-determination.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF OUR FAITH IN THE JOURNEY OF RECOVERY AND RESTORATION?

Faith believes every promise of God before seeing the evidence.

When David started pursuing, he had not yet recovered anything. There was no physical evidence that his wives were still alive. The circumstances had not changed. But David had a word from God. “Thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all” (**1 Samuel 30:8**). The word was good enough for him to move.

Hebrews 11:1

If you are going to experience restoration, the word of God you’ve heard from this altar is good enough for you to move.

Your faith must begin to align with the following statements.

- My present situation does not cancel God's ability.
- What I lost is not beyond God’s reach.
- What was broken is not beyond God’s power to restore.
- My setback does not have the authority to write the final chapter of my destiny.

WHAT CAN HINDER RESTORATION

Several things can interfere with our pursuit of restoration.

1. Unbelief. Unbelief says, “It cannot happen”. Whereas Jesus said in **Mark 9:23 (KJV)**, “*Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.*”

2. Fear. Fear says, “What if I try and fail again?” Fear can imprison people in yesterday’s disappointment and failure. The Bible says in **2 Timothy 1:7 (KJV)**, “*For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*”



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- 3. Discouragement.** Discouragement drains the strength needed to pursue. This is why David first encouraged himself in the Lord.
- 4. Bitterness.** Bitterness can keep us emotionally connected to what hurt us, rather than allowing us to connect with what God is about to do next. (**Hebrews 12:15**).
- 5. Disobedience.** Disobedience becomes a hindrance when God gives direction, but we refuse to follow it. David received instruction to pursue, and he acted on it.
- 6. Impatience.** Impatience can cause us to abandon the process before restoration manifests. (**Habakkuk 2:3**).
- 7. Living continually in the past** can hinder your forward movement. **Isaiah 43:18-19** encourages believers not to remain trapped in former things because God is able to do something new.

Don't allow what happened to become more powerful in your mind than what God has promised you.

ALWAYS REMEMBER THESE THREE WORDS. PURSUE – DETERMINE – BELIEVE.

Pursue says, I will go after what God says can be restored.

Determination says, I will not quit because the journey becomes difficult

Faith says, if God has spoken, restoration is possible.

You will rise from the ashes into beauty. Holy Spirit will strengthen your confidence in your God. You will hear God's direction clearly. You will pursue by faith. You will not surrender to discouragement. You will testify to God's restoring faithfulness. Your season of loss will not have the final word over your destiny, in the mighty name of Jesus. Amen!



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STUDY NOTES