

“BEING A RESTORED HUMAN”

“RESTORATION”

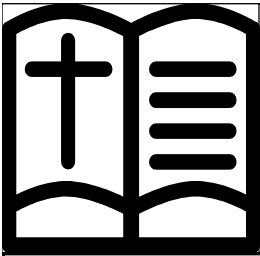
ISAIAH 58:6-12

I. DOING THE SAME OLD THINGS BUT EXPECTING BETTER RESULTS

- A. Things naturally tend to decline, to go from order to disorder especially those left unattended
- B. For things to operate as intended, they will have to be restored to the intended condition
- C. Robust faith declines into a required chore performed without heart
- D. We desire changes in our conditions, though we are unwilling to seek the source of those conditions - conditions are symptoms not causes
- E. They attempted to show God they were serious (about needing a change of conditions) by acts of apparent sacrifice - He was unimpressed
- F. Misreading God - our actions do not obligate God
- G. You can't fool God - He knit you, knows you, calls you, loves you, understands you. But you are not His equal; you have no bargaining chips to offer

II. GETTING REAL WITH GOD; RESULTS ARE HIS TO GIVE

- A. We bear God's image: we are to be like Him
- B. The grand responsibility of the abundant life is personal union with Christ that His life may flow from us to the real world in restoration



- C. *We must learn to recognize our conditions as symptoms not causes. Treating symptoms will mask causes and delay treatment if we do not seek the cause*
- D. *God shows us here what He requires of us who are filled with the abundant life . Faith has real action tied to it as a natural flow from it!*
1. *Restore people to intended liberty - evangelism
-loose the bonds of wickedness; undo heavy burdens; let the oppressed go free; break every yoke*
 2. *Restore people to holistic health
-feed them; shelter them; clothe them; join them in friendship and love*
 3. *Restore people to wholesome relationships
-take away the binding habits that cripple them; quit blaming others; quit the unkind gossip and name-calling
-invest your life in people; deliver them from their afflictions with loving truth*
- E. *With restored relationship to God use the benefits to show people the vast opportunities that arise from them. God’s response:
-great new understanding; restored health;
restorative solutions seen; God’s glory will guard what you cannot see; answered prayer; clarity; guidance; refreshment and strength; generational guidance; restoration*