



## Forgiveness Brings Restoration. (Part 1)

(August 20, 2009)

As I was praying this morning, the Lord dropped this word in my spirit about *the inconvenience of the will of God to the natural man.*

God's time is not even a convenient time for God's people. Jesus said to the scribes, that their traditions made the Word of God of none effect. He did not blame other religions or the devil, but said that *they* made the Word of none effect by *their traditions, or schedules.*

**He that has an ear to hear, let him hear. (Matt. 11:15)**

When Jesus made this statement, he was talking about hearing from God's Spirit.

A lot of people heard what Jesus was saying with their physical ears, but few heard with the ears of their hearts.

In some cultures, people think that they have grasped a spiritual revelation once they have heard it, and intellectually comprehended it. But the Bible says that even the demons believe and tremble, however that is not changing their destination.

**Revelation means to hear and understand, but then action is also required.** It is as if somebody told you that your house was on fire. If you believed it, you would take actions that corresponded with your faith and leave the burning building.

**For this people's heart is waxed gross and their ears are dull of hearing (Matt.13:15).**

God speaks by His Word and Spirit, but everybody does not hear God every time He speaks. Why? Because God is a spirit and he speaks in the spirit to our spirits. It is like radio waves that are around us all the time, but then we need a receiver to pick up the signals. **This is what Jesus is calling "an ear to hear," a receiver that can pick up God's voice.**

Earlier in the same chapter, we read about the seed and the sower. The seed is the Word, or voice of God, and the sower is the mouthpiece that the Lord uses to speak through.

All four hearts, or grounds, heard the same Word from God, but only one heart, or ground, really heard it and received it. Then the Word was able to bring forth fruit, because it was received, and **to the degree that it was received, it reproduced, some thirty, some sixty, and some a hundred times (Matt. 13:3-9).**

When the Lord spoke to Abram to leave his family and familiar environment, it was not a convenient thing for Abram to do. **Especially since God did not tell him where to go.** It took faith in God for Abram to obey and act upon what the Lord had told him to do.

**It did not take faith to hear what God was saying, but it took faith to do what he had told him to do.**

**The word of forgiveness and restoration might not feel like a convenient word from the Lord, nevertheless, it will produce healing and restoration to the person that receives it with the whole heart, and then acts upon it (James 1:22).**

Now, to swallow the pride and to forgive when you know that you have done nothing wrong, but have been terribly wronged, has to be done by faith.

**That is because the emotions are screaming and resisting, and because of the deep wounds of pain that have been caused.**

One of the greatest examples of forgiveness followed by restoration can be seen in the life of Job. After he had forgiven and prayed for his enemies, God was able to restore what the devil had stolen from him, and He gave him double of what he had before.

**As we love our enemies and forgive and pray for those who are against us or have done us harm, God will do the same for us as he did for Job.**