

Return to the LORD

~~~~~

*“And tear your heart and not merely your garments.  
Now return to the Lord your God,  
For He is gracious and compassionate,  
Slow to anger, abounding in mercy  
And relenting of catastrophe.”*

Joel 2:13

~~~~~

RETURNING TO THE LORD TO CREATE A CULTURE OF HOLINESS

A Culture of Holiness is Found in God's Word.

The greatest loss that occurred with the fall of man in the Garden of Eden was the degraded relationship between God and man, God and woman, man and woman. Adam and Eve took this special intimacy for granted. They allowed ego tricks and temptations to usurp their connection with God and their special status with Him. The foundation for a culture of holiness is a restored relationship with God, where sons and daughters of God are walking the earth.

***The foundation for a culture of holiness
is a restored relationship with God.***

In “restoring Eden”, just as restoring the Republic of America, a restored relationship with God is necessary. As Intercessors, we can petition and proclaim the creational Word of God to restore our collective relationship

Return to the LORD

with God, to restore our nation as a Covenant nation, and to call the people of our country to a sincere and unified relationship with God.

The Hebrew word for 'return' is '*shuv*'. The Hebrew word for repentance, *teshuvah*, comes from it. According to Middle Ages Rabbi Maimonides, there are three parts to *teshuvah*: confession, regret and a vow not to repeat the sin. This includes restitution and asking for (and hopefully receiving) forgiveness (Lev 6:1-7, Num 5:5-8).

So as we petition and proclaim restoration of our nation's relationship with God, we ask for forgiveness and offer restitution. We intercede for our nation's people to do the same, to find their way back to God and put God first in their lives.

OUR FOCUS IN 2024: WE ARE INTERCEDING FOR RESTORATION

Keys to Restoring Eden:

1. Restoring what was lost or damaged in the Garden of Eden with the fall of man and woman.
2. Applying the New Covenant as the antidote to what was lost with the fall.
3. Finding and proclaiming from the New Covenant the counter to everything that was lost or damaged in the fall in Eden.
4. Finding and applying through proclamation God's promises for restoration: His love, mercy and grace.
5. Remember: ***God's Word Provides a Roadmap for Creating a Culture of Holiness.***

Return to the LORD

Coming Before Lord God Adonai

- ◆ Dear Lord God Adonai, just Judge, as Intercessors standing in the gap for our beloved America, we come before You to petition and proclaim restoration of our nation's relationship with You, Lord God. We seek forgiveness and offer restitution as penance through prayer and fasting. Convict us and guide us to right intercession and restitution to bring a miracle reunification of our people as one nation under God.
- ◆ We come before You interceding for our nation's people, to help them find their way back to You and put You first in their lives; to restore our collective relationship with You, to restore our nation as a Covenant nation, and to call the people of our country to a sincere and unified relationship with You and Your Son Christ Jesus.

Restoring Our Holy Relationship with God

- ◆ Heavenly Father, we proclaim restoration of our nation's holy relationship with You, walking as You did, with Adam in the cool of the day. You made us in your image, to be in full communion with You. Abba, we want this relationship back! We want to be in full communion with You and we want our nation's people to be in full communion with You.
- ◆ We proclaim that America is restoring its holy relationship with You Lord God; that every man, woman and child is living to love and serve You, in loving and serving one another, walking as Christ Jesus modeled and taught us to do so. We declare Psalm 22:27, that "*All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to YOU Lord God, and all the families of the nations will worship before You.*"
- ◆ We proclaim that the culture of selfishness and narcissism is being replaced by genuine caring and charity; selfless service to You through

Return to the LORD

serving one another. We declare that the *“traditions of men”* are now being replaced with being *“made new creatures in Christ”*; that our fellow countrymen, women and children are now coming out from being conformed to this world, and are now being transformed by the renewing of their minds, to the will of God, according to Romans 12:2.

- ◆ We declare Your promises in Ephesians 4:1-6, that all the peoples of America are walking in a manner worthy of the calling with which we have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, being diligent to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. We declare there is now one body and one Spirit, as we are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.
- ◆ We proclaim that love for You has become the centerpiece of our culture and collective life, the centerpiece of our education, business, governing and family values and culture.

Proclaiming God’s Promises: *“Return to Me with All Your Heart”*

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, as we stand in the gap for our beloved nation, we come before You to restore what was damaged and severely compromised with the fall in the Garden of Eden: our relationship with You. We bring before You today Your own promises that if we are sincerely repentant, ask for forgiveness, mend our ways and return to You in love, with all of our heart, soul and strength, You will return to us.
- ◆ Dear Lord God Abba, we petition You this day to let Your love, mercy and grace override all of our nation’s sins, and return to us, as we are returning to You. Pour out Your Holy Spirit on all men, women and children in our country. Fill every heart with the love, presence and truth

Return to the LORD

of Your Son Jesus Christ Yeshua. Take hold of all of our petitions of repentance that we have laid before You these past seven years, as a demonstration of our sincere hunger to be in deep and abiding union with You, and for You to restore America as Your Covenant nation.

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, we petition You for the fulfillment of Your promise in Isaiah 55:7 to return to us as we return to You: *“Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the Lord, and He will have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.”*
- ◆ Dear Abba, as we stand in the gap for our country, have compassion on America. Direct the wicked to forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts as we bear witness to millions of our people coming to You, receiving the gift of Your Son Jesus Yeshua, and experiencing miracle transformations and purification of their hearts, souls and lives.
- ◆ Dear Lord God, Your Word in Joel 2:13-14 proclaims that You are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, abounding in mercy and relenting of catastrophe. So we petition You to abound in mercy, stop our enemies, block their plans for catastrophe. Send them back to their countries, to bring the light of God to their own peoples. Turn and relent and leave a blessing for us.
- ◆ Dear Abba, according to Joel 1:15 & 17 , we commit to a fast as we gather in these solemn assemblies, gather the people and sanctify our congregation of intercessors. We petition: spare Your people, Lord, and do not make Your inheritance a disgrace, with the nations jeering at us.
- ◆ Dear Lord God, be zealous for Your land, this land of America that has been consecrated to You; and have compassion for Your people, according to Joel 2:18.

Return to the LORD

- ◆ Dear Lord God, send us grain, new wine, and oil, and we will be satisfied in full with them; and never again make us a disgrace amongst the nations, according to Joel 2:19. Remove the northern army far from our country, remove ALL enemy armies from our country, and drive them into a dry and desolate land, their advance guard into the eastern sea, and their rear guard into the western sea. And their stench will ascend and their odor of decay will come up, because they have done great things, according to Joel 2:20.
- ◆ Father God, we proclaim victory gratitude in advance of Your mercy and grace upon America. We shall not fear. We shout for joy and rejoice because You LORD God, have done great things. Thank you for returning all of our lands to American ownership - ALL of our farmland, ALL of our commercial and residential real estate; turning the pastures of the wilderness green, our trees produce their fruit, the fig and vine yield in full, according to Joel 2:21-22.
- ◆ Thank you Lord God, for giving us the early rain for our vindication, the threshing floors will be full of grain, and the vats will overflow with the new wine and oil, according to Joel 2:23-24. That everything the evil ones meant for harm has been turned to good for those who love God and are called according to His purposes, according to Romans 8:28.
- ◆ We rejoice in the Lord our God; and thank You for compensating us for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the creeping locust, the stripping locust, and the gnawing locust— Your great army which You are sending amongst us, according to Joel 2:25.
- ◆ We will praise Your name Lord God, who has dealt wondrously with us and fulfilled Your promise that Your people will never be put to shame, according to Joel 2:27.

Return to the LORD

- ◆ We proclaim Hosea 6:1: *“Come, let us return to the Lord. For He has torn us, but **He will heal us**; He has wounded us, but He will bandage us.”* Thank you Heavenly Father, for healing us, healing the soul of our nation.
- ◆ Lord God, heal the faithlessness across our lands, in the hearts and souls of our country and countrymen. We pray Jeremiah 3:22: *“Return, O faithless sons, I will heal your faithlessness. Behold, we come to You; for You are the Lord our God.”* Dear Father God, we consecrate America to You. Heal our faithlessness. Heal all the sources and causes of the faithlessness. In Your healing, heal our rifts, wounds and traumas, and reunite us as brothers and sisters in the love of Christ Jesus.
- ◆ Dear Father God, heal the apostasy across our land. We petition Hosea 14:4 to You: *“I will heal their apostasy, I will love them freely, because My anger has turned away from them.”* Thank you Lord God, for healing the apostasy throughout our country, and all the sources and causes thereof.
- ◆ Heavenly Father, we pray and petition You with Hosea 14:2, we *“take words with us and return to the Lord. Take away all iniquity and receive us graciously, that we may present the fruit of our lips.”*
- ◆ Dear Lord God Abba, let us find You! We remind You of Your Word in 2 Chronicles 15:4: *“But in their distress they turned to the Lord God of Israel, and they sought Him, and He let them find Him.”* Thank you Lord God! For letting us find you! For letting the lost in our nation find you!
- ◆ Dear Father God, we hold hope for America through Your Word in Jeremiah 3:12 that says: *“Go and proclaim these words toward the north and say, ‘Return, faithless Israel,’ declares the Lord; ‘I will not look upon you in anger. For I am gracious,’ declares the Lord; ‘I will not be angry*

Return to the LORD

forever.” Thank you Lord God, for not being angry with America forever. Thank you for being gracious and pouring out your mercy, love and forgiveness upon us, to restore our nation, restore us to communion with You.

- ◆ *Father God, as part of restoring our nation’s relationship with You, fulfill Your promise of the Spirit in Joel 2:28 &32 that says: “It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; and our sons and our daughters will prophesy, our old men will have dreams, our young men will see visions. And it will come about that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Halleluia!*

~~~~~

*“From You comes my praise in the great assembly;  
I shall pay my vows before those who fear Him.  
The afflicted will eat and be satisfied;  
Those who seek Him will praise the Lord.  
May your heart live forever!*

*All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord,  
And all the families of the nations will worship before You.  
For the kingdom is the Lord’s  
And He rules over the nations.*

*All the prosperous of the earth will eat and worship,  
All those who go down to the dust will kneel before Him,  
Even he who cannot keep his soul alive.  
A posterity will serve Him;  
It will be told of the Lord to the coming generation.  
They will come and will declare His righteousness  
To a people who will be born,  
that He has performed it.”*

Psalm 22:25-31

~~~~~

Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done on Earth as it is in Heaven!