

# A Turn Around

**INTRODUCTION:** I am so honored for the privilege of addressing this wonderful congregation today. Jonna and I just love your Pastors...Pastor Shane has been a guest with us many times at our annual conference and other times of the year...and always has a right now word...This Church is Blessed by the Leadership God has provided for you.

I know you guys have been building and God has been blessing...and soon you will be crossing over from this location to another....

- Let me share a couple of things with you and they'll tie into the message...
- Our Story and Mark 4 and Mark 5...
  - I did everything right when we built...had a ton of help...
  - I kept building the body of Christ while others built the building
  - After we moved in...all hell broke loose...
  - I had people walk out, staff members rose up against me...stupid attacks
  - Then on December 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 "Jonna my wife asked me..."did you work this hard to let the devil steal what God promised us..."
  - I got up to go to my office and the Lord spoke to me...read Mark 4 and Mark 5...Mark 4 the disciples were in a storm...but in chapter 5 they are on the shore of the Gerasenes...and a severely demon possessed man runs to Jesus...

- You know the story...the demons beg Jesus "do not cast us out of the territory..." when I read that I realized my fight in 2014 was not personal...it was about the territory...
- When you guys move in the Spirit realm you are taking Territory...Don't you take the fight personal...it ain't about people...it is about the territory.

**So Today I want to deposit a Strategy in the House...Not a Sermon...** This is a strategy that will Work for The Bend, but also for your home, our marriage and family.

Luke 11:1-2

11 Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."

ESV

**Introduction:** Of all the questions the Disciples could have asked Jesus... "teach us to Pray" is not the one I would have asked...can we be honest...you probably wouldn't have either...

But they Identified the Source of Jesus' Profound Power, the source of his ability to Teach with Power and Authority...the source to turn every situation around...

**Transition:** In my presentation today I'm going to give some historical background...then make it applicable to us today...**So be patient with me as I build my case...**

## I. Exilic Prophets

- a. Before the Exile, During the Exile and After the Exile God raises up Prophets and Apostolic Voices to Speak to the People...
- b. Pre-Exilic – Isaiah and Jeremiah
  - i. Isaiah probably spoke and addressed 5 different Dynasties trying to get them to turn and repent...Isaiah Preached for 40years and did not see one Convert...In

today's terms of church growth they would have viewed Isaiah as a complete failure

- ii. Jeremiah – the weeping prophet
  - 1. Prophet of Great Intercession
  - 2. Jeremiah 25:12 – Jeremiah prophesies how long the captivity will last...
- c. Post Exilic Prophets – Haggai and Zachariah
  - i. Zachariah was the mentor of Haggai
- d. Exilic Prophets During the Exile were when the Nation was in Captivity were –
  - i. Daniel and Ezekiel

**Transition:** So, we see that God raises up voices to run on parallel tracks with each other...though their paths may or may not cross. This is where we are going to spend our time...with these two boys...Daniel and Ezekiel. As you read and study we don't see where their paths ever cross one another...yet they are speaking the Word of the Lord that carries a National Authority.

## II. Daniel

### a. Historical Context

- i. Nebuchadnezzar went to attack the Assyrians and was at war with the Assyrian Empire...in His pursuit he overtook Israel as well and took all the Children of Promise along with the Gold and Silver back to Babylon
- ii. 2 Kings 25...

### b. Daniel's Background

- i. From Daniel chapter one we know the Babylonians tried to change his name, his diet, his education and Aspanaz said to the King, give me 3 years with these boys and they will be completely indoctrinated to think, speak, and act Babylonian...
- ii. Daniel is elevated in rank, favor and authority...He comes from captivity to National Prominence, because "Your gift will make room for you..."

1. He is anointed to deal with National Issues
2. Daniel interprets a dream and speaks to 1,000's of years Prophetically...
- iii. Daniel's Language isn't church jargon...He speaks National Language...
  1. He has the vocabulary to address national and international leaders...
  2. He could attend the U.N. and address the attendees.

**Transition:** After Nebuchadnezzar defeats the Assyrians...Nabopolassar Pronounced: (Abolossa) the Father of Nebuchadnezzar dies..Nebuchadnezzar becomes King of Babylon and launches an Assault against Egypt who tried to assist the Assyrians in the war with Babylon. In this battle between Babylon and Egypt the second captivity of Israel takes place and a Pure, Innocent Young man is taken into captivity...His name is Ezekiel!

### **III. Ezekiel**

- a. Ezekiel is a Priest...raised, trained and equipped to be a Priest and a Prophet...not to Babylon but to the House of Israel
- b. He is taken to Chebar which was a canal created by a bunch of springs between the Tigris and the Euphrates rivers...This place is an Epic-center for sin and debauchery.
- c. Ezekiel has a vision that leaves him captivated and speechless for 7 days

### **IV. Both Prophets Running Parallel with Each Other**

- a. Notice both Prophets are on 2 stages but at the same time for Purpose...not in competition...
- b. Ezekiel is called to the House of Israel...CHURCH FOLKS
  - i. So, the language is to church people
  - ii. The demonstrations are to church folks
  - iii. The Prophetic Imagery is for Church Folks
- c. Hear me...we cannot just have good church anymore...it must contribute to the molding and changing of society and culture!!!
  - i. Must impact Economically

- ii. Must impact Socially
  - iii. Must have an impact and a voice Politically
- d. Our Voice and Faith must Influence the Seven Mountains of the Culture
  - i. Religion
  - ii. Faith
  - iii. Education
  - iv. Government
  - v. Media
  - vi. Arts and Entertainment
  - vii. Business / Economics
- e. We Must have Daniel's that speak and deal with National and International leaders, but you must have Ezekiel's who deal with church folks

**Transition:** While church folks have been fighting over legalistic and small things, we have relegated politics, education and the court systems to the culture of the world...

## **V. Captivity is Important**

- a. Without captivity...you don't get the men or the anointing of Daniel and Ezekiel...
- b. Often times your struggle is what causes us to become desperate to call out to God...

## **VI. Ezekiel's Message**

- a. Ezekiel addresses the church
  - i. Before the Babylonian captivity there was no such thing as Synagogues...
  - ii. They created the Synagogues because the Jews could not go home to worship, so they worshipped in synagogues
  - iii. The concept of church was created by Alexander the Great...but that's for another time
  - iv. This, none the less, created its own issues...
    - 1. With self appointed Priests and Prophets...

2. They produced what they taught but they weren't using the Torah or the Mizpah to teach from...
3. It created so much doctrinal confusion that later God raised up Ezra to deal with all of this from a Hermeneutics perspective...

b. Ezekiel's Message

- i. God tells Ezekiel in the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter to tie himself up with bands and God would cause Ezekiel's tongue to stick to the roof of his mouth
  1. But no one asked why - the people had become so desensitized to the voice of God and the Prophet's of God, no one took the time to ask the questions...
- ii. Ezekiel 4 he is instructed to lay on his side for 390 days and then turn over for another 40 days
  1. To political leaders this makes no sense...but to church folks, they get it...
  2. 390 years of captivity in Egypt before Moses was born...40 years while Moses tended sheep on the back side of the desert before he was brought out of Obscurity to a position of notoriety.
  3. Prepare Your Meals
    - a. Prepare them and cook them on Human Waste...Ezekiel argued with God and won the Argument and God told him I'll let you use the waste of an animal
    - b. Basically, God is saying the Nation is Full of It...

**Transition:** As a 21<sup>st</sup> Century church we must understand we can't just be churchy...

- iii. In Ezekiel 5 God tells Ezekiel to cut off all your hair and your beard
  1. Hair – covering or glory
  2. Beard – leadership or wisdom

- iv. Take a 3<sup>rd</sup> of the Hair and throw it to the wind
  - 1. Spoke to them of the squandered moves of God...
  - 2. It still happens today...
  - 3. We must learn to invest in a move of God
- v. Take a 3<sup>rd</sup> of the Hair and Burn with Fire
  - 1. It speaks of Conviction and the Need of Fire in our lives
  - 2. Jeremiah Said, "it was like fire shut up in my bones..."
  - 3. Conviction of Holiness, purity, respect and the fear of God
- vi. Take the final 3<sup>rd</sup> and stab it with a Knife
  - 1. God is saying: Leaders must stop stabbing each other in the back...Now remember Ezekiel is speaking to Church Folks...

## **I GOT YOUR BACK**

### **(ILLUSTRATE)**

- c. Ezekiel 24:16 – Ezekiel's wife dies
  - i. God tells Ezekiel don't Cry, Don't say a Word, and Don't Go to the Funeral
  - ii. God is saying, we have a generation who is emotionally detached and desensitized and have substituted things for a real move of God...
- d. Ezekiel 28
  - i. Ezekiel, like Isaiah is able to see Satan at work on the trading floor of God
  - ii. Satan forgets that the Worship that is produced is not for Him but rather for the Lord...
- e. Ezekiel 37 – God takes Ezekiel out to a Valley of Dry Bones
  - i. "Can these Bones Live..."
    - 1. Now consider the background and the last few years this man has endured...

2. He has preached with ZERO results
3. He has bound himself and yet no one asked a question
4. He laid on his side a total of 430 days...yet no repentance
5. His wife has died, and he couldn't even pay the respect he would have wanted to...
6. I would have quit the ministry...God you got the wrong person for the Job...I would have really thought...God brought me out to these dry bones because I am about to Join them...I'm going to die!!!

**Transition:** But God is up to something...While Ezekiel is in the Valley of Dry Bones...Daniel is reading the Pre-Exilic Prophet Jeremiah and is now Praying 3 times a day...He is in Daniel chapter 9...

- Daniel isn't praying as a Local Priest or Pastor but as a National Leader with National Influence.... Ezekiel is Prophecying to dry Bones...
- **YOU PRAY, I'LL PROPHECY**
  - If you'll Pray; I'll Prophecy
    - Over Cookville
    - Over This Region
    - Over the Nation
    - Over Other Nations
  - You should tell your Spouse
    - One of you will pray...the other will Prophecy
  - Oh, church If You'll Pray, Your Pastors Will Prophecy
    - Over Your Family
    - Over Your Kids
    - Over Your Marriage
    - Over Your Business
    - Over Your Money



- If You'll Pray...You'd be amazed at the Places God will open for your Pastor to  
Prophecy

- **Bones**

- Structure
- All the Structures that are not in order...I'm about to Prophecy...
- What you thought was dead is about to come up and come together again...
- The reason why Jesus' bones couldn't be broken was Bones are symbolic of Structure...If the structure is in the place...we can see a Turn a Round...Get the structure right.

- **Prophecy**

- Open your mouth
- Speak
- Decree and declare....

- **I DECREE A SEASON OF ANSWERED PRAYER**

- **GOD IS ABOUT TO TURN**

- Turn My Lack of Confidence
- Turn My Children
- Turn My Health
- Turn My Business
- Turn My Money
- Turn my weeping into dancing...

**WEEPING MAY ENDURE FOR A NIGHT BUT A TURNING IS COMING IN THE  
MORNING...**

**Altar Call....IF YOU NEED A TURNING...COME RUNNING TO THIS ALTAR**

**CLOSING**

In the book of Luke Jesus reads the Prophet Isaiah and then He Closes the Book

- Grab A Book...Open it...then Close It
- Close the book on Your Past
- Close the Book on Things that have held you back
- Close the Book on Your Yesterday...
- Close the Book to
  - Depression
  - Sickness
  - Lack of faith
  - Doubt
  - Unbelief
  - Lack

Oh When He closed the book in the Natural...In the Spirit another Book was Opened...

I'm telling you God is opening a Book over you today...

God sent me to deposit a Strategy...

If You'll Pray...Prophetic Release will come...