

## Sermon by Prophet Kobus van Rensburg

TIMES OF REVIVAL

Acts 3:19 "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord"

Another translation says: "...from the face of the Lord..." So, there is a Face and from that Face of the Lord must come times of refreshing. We call that revival, other translations also speak of times of refreshing, quickening or revival. From the presence of the Lord, revival must be poured out onto the earth.

Acts 3:20-21 "...and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world begun."

Only when the all things have been restored will Jesus come again. He is going to stay in heaven at the right hand of the Father. From God's presence must first come times of refreshing. That refreshing will cause the restoration. If we seek God, we will get revival. If revival comes, restoration of all the things of which the prophets of old spoke about will come and then Jesus will return.

Num. 14:21 "...but truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD"

The whole earth will first be filled with the glory of the Lord.

The WHOLE EARTH will be filled with His glory.

This is talking about restoration.



Another word for 'glory', is 'light.' I am not talking about 'Oh the glory' I am talking about physical glory. That is usually light. The Bible talks about "The radiance of His presence; the brightness of His glory." So the glory has a brightness. Brightness is light. Light has got a brightness, so, there is a brightness in the glory of the Lord.

What is this restoration that must come when the revival or refreshing has come, that will cause Jesus to come back?

In Genesis one, God made man in His image and likeness and said it is very good. When He made the plants, the fish of the sea, the birds of the air and the creeping things He said that it is good, but when He made man He called it very good. Then God blessed them and told them to be fruitful and multiply, to fill the earth and to subdue it. He gave them dominion and told them to rule. Over what? Over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.

In Genesis three we see that the serpent was more cunning than all the other animals. He questioned God by asking: "Did God say...?" He deceived man and man believed him and fell into sin. What happened when man fell? They realized that they were naked. God asked man: "Who told you that you are naked? What caused you to realize now that you are naked, you have been naked all along? Did you eat of the tree I told you not to eat from?"

Rom. 3:23 states "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Man was clothed in glory and when he sinned, he lost the glory. When he lost the glory, he realized that he was naked. Man lost his glory and when he lost the glory, he lost his rulership. When he lost his rulership, he was driven out of the garden.

We see that most of the Psalms were prophecies, not just songs. David was a prophet (and so also most of the other Psalm writers).

Psalm 8:1-2 "O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens. Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

Psalm 8:3 "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;



When I consider the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars... Just think about the vastness of universe. On National Geographic they showed the new telescopes they are using these days. They are able to see new galaxies that are now seen for the first time in history. If you only think of how much bigger the sun is than the earth and realize that it is the smallest sun in the universe, the earth is the smallest planet in our solar system and that our system is the smallest in the universe, When you see these things, you can say with David: What is man that Thou are mindful of him and the son of man that Thou visits him?

Psalm 8:4-9 "What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas. O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!"

The original Hebrew says: "...thou hast made him a little lower than Elohim..."

You have made him a little lower than the Godhead Himself. If man was just a bit higher, he would have been God himself. This is the first name of God that is mentioned in the Bible. In Genesis, it says: "In the beginning Elohim created the heavens and the earth."

"...hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion..."

These things were not so in the time of David. He looked at the beginning and prophesied into the future.

He says: "When I think of what you did for man, I know that you are going to visit him again. You thought about man, then created him. You appointed him and he was just a little lower than You. He blew it, but You are going to visit him again. Then the glory that he lost will be available for him again. He will be able to get it back and then Jesus will come back."

Luke 19 speaks about Jesus entering Jerusalem on the back of a colt.



In vs. 38 the multitude of the disciples rejoiced and praised God and said: 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.'

In vs. 40 Jesus said that if they should keep quiet, the stones would cry out.

Then in vs. 42, He wept over Jerusalem and prophesied the destruction of Jerusalem. This was fulfilled in 70 AD. It is not still coming. It was fulfilled.

Jerusalem did not recognize the time of visitation from the Lord:

Luke 19:42-44 "...saying. 'If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For the days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you and your children within you to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

But God was mindful of man and he made him in His own image and likeness. Man lost the image, as he lost the glory, as he fell for sin.

Then came the Psalmwriter and says that God will again visit man. He will again appoint him and crown him with glory.

John 1:1-4 "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was the life, and the life was the light of men."

When Jesus came, He came as the Word that became flesh. In this Word that became flesh, is life. Not just life, but God life. The Holy Spirit came over Mary, she conceived and He said: "This Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God" (Luke 1:35). He became flesh and in Him was the life and the life was the light of men.



John 10:10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly."

The thief comes, but Jesus has already come.

If the life is the light and He says that He came that we might have life and have it more abundantly, He is saying that He came that we might have light and have it more abundantly. Light is glory.

Heb. 1:1-3 "God who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things through whom He also made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high."

Heb. 1:3 (Amplified) "He is the sole expression of the glory of God [the Light-being, the out-raying or radiance of the divine], and He is the perfect imprint and very image of [God's] nature, upholding and maintaining and guiding and propelling the universe by His mighty word of power. When He had by offering Himself accomplished our cleansing of sins and riddance of guilt, He sat down at the right hand of the divine Majesty on high,"

Jesus came and in Him was the life and this life was the light of men. He said that He has come that we might have life and have it more abundantly. So, He is actually saying that He has come that we might have light and have it more abundantly, because I am the sole expression, the Light-being, the out-raying of His glory. Jesus is reflecting the glory of the Father.

Who is seeing what revival really is? Who is seeing to which restoration we are heading? We are busy taking the visitation of about 2000 that we can be appointed to rule and reign on earth. When are we going to rule and reign? When we come forth in His image. That is what we are busy with.



Rom. 8:29 "For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren."

He chose you to be conformed to the image. So what is God's plan? His plan is for you to be conformed to the image of His Son.

In John 14 when Phillip asked Jesus to show them the Father, Jesus answered him and said: "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Phillip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father..." He is saying that He and the Father are one and if you have seen Him, you have seen the Father. He is the sole expression of the Father's glory. If you see the glory, you are seeing the Father's glory.

What happened in Matthew 17 when Jesus took Matthew, James and John on the mountain? We call it the mountain of transfiguration where Jesus was glorified. His clothes became white as light. No, it was not His clothes, it was Him. His clothes just co-operated with what happened to Him. He could have stripped off His clothes and no one would have noticed it, because He again clothed with glory.

According to Romans 3, why did Jesus come to the earth? To give the glory back to you. So that you can be conformed into His image.

We are going to come forth in His image. There is a glory, there is a light, there is a life, there is a visitation, there is a restoration and there is an appointing.

Romans 5:17 says that we will reign in this life with One, Jesus Christ.

In Galatians 3, Paul calls the Galatians foolish, stupid, unreflecting. He asked them: "Did you receive the Spirit through the works of the law or through the preaching of the faith? Why is it that you are unreflecting, that you can not reflect His glory? You, like a stubborn mule, keep on returning to the law. Why don't you just remain in the Spirit?"



It is one thing to have the Spirit, but another to be in the Spirit. We must walk in the Spirit, live in the Spirit, we must be in the Spirit. John said: "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day and I heard a voice..." Do you want to hear God's voice? Get into the Spirit. He said: "I heard another voice saying: 'come up here' and immediately I was in the Spirit again." We are supposed to be in the Spirit.

What causes you to become unreflecting? You move away from the image.

Galatians 4:19 "My little children for whom I am in travail again until Christ is formed in you."

Paul says that he has been in travail for them before. When he came to the place of giving birth, they were born again. This time he is in travail that Christ be formed in them. That they will come forth in the image of the Son.

In Galatians 1:16 Paul says that God wants to reveal His Son in me. The original meaning of the 'revealing' is an 'undraping'. God is saying that He wants the image to form in us - He wants us to look like the Son, walk like the Son, talk like the Son. God is looking for restoration. He wants somebody who will come forth in the image of His Son. He chisels a bit here and files a bit there because He is busy forming an image inside of us. When He sees we look like the Son, He will undrape us. Then the world will say: "There goes Christ... but no, it is Kobus, it is Nico, it is Gary..." They will say: "Sorry, for a moment there I thought it was Jesus."

God does not have a B-plan. This is His A-plan: God made man and called him 'son.' He wanted many sons, so He took His Son and planted Him as a seed so that many sons can come forth as the fruit.

In John 12 they told Jesus that the Greeks wanted to see Him. He told them: "Go tell them I am not showing now. I must first fall in the ground and die. If a corn of wheat does not fall in the ground and die, it remains alone. But if it falls in the ground, it will bear much fruit. So, tell them I must first fall in the ground as a corn of wheat. They must come back in about 50 days, then there will be 120 of Me."

God wanted sons, so He planted a Son.



2 Corinthians. 3:18 "And all of us, as with unveiled face, [because we] continued to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another; [for this comes] from the Lord [Who is] the Spirit."

The 'unveiled face' means we are not under the law anymore, we are reflecting. In Galatians 3 they were still under the law and Paul called them 'unreflecting.' A mirror reflects. If you come out of the law and walk into grace, the veil is removed and you can behold in a mirror the face of the Lord (according to the Amplified). Hebrews 1:3 - it is His face, the expression of the glory from the face of God. Christ is in the face of the Father. We are in the face of Christ, together we reflect the glory of the Father.

We are transfigured from one glory to another. To where? To the image of Christ. This is God's plan. This is one prophecy that must still be fulfilled: "I want sons in the image of My Son, clothed in glory and appointed to rule."

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, Luke 19 says that He said: "If these keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out." Matthew 21 says: "Have you never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings you have perfected praise?"

So, Psalm 8 was fulfilled when Jesus entered Jerusalem.

2 Corinthians 4 says that since we have the promises, we lay aside the things of shame.

2 Timothy 2:18-22 says that if anyone cleanses himself from the things of shame, he will be a vessel of honour, useful for the Master.

The 'vessels' means 'earthen vessels.'



2 Corinthians 4:3-4 "But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them."

Peoples' eyes are blinded, because they can not see the light of God, which is actually the image of Christ, which actually comes from God, which is the glory of God.

2 Corinthians 4:5-7 "For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us."

All the light is already in us. Jesus came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. The life was the light of man. The spirit of a man is the light of a man.

John 1:9 "That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world."

We do not need the sun and the moon to shine in us, because the Lamb is our lamp. (Rev. 21)

Luke 11:33 "No one, when he has lit a lamp, puts it in a secret place or under a basket, but on a lampstand that those who come in may see the light."

All the light of God is in the earthen vessels, now He is waiting for the image to be formed.

Remember Gideon, the angel of the Lord appeared to him and said: "The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor" (Judges 6:12)? He said: "And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about...?" God said that He will be with him and if he attacks they will win. Gideon asked God for signs and then eventually ended up with 300 men



against a mighty army. He gave each of them an earthen vessel with a torch inside. He said that at the right time, when he gives a sign, that they must break the vessels and the Midianites will think that they are surrounded.

If we keep on crucifying our flesh, Christ will appear more and more and when that happens, the devil will think he is surrounded.

We have this treasure in earthen vessels. Why? So that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

Jesus said in Acts 1:8 "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me..."

What are you doing on this earth? Do you just want to go on day by day and be just another Christian? Or do you want to bring about the change that Jesus paid the price for?

You have a purpose on this earth. God has a plan with you. What does all the other things matter? What is important, but that you can close your eyes and see His glory and His power? Are you seeking His presence like never before? Are you seeking His glory like never before? I am. God said that the sons will start coming to the front in 2002.

Hebrews 6:1 says: "Let us go on to perfection..."

He does not say: "Let us go on to heaven." Everybody wants to go to heaven, but that is not God's plan. There is a heaven, but He has a plan for you on earth. It is the earth that is full of chaos, not the heaven. The only people that will get this earth in order are the sons of God who will be manifested in His power and in His fullness.

Colossians 2:9-10 "For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him who is the head of all principality and power."



God's plan for you is to come forth in the fullness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:8-14 "Therefore it is said, When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive [He led a train of vanquished foes] and He bestowed gifts on men. [Ps. 68:18].

[But He ascended?] Now what can this, He ascended, mean but that He had previously descended from [the heights of] heaven into [the depths], the lower parts of the earth?

He Who descended is the [very] same as He Who also has ascended high above all the heavens, that He [His presence] might fill all things (the whole universe, from the lowest to the highest).

And His gifts were [varied; He Himself appointed and gave men to us] some to be apostles (special messengers), some prophets (inspired preachers and expounders), some evangelists (preachers of the Gospel, traveling missionaries), some pastors (shepherds of His flock) and teachers.

His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), [that they should do] the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church),

[That it might develop] until we all attain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the [full and accurate] knowledge of the Son of God, that [we might arrive] at really mature manhood (the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection), the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Christ and the completeness found in Him.

So then, we may no longer be children, tossed [like ships] to and fro between chance gusts of teaching and wavering with every changing wind of doctrine, [the prey of] the cunning and cleverness of unscrupulous men, [gamblers engaged] in every shifting form of trickery in inventing errors to mislead.