

Brokenness Brings Breakthrough

The Lord's Proximity: God is NOT distant or indifferent to those who are suffering, but rather, He is near to the brokenhearted.

Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

- The Lord's there **to rescue all who are discouraged** and **have given up hope**

We cannot sacrifice our way out of the consequences of sin, because *only a heart that has turned toward God in repentance and supplication* is an acceptable offering.

Psalm 51:17

¹⁷ My sacrifice, O God, is a **broken spirit; a broken** and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

- The way to please you is to be **truly sorry** deep in our hearts.
- This is the kind of sacrifice you won't refuse.

It is my desire to preach to you that **Brokenness Brings Breakthrough.**

- **Brokenness** can bring us to **a new dimension in God.**
- There are ***places God wants to bring us to,***
- **but the price of admission is brokenness!**

We can't get to these places through faith- through victory- through praise....
Just Brokenness.

Although **not a BONE of our Lord was broken**, when the Lord was crucified and bore our sins in His body, the Bible describes **His body as being broken:**

1 Corinthians 11:24 - When He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is **My body which is broken for you;** do this in remembrance of Me."

- The significance here represents **His Body given for the forgiveness** of our sin's.
- A constant reminder of **Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for our salvation.**

Our Lord was broken, but through His brokenness, salvation was made available for us.

- But salvation cannot be known without repentance...
- And a place of brokenness is necessary for repentance
- The Bible says Godly sorrow worketh repentance.

We must be broken before we can be fixed!

- Maybe we could turn the saying around a bit today.
- **If it ain't broke, break it!**

In each of our lives, God had designed a process of growth and development.

- **Brokenness symbolizes humility before God.**
- It symbolizes **total surrender** to His work & His will.
- After all, **God can't resist brokenness**
- He is, in fact, **attracted to it**.
- **It draws Him to us.**

When the broken and repentant heart is confessing their sins before Him and is turning from the wrong, He will pay attention!

He can't resist humility and brokenness!

Attitude matters:

James 4:6 - 6 But He gives more grace. Therefore, He says: *"God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."*****

Humility Cures Worldliness

7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. **8 Draw near to God** and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. **9 Grieve and mourn and weep!** Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. **10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord,** and He will lift you up.

- **God opposes the proud but shows grace to the humble.**
- **God's grace is abundant!**

This is opposite of our thinking!

- Get down to be lifted up?
- That's not making sense Pastor...
- I want to go higher and higher, not lower.

God is telling someone here today, "Trust Me..."

He's telling someone to stop trying to lean on their own understanding.

- God is reaching for someone today -
- He wants us to let go of our desires and trust Him for our provision!
- God is willing to do great things through us
- And all he is waiting for is us to get ourselves out of His way!

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There is a clear pattern in the Bible that teaches us that Brokenness Brings Breakthrough:

Before Abraham became the father of many nations, he and Sarah were childless.

Before Jacob could be blessed, he was wounded by an angel in a wrestling match.

Before Joseph ruled Egypt, he was thrown into a pit, sold into slavery, and falsely imprisoned.

Before Job's estate was doubled, he lost everything he had, including his family, his fortune, and his future.

Before Moses became the great deliverer, he lost his position, his possessions, and his popularity.

Before Joshua conquered the Promised Land, he went through the wilderness.

Before Samson crushed the Philistines, he was blinded, binded, and grinded.

Before David became king, he was renounced by his family, ridiculed by his foes, and rejected by his friends.

Before **Daniel** could be used mightily, he had to spend the night in the lion's den.

Before **Hosea** became a powerful spokesman for God, his wife betrayed him,
which broke him.

Before **Peter** preached 3,000 souls into the kingdom, **he denied his Savior three times** and went out and wept bitterly.

Before **Paul** brought the gospel to the Gentiles, he was blinded on the Damascus Road.

I feel today that this principle is at work in us.

But sometimes God must break us so that He can remake us.

Jeremiah 18:4 - And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make.

- **God's ways are better.**
- **God, form our hearts today, according to your heart Lord!**

This illustrates God's power to change and reshape us!!!

Psalms 51:8 - Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

The songwriter expressed the proper attitude we should have during the times when we are broken.

God's forgiveness restores us from the inside out!

- He not only forgets but also heals...
- He brings us back to a place of joy and peace.

The Potter can mend the broken vessel and use it for His own purposes and pleasure!

If we never find a place of brokenness and submission to His will in our lives, we will never know breakthrough.

I have felt desperation in my spirit for us to know brokenness again.

- I hope this doesn't sound like I'm being a critic –
- It's been a long while since many of us have been broken before the Lord.
- If you are not broken, then you cannot be made into the image He has designed for you.
- It's more than a "good cry" every now and then.
- It must be something we strive for as often as we can have it.

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What I'm preaching here today is with all humility before the Lord.

I'm not up here trying to impress anyone or to get a bunch of frenzied "amens".

- Brokenness will put down gossip
- " - will cause us to put agendas aside
- " - will let us focus on Jesus
- " - will put down trivial matters
- " - will cause the established to make room for the new.
- " - takes us beyond mere tolerance into acceptance of one another.

Brokenness will bring us to a new sense of humility
And Brokenness Brings Breakthrough.

When the saints of God Breakthrough then:

- God is Glorified & Lifted up, and He draws men unto Him.
- Unity prevails!!!

When chains of bondage fall off the service – and people can come into worship unrestrained and uninhibited –

A new normal will begin to prevail in all aspects of ministry

It won't matter who is preaching or singing or leading or who does or doesn't get used today because it's all for His glory anyway!

I keep preaching about revival and an outpouring of souls...

"Revival" – a renewed spiritual fervor and a return to God, often marked by repentance, prayer, and a renewed focus on God's word and purpose!

I feel God is ready to do greater works in us than we have ever seen.

But before God will send revival, *he wants us to spend time in labor*.

If this revival is going to be birthed in us, then we will be the ones to go through the labor and delivery.

- *We will be the ones inviting people in*
- *We will be the ones teaching and helping them grow in Jesus*
- *We will be the ones to listen to their struggles and help them pray through.*

Since we will be the ones charged with raising them from milk to meat...

I believe God is giving us the key to breakthrough *in our lives and in our church*.
And that breakthrough is going to be brought through brokenness!

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Brokenness is what we allow God to make of us.

Jesus' death and resurrection was necessary for the spread of His teachings and the salvation of humanity.

John 12:24 - *I tell you for certain that a grain of wheat that falls on the ground will never be more than one grain unless it dies. But if it dies, it will produce lots of wheat.*

Jesus uses the example of a grain of wheat to explain the necessity of his death and resurrection. So many would be saved and receive eternal life. (Us)

Jesus had to die to fulfill his mission and bring about salvation.

Our application: This verse is a reminder that Christians must be willing to die to their own selfish desires and live for God's purposes to bear fruit.

Jesus was predicting his death on behalf of sinners, an event which opens the gospel of grace to the entire world.

And to experience a great harvest, **we need to die to self**.

Brokenness provides many of the needed elements for a great breakthrough!

- In Brokenness we find the pliability of the heart.
- No crop can grow in hard untilled ground
- In Brokenness we find sufficient tears to water the sown seed
- In Brokenness we find the crop beginning to show signs of life.

Brokenness Will Bring Breakthrough

God has called us into realms of great things.

Before we can come into this place, we need to fall broken before His presence.

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CLOSE:

When the woman with the Alabaster box came before Jesus, she was broken.

- Luke records that she was weeping

She poured out something precious, pure and valuable.

She came in brokenness to break open the most valuable thing she had To give!

Something valuable is within you.

We must love him enough to break open our lives, becoming a sweet aroma to him.

Her act, in brokenness, was so incredible that it was recorded in three of the four gospels.

And for all time, we will use this story as an example of **how-to breakthrough into the presence of Jesus Christ.**

Bring yourself to him; bring yourself in brokenness, repentant.

And just like Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Job, Moses, Joshua, Sampson, David, Daniel, Hosea, Peter and Paul...

God will deliver a mighty breakthrough in your life!