A God Promised Revival – The First Time

Over the past few weeks, I have been laying a foundation about revival.

Why have I been doing this?

What is the purpose of going into the past and sharing about these past revivals.

Some of you have been struggling with these messages. Wondering where I am headed.

Simply put, in order to understand the future, you must first look at the past.

When I first started on this path of the revival mindset, I conveyed that there are two distinct types of revival.

1. Revival that is prayed for and in God's sovereign grace responds by pouring out His Spirit as He has done...

Joe 3:1 "After this, I will pour out my Spirit on all humanity. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions;

Joe 3:2 and also on male and female slaves in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

Like what Yoel talks about, yet there is more here. This isn't just something that is prayed for in the case of Yoel, yet we will see more in the coming weeks.

2. The second type of revival is not based on prayer but based on a promise. God's Promise.

Num 23:19 "God is not a human who lies or a mortal who changes his mind. When he says something, he will do it; when he makes a promise, he will fulfill it.

This is where I am headed now. Within that Promise I see the following aspects as it is revealed.

- 1. Promise Adonai makes a promise
- 2. Preparation When Adonai makes a promise, He prepares for the promise
- 3. Proof Results...We will see noticeable, tangible results pertaining to His promise

So you have the game plan for the next few weeks.

Again, I will be going back in time before going forward. The reason for this is so you will better understand what has yet to happen. I say this now, because people don't understand what is happening

now, because they don't understand the past, Adonai's methods and thus His way.

Define Revival...

- Restoration to validity of something lapsed or set aside, such as a legal claim or status.
- A restoration to use, acceptance, activity, or vigor after a period of obscurity or quiescence.
- A time of reawakened interest in religion.

Here is one that most don't consider as being revival...resurrection...

- The act of restoring a dead person, for example, to life.
- The condition of having been restored to life.
- The return of Jesus to life on the third day after the Crucifixion.
- The restoration of the dead to life at the Last Judgment.
- The act of bringing back to practice, notice, use, or vibrancy; revival.

If I am talking about revival, it is best to know what it means and how the term is used.

The first one that I want to look at today is when Israel was judged for not keeping the Mitzvot of Adonai, when He conveyed what would happen if the children of Israel did not do so.

Deu 28:1 "If you listen closely to what Adonai your God says, observing and obeying all his mitzvot which I am giving you today, Adonai your God will raise you high above all the nations on earth;

Deu 28:2 and all the following blessings will be yours in abundance—if you will do what Adonai your God says:

Deu 28:15 "But if you refuse to pay attention to what Adonai your God says, and do not observe and obey all his mitzvot and regulations which I am giving you today, then all the following curses will be yours in abundance:

Deu 28:63 "Thus it will come about that just as once Adonai took joy in seeking to do you good and increase your numbers, so now Adonai will take joy in causing you to perish and be destroyed, and you will be plucked off the land you are entering in order to take possession of it.

Deu 28:64 Adonai will scatter you among all peoples from one end of the earth to the other, and there you will serve other gods, made of wood and stone, which neither you nor your ancestors have known.

Deu 28:65 Among these nations you will not find repose, and there will be no rest for the sole of your foot; rather Adonai will give you there anguish of heart,

dimness of eyes and apathy of spirit.

These are the promises Adonai made to the people just prior to entering the land. The Mitzvot were conditional to their safety in the land. If they kept them they would be safe. If they didn't keep them they would be removed.

What is removal from the land but judgment. The nation would be judged by Adonai. The long suffering God of Avraham, Yitzchak and Ya'akov would have a point where He would say "no more"

Prophet after Prophet, came to the Kings, came to the people, yet there would be times of small revivals, but never really true changes in heart. When a Righteous King would die, an unrighteous King would take his place. This let to an accumulation of transgression that was never truly repented for.

- **Jer 21:1** This is the word that came to Yirmeyahu from Adonai when King Tzidkiyahu sent to him Pash'chur the son of Malkiyah and Tz'fanyah the son of Ma`aseiyah with this message:
- Jer 21:2 "Please consult Adonai for us, because N'vukhadretzar king of Bavel is making war on us. Maybe Adonai will perform a miracle for us and cause him to withdraw."
- Jer 21:3 Yirmeyahu answered them, "Here is what you are to tell Tzidkiyahu:
- Jer 21:4 'This is what Adonai, the God of Isra'el, says: "I will make the weapons of war that you have in your hands ineffectual in your fight against the king of Bavel and the Kasdim who are outside the walls besieging you. Instead, I will gather them inside this city;
- Jer 21:5 and I myself will fight against you with my hand stretched out and with a strong arm, in anger, rage and great fury.
- Jer 21:6 I will strike the inhabitants of this city, humans and animals alike, and they will die of a terrible plague.
- Jer 21:7 Afterwards," says Adonai "I will hand over Tzidkiyahu king of Y'hudah, his servants, the people, and anyone remaining alive in this city after the plague, war and famine, to N'vukhadretzar king of Bavel and to their enemies, to those who seek their lives; and he will put them to the sword. He will not spare them; he will have no pity, no compassion."
- Jer 21:8 "And here is what you are to tell this people: 'Adonai says: "Look! I am presenting you with the way of life and the way of death.
- Jer 21:9 Anyone who stays in this city will die by sword, famine and plague. But he who leaves and surrenders to the Kasdim besieging you will stay alive; his own

life will be his only 'spoils of war.'

Jer 21:10 For I have determined absolutely that this city will have evil, not good," says Adonai. "It is going to be handed over to the king of Bavel, and he will burn it to the ground." '

And a warning to the House of David...

- Jer 21:11 "To the royal house of Y'hudah say: 'Hear the word of Adonai;
- Jer 21:12 house of David, this is what Adonai says: "Judge fairly every morning, rescue the wronged from their oppressors; or my fury will lash out like fire, burning so hot that no one can quench it, because of how evil your actions are."
- Jer 21:13 Adonai says, "I am against you, [Yerushalayim,] situated in a valley like a rock on a plain. You who say, 'Who can come down against us? Who can enter our lairs?'—
- Jer 21:14 I will punish you," says Adonai, "as your deeds deserve. I will set its forest on fire, and it will devour everything around it." ' "

Judge fairly, righteously.

As your deeds deserve.

The promise of judgment and punishment for a time "a season"

- **Jer 25:1** This is the word that came to Yirmeyahu concerning all the people of Y'hudah in the fourth year of Y'hoyakim the son of Yoshiyahu, king of Y'hudah; this was also the first year of N'vukhadretzar king of Bavel.
- Jer 25:2 Yirmeyahu the prophet proclaimed it before all the people of Y'hudah and all the inhabitants of Yerushalayim:
- Jer 25:3 "For twenty-three years, since the thirteenth year of Yoshiyahu the son of Amon, king of Y'hudah, until today, the word of Adonai has come to me; and I have proclaimed it to you on numerous occasions; but you haven't listened.
- Jer 25:4 Moreover, Adonai sent you all his servants the prophets—again, on numerous occasions—but you didn't listen or pay attention.
- Jer 25:5 The message was always: 'Every one of you, turn back from his evil way, from the evil of your actions. Then you will live in the land Adonai gave you and your ancestors forever and ever.
- Jer 25:6 Don't follow other gods by serving and worshipping them. "Don't provoke my anger with things your own hands have made; then I will do you no harm.

- Jer 25:7 But you wouldn't listen to me," says Adonai, "so that you could provoke me with the products of your hands, to your own harm."
- Jer 25:8 "Therefore, here is what Adonai-Tzva'ot says: 'Because you haven't paid attention to what I've been saying,
- Jer 25:9 I'm going to send for all the families of the north,' says Adonai, 'and for my servant N'vukhadretzar the king of Bavel, and bring them against this land, against its inhabitants and against all the surrounding nations. I will completely destroy them, making them an object of horror and ridicule, a perpetual ruin.
- Jer 25:10 Moreover, I will silence among them the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bridegroom and bride, the grinding of millstones and the light of lamps.
- Jer 25:11 This entire land will become a ruin, a waste; and these nations will serve the king of Bavel for seventy years.
- Jer 25:12 But when the seventy years are over, I will punish the king of Bavel and that nation for their sin,' says Adonai, 'and I will turn the land of the Kasdim into everlasting ruins.
- Jer 25:13 I will inflict on that land all my words that I have decreed against it, everything written in this book, in which Yirmeyahu has prophesied against all the nations.
- Jer 25:14 For they too will become slaves to many nations and to powerful kings; I will pay them back according to their deeds and the work of their own hands.'

There would be a time of exile, removal from the land as a result of their idolatry and the time of that separation is determined by their relation to the land, Adonai's Covenant and His Mitzvot.

- **2Ch 36:17** Therefore he brought upon them the king of the Kasdim, who put their young men to the sword in the house of their sanctuary. They had no compassion on either young men or young women, old men or gray-haired; God handed all of them over to him.
- 2Ch 36:18 All the articles in the house of God, great and small; the supplies in the house of Adonai; and the supplies of the king and his leading men—all these he brought to Bavel.
- 2Ch 36:19 Then they burned down the house of God, broke down the wall of Yerushalayim, put to flames all its palaces and destroyed everything in it of worth.
- 2Ch 36:20 Those who had escaped the sword he carried off to Bavel, and they became slaves to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia.
- 2Ch 36:21 Thus was fulfilled the word of Adonai spoken by Yirmeyahu, "until the

land has been paid her Shabbats"—for as long as it lay desolate, it kept Shabbat, until seventy years had passed.

Speaking of Yirmeyahu 25, that I shared earlier, confirming the words of the Prophet.

Separation from the land is the equivlant of being dead. The land and the people are intimately connected and when you remove one from the other, a death occurs. The land dies in that it is not flourishing because of the people. The people are not flourishing outside of the land because they are under the authority of others. Not the intention of Adonai when He coneyed this through Moshe...

Deu 30:11 For this mitzvah which I am giving you today is not too hard for you, it is not beyond your reach.

Deu 30:12 It isn't in the sky, so that you need to ask, 'Who will go up into the sky for us, bring it to us and make us hear it, so that we can obey it?'

Deu 30:13 Likewise, it isn't beyond the sea, so that you need to ask, 'Who will cross the sea for us, bring it to us and make us hear it, so that we can obey it?'

Deu 30:14 On the contrary, the word is very close to you—in your mouth, even in your heart; therefore, you can do it!

Deu 30:15 "Look! I am presenting you today with, on the one hand, life and good; and on the other, death and evil—

Deu 30:16 in that I am ordering you today to love Adonai your God, to follow his ways, and to obey his mitzvot, regulations and rulings; for if you do, you will live and increase your numbers; and Adonai your God will bless you in the land you are entering in order to take possession of it.

Deu 30:17 But if your heart turns away, if you refuse to listen, if you are drawn away to prostrate yourselves before other gods and serve them;

Deu 30:18 I am announcing to you today that you will certainly perish; you will not live long in the land you are crossing the Yarden to enter and possess.

Deu 30:19 "I call on heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have presented you with life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore, choose life, so that you will live, you and your descendants,

Deu 30:20 loving Adonai your God, paying attention to what he says and clinging to him—for that is the purpose of your life! On this depends the length of time you will live in the land Adonai swore he would give to your ancestors Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya`akov."

Jer 29:1 Following is the text of the letter Yirmeyahu the prophet sent from

- Yerushalayim to the leaders remaining in exile, as well as to the cohanim, the prophets and all the people N'vukhadnetzar had carried off captive from Yerushalayim to Bavel.
- Jer 29:2 This was after Y'khanyah the king, the queen mother, the officers, the leaders of Y'hudah and Yerushalayim, and the artisans and skilled workers had left Yerushalayim.
- Jer 29:3 The letter was entrusted to El`asah the son of Shafan and G'maryah the son of Hilkiyah; Tzidkiyah king of Y'hudah sent them to Bavel, to N'vukhadnetzar king of Bavel. The letter said:
- Jer 29:4 "Here is what Adonai-Tzva'ot, the God of Isra'el, says to all those in exile, whom I have caused to be carried off captive from Yerushalayim to Bavel:
- Jer 29:5 'Build yourselves houses, and live in them. Plant gardens, and eat what they produce.
- Jer 29:6 Choose women to marry, and have sons and daughters. Choose wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage to men, so that they can have sons and daughters—increase your numbers there, don't decrease.
- Jer 29:7 Seek the welfare of the city to which I have caused you to go in exile, and pray to Adonai on its behalf; for your welfare is bound up in its welfare.'
- Jer 29:8 For this is what Adonai-Tzva'ot, the God of Isra'el, says: 'Don't let your prophets who are living among you and your diviners deceive you, and don't pay attention to the dreams you urge them to dream.
- Jer 29:9 For they are prophesying falsely in my name; I have not sent them,' says Adonai.
- Jer 29:10 "For here is what Adonai says: 'After Bavel's seventy years are over, I will remember you and fulfill my good promise to you by bringing you back to this place.
- Jer 29:11 For I know what plans I have in mind for you,' says Adonai,'plans for well-being, not for bad things; so that you can have hope and a future.
- Jer 29:12 When you call to me and pray to me, I will listen to you.
- Jer 29:13 When you seek me, you will find me, provided you seek for me wholeheartedly;
- Jer 29:14 and I will let you find me,' says Adonai. 'Then I will reverse your exile. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have driven you,' says Adonai, 'and bring you back to the place from which I exiled you.'

Adonai had set a time for judgment and a duration for the punishment. Once the penalty had been fulfilled, 70 years of Shabbats (over 490 years) had been paid back to the land. Then Adonai would bring them back into the land. Notice what He said to the people through the Prophet...

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Jer 29:9 For they are prophesying falsely in my name; I have not sent them,' says Adonai.

Don't talk to me in essences is what Adonai is saying. I will not pay attention. What the Prophets are saying is not from Me. You will be here, not one day less and not one day more.

In this case, prayer was ineffective. No matter how much they prayed, it would not change anything.

Why?

Because God said this is what would happen.

Num 23:19 "God is not a human who lies or a mortal who changes his mind. When he says something, he will do it; when he makes a promise, he will fulfill it.

He would restore them back to the land again...in His time, as He stated.

He would bring forth revival as He promised.

He would revive the people by restoring them to the land.

He would revive the land by restoring the people back to the land

Both would be resurrected.

Both would be revived.

This revival, restoration, resurrection would play out and be documented in the books of Ezra and Nehimah.

Thus this is the first time Adonai has brought the people back to the land and restored them to be His people. They had violated the mitzvot of the covenant and as such the judgment associated with disobeying His mitzvot was brought forth. Once judgment comes, there are no more warnings, no more Prophets speaking for Adonai. They are told to get comfortable where they are, have families and in essence...wait.