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Binding Up The Broken Hearts Pastor Charles Mendenhall

The Holy Spirit is wanting to lead and guide us and give to us specific direction in our lives if we are at a crossroads, wanting to heal and restore us emotionally in our souls. God wants to bind up the brokenhearted because so many people are hurting and needing help. Jesus tells us in Luke 4, that He has been anointed to do this very thing. If something is broken it means that it is not working anymore and needs to be helped or in this case the heart needs healing, this is not the natural heart but the soulish part of us, the inner man, it doesn't function like the Lord intended for it to and without repair in this area it will become a closed spirit. We are not able to give or receive love.

Luke 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me (the Messiah), Because He has anointed Me to preach the good news to the poor. He has sent Me to announce release (pardon, forgiveness) to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set free those who are oppressed (downtrodden, bruised, crushed by tragedy)," AMP

Jesus saw the crowds coming and realized that they were hurting and seeking help. They wanted to hear him and see what he would do for them, they had no direction, no purpose and were being harassed. Harassed means to be troubled by repeated attacks or pestered or plagued with troubles.

Matt 9:36 "When He saw the crowds, He was moved with compassion *and* pity for them, because they were dispirited and distressed, like sheep without a shepherd." AMP

Jesus talks about the exchange that is available to the believer regarding binding up a broken heart.

Zion mentioned here is the church, the born again believers who are dysfunctional, the result of being hurt and the hangups in their lives, which hinders them from growing and developing spiritually. Jesus has plans to give them an exchange for their lives. Our part in this exchange is to let go of those things holding us back. Why does He want to do this? In order that we will be whole and that others will see that we allowed God to come into our lives and to see the supernatural part that comes from God, them knowing all the problems that had been there.

Isa 61:3 "To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them *beauty for ashes*, the *oil of joy for mourning*, the *garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness*; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified." KJV

The three areas mentioned will hinder our spiritual growth, does it mean that God loves us less? Definitely not! Ephesians chapter 1 tells us how much He loves us and has since the foundation of the earth.

Eph 1:3-6 " Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love. Long, long ago he decided to adopt us into his family through

Jesus Christ. (What pleasure he took in planning this!) He wanted us to enter into the celebration of his lavish gift-giving by the hand of his beloved Son." MESSAGE

Jesus had restoration and wholeness in mind for us knowing that we would have bruises and disappointments in life.

Isa 61:3 "To grant to those who mourn in *Zion the following*: To give them a turban instead of dust [on their heads, a sign of mourning], The oil of joy instead of mourning, The garment [expressive] of praise instead of a disheartened spirit. So they will be called the trees of righteousness [strong and magnificent, distinguished for integrity, justice, and right standing with God], The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified." AMP

Isa 61:7 "For your shame ye shall have double; and for confusion they shall rejoice in their portion: therefore in their land they shall possess the double: everlasting joy shall be unto them." KJV

Isa 61:7 "Instead of your [former] shame *you will have a double portion*; And *instead of* humiliation your people will shout for joy over their portion. Therefore in their land they will possess double [what they had forfeited]; Everlasting joy will be theirs" AMP

After restoration has been made in our lives, then the plan is that we will be used to help restore others. God wants to give double portion to us for any shame we may have had.

Eph 3:17 "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love," KJV

How do we make this exchange? We must be rooted and grounded in love, not letting the past hurts and offenses hinder us, causing our self image and self esteem to be destroyed. The devils plan in this is that we blame God for everything that has happened to us, we must not allow this to happen. We must remember to plead the blood of Jesus over our lives and those of our loved ones, reminding ourselves of the promises found in the 91st Psalm.

We must watch out about getting out of our comfort zone, the root of the problems must be dealt with. An example was given describing how a lady dealt with different situations that had happened in her life and how over the years she was unable to accept or deal with what had happened to her. A broken marriage and then the giving up of a child born out of another union, she felt like she would not be able to provide for the child. Years later she met her son, he accepted her as his mother and forgave her, but she was unable to let go because of guilt and shame, she was never able to make the exchange that was offered to her by Jesus and what He did for her.

How can we receive from God that part of us that has been bruised and disappointed? How do we become a whole person? Forgiveness will be involved, if it is for others or ourselves it must be dealt with.

Heb 6:19 "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;" KJV

Jesus is our anchor and hope for us. If we are really anchored in Jesus we will stay fixed in the midst of our storm. We must be anchored before the storm, putting the word into us for when it is needed. Choices are ours but we must let go of the pride and rejection that we are carrying in our lives, receive the word of God, renewing our minds because we are something special. Find what the word of God says about us, for the healing process of our souls. Psalms 139 goes

into detail regarding how much He cares for us.

Phil 1:6 "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:" KJV

1 Thess 5:18 "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." KJV

The giving of thanks is where a challenge may come when nothing seems to be going right for us, remember to give thanks and have joy in our lives, this is the will of God, having a thankful heart.

Isa 61:3 "To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified." KJV

Don't hang on to the ashes, give them to God, He understands everything, make the exchange that he has provided. Don't be covering the problems, get them out, expose them for what they are and deal with them, have a grateful heart. Thank God for everything no matter what the circumstances, being thankful and giving thanks for this is the will of God for you, who are in Christ Jesus, the mediator and revealer of the will, His Word.

Pro 17:22 "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones." KJV

Phil 4:6 "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." KJV

A poem written by a person in church years ago while going through some challenges.

"Sometimes we are discouraged, nothing seems to work out right, another opportunity to quit, but rest in the Lord, wait patiently, He will see you through, trust in Him and in His word submit, He can turn it around for your good just like He said that He would, cast not away your confidence, trust in Him like you should and He will turn it around for your good."