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DAY 12

GOD PROMISES TO RESTORE YOUR LOST TIME

JANUARY 19, 2024

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KEY SCRIPTURE

JOEL 2:25 ESV

"I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter..."

In the book of Joel, we are reminded of a promise God made to his people after they experienced consecutive waves of locust invasions which left long-lasting devastation in the land. Crops were destroyed, and provisions for their nation became scarce. But perhaps, what was most disheartening was witnessing the many years of hard work that went into cultivating the land vanish... unable to recover that time. The people of Judah were brought to their knees.

Many things like broken-down-cars, failed jobs, or even strained relationships can be restored. But time cannot be restored. Thoughts like; "I should have made this decision earlier..." or "if only I had done this..." can circle around in our minds. Wrong choices or missed opportunities can often leave us with feelings of guilt, regret, or even anger.

However, with God nothing is impossible. He restores the "years," (or time) that has been lost or wasted when we surrender to him. Just as

God promised Judah abundant harvests for the years of desolation brought about by the locusts, he can restore our lost time.

Perhaps you've felt that you've lost years by acting selfishly, preoccupied only with temporal things rather than focusing on what is eternal. Perhaps you've regretted a decision that brought division in the family. Perhaps you've felt that the injustice done to you long ago robbed you of any sense of security. Perhaps you've felt that your illness will prevent you from a better future. Perhaps you've thought that the loss of your loved one could only mean despair.

Whatever your regrets or disappointments may be, allow God to restore those "lost years" by first deepening your relationship with Christ. The beauty of God's restoration is not merely about reclaiming what was taken away; it's about the transformation that occurs within us as we trust in Him. God doesn't just return what was lost; He redeems those years, infusing them with purpose, wisdom, and a deeper understanding of His faithfulness. Our losses become testimonies of His power to heal and restore.

Second, allow God to restore lost years by

What could happen if you stopped dwelling on the past and looked to the present in the light of what God can do?

REFLECTIONS

- # PRAYER