

*Every promise God gives us in life comes to us pregnant with potential and blessing. What we need to understand is that God intends us to work with His promises until we reap great fruitfulness and abundance. With every promise of God in our life there is a journey of faith until we reach...*

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## Harvest Time

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**Psalms 67:6 (NIV)** <sup>6</sup>*Then the land will yield its harvest, and God, our God, will bless us.*

### Series Introduction

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- A. We are learning to bring God's Promises to HARVEST in our life.
  - There are over 8,000 promises in God's word.
  - They are all "yes" in Christ (2 Cor 1:20).
  - Take them from 'faith' to 'substance' (Heb 11:1).
- B. We have to MANIFEST spiritual reality, not just believe it.
  - Harvest is "Possessing" time.
  - Being spiritual is not just believing but manifesting reality in Christ.
- C. God promised His land would always yield an abundant harvest to His people (*even when the world around was in famine*).
- D. All of God's Blessings for His people was tied to the Land (A type of Christ).
- E. All God has done for us IN CHRIST is a covenant of Promises.

- F. Every Promise comes to us "pregnant" with the potential of an abundant harvest!

### Message One:

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## The Joy of the Harvest

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*Finding Joy in possessing what God has promised us*

**Isaiah 9:3 (NIV)** <sup>3</sup>*You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.*

### Message Introduction

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- A. The **four seasons** of God's Promises.
  1. Receiving the Seed (*His Word*)
  2. Planting (*enemy's work = steal*)
  3. Growing (*enemy's work = kill*)
  4. Harvest (*enemy's work = destroy*)
- B. Learn to **stay in faith** until you harvest God's Promises.
  - Abraham learned how to "Harvest" a promise from God: **Rom 4:17-22**
  - STAY IN FAITH UNTIL YOU POSSESS.
  - **Hebrews 4:2 (NIV)** <sup>2</sup>*For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith.*
- C. When you Harvest God's Promises you will learn of **"Plundering Joy"** over the enemy!
  - Isaiah 9:3 – *"You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people*

*rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.” (see verse 4 too)*

- Every possession of a Promise of God in your life plunders something the enemy had over you!
- You gain back ground and additional seed for more!

D. Why we need **Harvest-Joy**: it is our spiritual strength.

- Neh 8:10; Neh 12:43

E. **Psalms 65:8-13**. God prepares our land (“in Christ”) to have an abundant harvest for what we sow in it!

- See v 9 and NIV text note: Or *“for that is how you prepare the land...”*
- There is nothing wrong with the land or the seed: the question is will we work with them and harvest?
- **John 15:5, 7**

F. Harvesting is bringing in the fruit of abiding in Christ

- Harvest is gathering in and partaking of Land’s riches
- Christ is full of unsearchable riches: Eph 3:8

G. The world says, *“It’s recession time”*; Tell my people, *“it is harvest time!”*

- **Leviticus 26:5 (NIV)** <sup>5</sup>*Your threshing will continue until grape harvest and the grape harvest will continue until planting, and you will eat all the food you want and live in safety in your land.*
- **Leviticus 26:10 (NIV)** <sup>10</sup>*You will still be eating last year’s harvest when you will have to move it out to make room for the new.*
- **Proverbs 10:5 (NIV)** <sup>5</sup>*He who gathers crops in summer is a wise son, but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son.*
- **Proverbs 20:4 (NIV)** <sup>4</sup>*A sluggard does not plow in season; so at harvest time he looks but finds nothing.*

**God wants us to learn how to bring in a Harvest of His Promises in times of difficulty so that we maintain our Joy in Him for strength in service and power in witness...**

Lev 26:3-13

## 1. Rejoice! God has commanded the Land to Abundantly produce what is sown in it.

*(Lev 26:4-5)*

**Leviticus 26:4 (NIV)** <sup>4</sup>*I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit. <sup>5</sup>Your threshing will continue until grape harvest and the grape harvest will continue until planting, and you will eat all the food you want and live in safety in your land.*

A. God’s “Land” is Anointed ground: It ABUNDANLY produces what is sown in it!

- Psalm 68:9-13
- Deut 11:10-12

B. There is JOY in PRODUCTIVITY and FRUITFULNESS.

- **John 15:5, 7-8, 11**
- **John 16:24 (NIV)** <sup>24</sup>*Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.*

C. Our “Land” (Ground) is the mingled spirit. (Rom 8:16)

- In the New Testament, God likens His Spirit in our spirit as the “ground” that grows Christ in us.
- 1 Cor 6:17
- What we sow into our spirit from God will grow into a harvest.

- [Gal 6:7-8](#)

#### D. Your spirit 'grows' what is sown in it.

- Spirit is "wind", "breath", "life" – it breathes life on what is sown in it. Our spirit is "made" to be a tree of life: grow and expand what is sown in it.
- Your spirit is "farming field" of God's Word.
- It is a "production factory" for spiritual harvests.
- [Mark 4:26-29](#)

#### E. Heart condition determines the conditions of your harvest.

- Mark 4:1-20
- While the spirit "produces" the results, the heart determines the degree of depth, fruitfulness and riches.
- A good spirit with a cluttered heart still produces a low yielding harvest.
- The heart, more than the spirit determines the outcome of the harvest.
- Note: because YOU control your heart, you control your harvests!

#### F. Name your harvest and put God's Word into your soil.

- Farming is not guesswork. You know the crop you want and you plant specific seed.
- You plant what you intend to harvest.

## 2. God will give you JOY from the peace and quietness of the land so you can sow and harvest your fields.

(Lev. 26:6-8)

**Leviticus 26:6 - 8 (NIV)** <sup>6</sup>"I will grant peace in the land, and you will lie down and no one will make you afraid. I will remove savage beasts from the land, and the sword will not pass through your country. <sup>7</sup>You will

*pursue your enemies, and they will fall by the sword before you. <sup>8</sup>Five of you will chase a hundred, and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand, and your enemies will fall by the sword before you.*

#### A. God has given us peace in Christ so we have safety to spiritually harvest all He's given us.

- **Romans 5:1 (NIV)** <sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
- See context: Rom 5:1-5
- In Christ, we are in unmolested territory – the enemy can not reach us.
- Lev 26:6
- We are free to pursue obtaining a harvest of things in Christ.

#### B. In the "land" of Christ God HAS conquered all our enemies!

- Col 2:15

#### C. Living in the "land of Christ" and tending the harvest puts a time of pressure on satan's kingdom.

- How do we pressure satan's kingdom? Sow God's word and bring in a harvest!
- The more we fill this earth with Christ, the more we establish the kingdom of God and displace the kingdom of darkness.
- Harvesting God's Word (His Promises in Christ) puts pressure on satan's kingdom.

#### D. The "Quietness" is to call you to the secret places with Christ.

- **Song 2:10-13, 14-15** "Come away with me."
- Isaiah 25:6-7

#### E. Renewed "strength" will come to the church to contend with the enemy as we get into the JOY of our harvest.

- **Leviticus 26:8 (NIV)** <sup>8</sup>Five of you will chase a hundred, and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand, and your enemies will fall by the sword before you.

- When there is no experience of the joy of the harvest we let the enemy take it... **Judges 6:3-6**

### 3. God calls you to the JOY of fruitfulness and Increase.

(Lev 26:9-10)

**Leviticus 26:9 - 10 (NIV)** <sup>9</sup>"I will look on you with **favor** and make you **fruitful** and **increase** your numbers, and I will keep my covenant with you. <sup>10</sup>You will still be eating last year's harvest when you will have to move it out to make room for the new.

A. There is JOY in experiencing spiritual fruitfulness and increase! (*Jn 15:5, 7,11*)

- A growing, fruitful Christian life is a Joyful one.
- "...to make room for the new..."

B. Fruitfulness comes from God's favor not our hard work.

- Psalms 127:1
- It is because He blessed the land that our "labour" on it has fruitfulness.
- The New testament concept of "rest" has the idea of the "right realm for activity to bear results", not inactivity.

C. Under His favour in Christ (*Eph 1:3*)

- Under the OT you obtained God's favour through your obedience. Under the NT we obtain God's favour through Christ's obedience.
- You already are under God's favour.
- Mercy and grace are the environment of your inner man.

D. How God feels towards you. (*Is 62:1-9*)

- You are FAVOURED!

E. The MORE of God you harvest the more "seed" you will have to increase EXCEEDINGLY. (*26:10*)

### 4. God calls you to the JOY of powerful intimacy with Him.

(Lev 26:11-13)

**Leviticus 26:11 - 13 (NIV)** <sup>11</sup>I will put my dwelling place<sup>f</sup> among you, and I will not abhor you. <sup>12</sup>I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people. <sup>13</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt so that you would no longer be slaves to the Egyptians; I broke the bars of your yoke and enabled you to walk with heads held high.

A. The reason for the harvest in the land is: God's PRESENCE is there at the center.

- (v. 11-12)
- The land produces because God is in the land as the supply of it.
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B. The harvest is not about obtaining "things" (just "blessings") but the riches of Christ!

- We are harvesting a Person within us as our supply and content.
- We have to stop seeing His blessings – joy, peace, power, grace, love, healing, etc. – as separate from Him.
- In the Spiritual realm there is only one thing: Christ!

C. We are enabled to be Harvesters in His land because we are...

1. **Presenced** (v11)

- "I will put my dwelling place among you..."
- This is already done by the coming of the Holy Spirit.
- You are the temple: 1 Cor 3:16

2. **Empowered** (v12)

- "I will walk among you and be your God..."

- Walk among" speaks of daily fellowship for advice, comfort, help, love, encouragement, provision, etc.
  - You are "God-walked-with"!
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3. **Delivered** (v13)
- "So you should no longer be slaves...."
  - "I broke the bars of your neck..."
  - He breaks the hold of the enemy over us.
  - In Egypt the people were slave-harvesters for the benefit of others; God makes us free harvesters for our own future blessing!
4. **Honoured** (v13)
- "... and enabled you to walk with heads held high."
  - God wants to restore your dignity and prosperity in a place of harvesting the good of the land, enjoying the favour and love of God.

## Conclusion

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**Isaiah 9:3 (NIV)** <sup>3</sup>*You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.*

- ✚ The world says, 'Recession time'; God says, "Harvest time".
- ✚ It's time to decide if you want to join the recession or the harvest. If you want the recession, sow the world into your life; if you want the harvest, sow the Word into your life.
- ✚ Get busy with the Promises of God's word: plant, tend and harvest!

**Galatians 6:9 (NIV)** <sup>9</sup>Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.