



THE PORTRAIT  
OF A  
GOD-RESTORED  
PEOPLE

# THE PORTRAIT OF A GOD-RESTORED PEOPLE

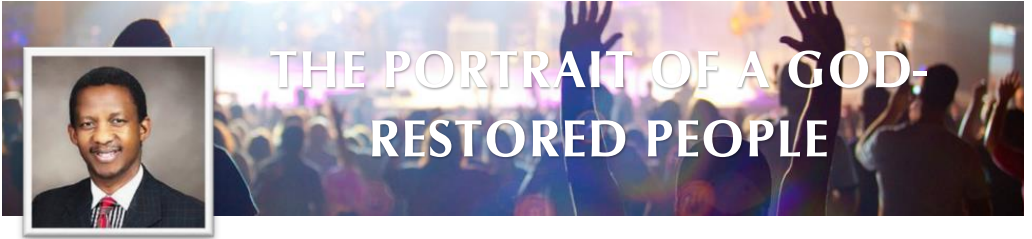


## **ADDRESS**

Cnr N6 & Hertzog Str.  
Sports Grounds Queenstown  
5320

## **CONTACTS**

Tel. 045 839 7675  
Cell. 072 315 8108  
Fax. 086 234 2345



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### 1. TIME HAD BEEN LOST.

**T**wenty years of No Progress! The foundation for the new Temple had been laid. Even then, at dedication, the confusion was disheartening. The elders were crying the youths were shouting over the same project. Those who had recollections of the Grandeur in Solomon's Temple felt this foundation was pitiful in comparison.

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The youths who had not seen the former Temple were glad to see this one. But soon the building process came to a grinding halt. Two decades passed and no meaningful progress could be reported. Excuses were many. The classic one was it was not yet time to build. In other words, IT'S NOT MY SEASON! That excuse has robbed many GOD ordained destinies.

## **2. THEY LIVED IN CONSTANT MISFORTUNE.**

### ***Zechariah 1:18-19***

*"Then I looked up, and there before me were four horns. I asked the angel who was speaking to me, "What are these?" He answered me, "These are the horns that scattered JUDAH, ISRAEL and JERUSALEM."*

***Judah*** - Praise Song of Praise silenced

***Israel*** - soldier of GOD. Army of God defeated

***Jerusalem*** - City of Peace / City of the Great King!

## **3. THEY SUFFERED PERPETUAL MISERY THAT LEFT THEM DEJECTED AND INFERIOR.**

DEJECTED means Sad - Depressed and Dispirited!

### ***Zechariah 1:21***

*"I asked, "What are these coming to do?"*



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*He answered, “These are the horns that scattered Judah SO THAT NO ONE COULD RAISE THEIR HEAD, but the craftsmen have come to terrify them and throw down these horns of the nations who lifted up their horns against the land of Judah to scatter its people.”*

## 3.1. A NASTY SET BACK.

The Problem of heads down had been solved before.....!!!

### ***Leviticus 26:13***

*“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 YOUR HEADS HELD HIGH!”*

What do you do when you are back at a place you were once redeemed from, and that because of your foolishness.

## 4. THEY SUFFERED LOSS AT UNBEARABLE SCALES.

DEPRESSING REGRESSION WAS A DAILY OCCURRENCE.

### ***Haggai 1:6***

*“You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.”*

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## THE TURNING POINT

GOD IN HIS BENEVOLENCE RAISED TWO PREACHERS

### ***Ezra 6:14***

*“So the elders of the JEWS CONTINUED TO BUILD AND TO PROSPER UNDER THE PREACHING OF HAGGAI THE PROPHET AND ZECHARIAH a descendant of Iddo. They finished building the temple according to the command of the God of Israel and the decrees of Cyrus, Darius and Artaxerxes, kings of Persia.”*

## PREACHING THAT PREVAILS

MAY PEOPLE PROSPER UNDER YOUR PREACHING!  
MAY GOD'S PLAN FOR FAMILIES PROSPER UNDER YOUR PREACHING!  
MAY BUILDINGS RISE UNDER YOUR PREACHING!  
MAY PROJECTS BLOSSOM UNDER YOUR PREACHING!  
MAY STUDENTS OBTAIN HIGH DEGREES UNDER YOUR PREACHING!  
MAY SCHOOLS BE BUILT UNDER YOUR PREACHING!  
MAY DELIVERANCE ABOUND UNDER YOUR PREACHING!  
MAY WITCHCRAFT SNARES EXPLODE UNDER YOUR PREACHING!  
MAY SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX PROBLEMS EMERGE UNDER YOUR PREACHING!



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**MAY THE CLOUDS OF DEPRESSION AND DESPONDENCY  
DISSOLVE UNDER YOUR PREACHING!**

**PREACH UNTIL SOMETHING SHAKES!  
PREACH UNTIL SOMETHING BREAKS!  
PREACH UNTIL SOMETHING GIVES WAY!  
PREACH UNTIL THE FALLEN ARE LIFTED!  
PREACH UNTIL THE SICK GET HEALED!  
PREACH UNTIL RESISTANCE GIVES IN!  
PREACH UNTIL THE DRUNKARD GETS SOBER!  
PREACH UNTIL CONVICTION IS OVERWHELMING!**

**PREACH WITH SKILL!  
PREACH WITH PASSION!  
PREACH WITH STAMINA!  
PREACH WITH JOY!  
PREACH WITH TEARS!  
PREACH.....!!!!!!**

**ZECHARIAH AND HAGGAI HAD TO PAINT A PICTURE OF  
HOW A RESTORED ISRAEL WOULD LOOK LIKE.**

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## **BACKGROUND:**

Israel's collective was dilapidated: Their community life, their identity as a nation, 70 years of life lost.

The older generation when seeing the foundations of the Zerubabbel temple wept - this is nothing compared to what we once saw.

## **THE ENEMY ALWAYS GOES TOO FAR.**

### ***Zechariah 1:15***

*“and I am very angry with the nations that feel secure. I was only a little angry, but they went too far with the punishment.”*

When given a chance, the enemy will always go TOO FAR!!!

## **GIVE NO FOOTHOLD TO THE devil.**

### ***Ephesians 4:27***

*“and do not give the devil a foothold.”*

## **A LITTLE BIT CAN GO TOO FAR.**

### ***Galatians 5:9***

*“A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough.”*





You drink a bit... The devil hooks you up and you become a drunkard

You drink a bit... And he spikes your drink and next thing you are raped

You drink a bit... And your testimony of purity and Holiness is broken

... The enemy will always go too far!!!

YOU give him a little opening in your finances...

You stay away from tithing

He steals your Peace

He wrecks your car - cancels your insurance...

He steals your health - you pay exorbitant fees

He stirs up trouble and you find yourself entangled in legal wrangling that prolongs anxiety and leaves a seemingly bottomless pit of debt.

YOU give the devil a little opening in your marriage.....

### **TRUE STORY:**

A married man, a pastor got an email from a woman proposing love in a very subtle yet clear way.

He did not feel he should embarrass her but stupidity entered his mind. He thought to himself, I will speak to her like a "daughter". and dissuade her from this idea of hers. Little did he know, he was entering into a snare. On a Sunday afternoon while on holiday, He booked two rooms in a hotel for the family. The wife was due to

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arrive 30 minutes later. The children went with friends and the woman proposing love called. He welcomed her into the room that would be for children while he went to the lobby. When Madam arrived, she went to the reception got two keys of the rooms booked under their surname as usual. To her surprise when she opened the door to her children's room lo and behold there was a woman and a fight ensued. She happened to know that this woman had been pursuing her husband for some time

That one incident caused years of heartache and losses.

...A little door of stupidity...

## **HOW ISRAEL WOULD BE THROUGH THE WORDS OF ZECH.**

**CONCEPTS:** The dilapidated house with great potential

### **1. WILL BE AS THOUGH WE NEVER LOST TIME.**

#### ***Zechariah 10:6***

*"I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph.*

*I will bring them back, because I have mercy on them. They shall be as though I had not cast them aside; for I am the Lord their God, And I will hear them."*



Have you felt at times as though you were GOD FORSAKEN? As though life was going by and you were "missing out" on the main "action"?

Have you felt like others were Blessed and your prayers were hitting a wall?

Have you ever felt like giving up hope because the last time your hopes were "up" you got a cold disappointment and things just continued as they had been?

The Israel / Judah that ZECH was preaching to knew how it was to feel "wasted"

**LOST TIME IN MARRIAGE**

**LOST TIME IN FAMILY BUILDING AND BONDING**

**LOST OPPORTUNITIES TO HONOR...** Have you ever felt like you missed precious opportunities to...

**WE WILL BE AS THOUGH, WE NEVER LOST TIME!**

***Joel 2:25***

*"I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten—  
the great locust and the young locust,  
the other locusts and the locust swarm—  
my great army that I sent among you."*

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## **2. THEY WILL BE MIGHTY AND JOYFUL.**

### ***Zechariah 10:7***

*“Those of Ephraim shall be like a mighty man, and their heart shall rejoice as if with wine. Yes, their children shall see it and be glad; Their heart shall rejoice in the Lord.”*

Drunkards sing loud having drowned their sorrows in strong drink

We will rejoice having sunk our worries in see of CHRIST'S LOVE

**I WILL REJOICE ABOVE THE CONCERNS AROUND ME**

**HOW IS A MIGHTY MAN**

- 2.1. Has an imposing presence
- 2.2. He's not easily intimidated
- 2.3. He does not shy away from a challenge
- 2.4. He gets the place of honor
- 2.5. He speaks up his mind - asserts his position and all others listen

((death defying, life energizing confessions )))



### **3. THEY HEAR THE GENTLE WISPERS OF THE SHEPHERD.**

#### ***Zechariah 10:8***

*I will whistle for them and gather them, for I will redeem them; And they shall increase as they once increased.*

#### **3.1. THEY HAVE THE REDEMPTION SONG.**

The whistle of freedom is blowing again! The signal for a Holy gathering. The Middle East shepherd had his own unique sound that could be easily identified by his flock and they would follow. GOD our Chief Shepherd is about to make sounds. Sounds you will not miss!

Sounds of restoration.

Sounds of deliverance.

Sounds of Blessed Assurance

Sounds of

#### **3.2. THEY INCREASE AS THEY ONCE DID - STAGNATION BROKEN!!!**

And they shall increase as they once increased.

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Back on cause

Back in the Game!

To the marginalized - Back In Business

To the weary -  
Back to the place of energy

To those in despair -  
Back to the place of Hope

To those in turmoil and overwhelming struggles -  
Back to the place of Peace

To those who were led astray  
Back to the Joy of Salvation

To the lukewarm believer  
Back to the Place of your First Love

To the neutralized believer  
Back to the Place of influence... You were meant to be a trend setter  
The head and not the tail - Above only and not beneath

In any good thing that matters  
Back In ministry



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## 4. THEY WALK THROUGH ANY TROUBLE.

### ***Zechariah 10:11***

*“They will pass through the sea of trouble; the surging sea will be subdued and all the depths of the Nile will dry up. Assyria’s pride will be brought down and Egypt’s scepter will pass away.”*

### ***Psalms 84:6-7***

*“Passing through the Valley of Weeping (Baca), they make it a place of springs; the early rain also fills [the pools] with blessings. They go from strength to strength [increasing in victorious power]; each of them appears before God in Zion.”*

### ***Psalms 23:4***

“Yes, though I walk through the [deep, sunless] valley of the shadow of death, I will fear or dread no evil, for **You** are with me; Your rod [to protect] and Your staff [to guide], they comfort me.”

WE WILL "WALK OVER" ANY devil, any trouble, in JESUS Name!!!!

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## 4.1. THE WAVES ARE SUBDUED

The waves are very strong - often the only way out is to let the wave carry one to its breaking point

. . . . But When GOD restores HIS PEOPLE, HE STRIKES THE STRONGEST PART OF THE RAGING SEA!!! HALLELUJAH!!!

The waves won't have the final word, the winds and the waves shall obey!!!

## 5. THEY BECOME A PARADE OF THE NAME OF THE LORD.

***Zechariah 10:12***

*“And I will strengthen them in the Lord; and they shall walk up and down in his name, saith the Lord.”*

HIS NAME IS HIS CHARACTER.

EVERY TIME YOU WALK, WHEREVER YOU WALK, BOTH THE PEOPLE AND SPIRITS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO IGNORE GOD!!!!





You are an embodiment of HIS FAITHFULNESS.

The Roman concept of tying those they had overcome to their wagons and make a public spectacle of them on the streets of Rome. . . . . This is what once troubled me . . . . . But no more!

## **6. THEY SHALL SPARKLE.**

### ***Zechariah 9:16-17***

*“The Lord their God will save his people on that day as a shepherd saves his flock. They will sparkle in his land like jewels in a crown. How attractive and beautiful they will be! Grain will make the young men thrive, and new wine the young women.”*

**YOU SPARKLE!**

**YOU WILL BE ATTRACTIVE!**

## **7. THEY ARE VALUED FOR THEIR UNDENIABLE GOD CONNECTION.**

### ***Zechariah 8:23***

*“This is what the Lord Almighty says: “In those days ten people from all languages and nations will take firm hold of one Jew by the hem*

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*of his robe and say, 'Let us go with you, because we have heard that God is with you.'"*

People will hold on to you when they know through you they can have access to GOD (even important people!).

You will be a valuable connecting point!

Praise the LORD

Amen!!!!

PRAISE THE LORD

AMEN!!!!