

Fordoche 02/02/03 02/08/04	Monroe St. 04-20-03	Big cane 08-31-03	FBC Milton 05/02/04	Morrow 11/12/03	Calavary 09/12/04
	NewProspect 05/13/04	GrosseTete 02/28/05	Simmsport 04/04/03		

A PRELUDE TO RENEWAL

NKJV Psalm 143:

1. **Hear my prayer, O LORD, Give ear to my supplications!**
In Your faithfulness answer me, And in Your righteousness.
2. **Do not enter into judgment with Your servant,**
For in Your sight no one living is righteous.
3. **For the enemy has persecuted my soul;**
He has crushed my life to the ground;
He has made me dwell in darkness,
Like those who have long been dead.
4. **Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed within me;**
My heart within me is distressed.
5. **I remember the days of old;**
I meditate on all Your works;
I muse on the work of Your hands.
6. **I spread out my hands to You;**
My soul longs for You like a thirsty land. Selah
7. **Answer me speedily, O LORD; My spirit fails!**
Do not hide Your face from me,
Lest I be like those who go down into the pit.
8. **Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning,**
For in You do I trust;
Cause me to know the way in which I should walk,
For I lift up my soul to You.
9. **Deliver me, O LORD, from my enemies;**
In You I take shelter.
10. **Teach me to do Your will,**
For You are my God; Your Spirit is good.
Lead me in the land of uprightness.
11. **Revive me, O LORD, for Your name's sake!**
For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.
12. **In Your mercy cut off my enemies,**
And destroy all those who afflict my soul;
For I am Your servant.

This is another Wonderful prayer of David.

It is an urgent appeal for help.

**David had no inhibitions,
and he opened his heart to God.**

Oh, that we could learn to pray like that!

Hear my prayer, O LORD,
 give ear to my supplications:
 in thy faithfulness answer me,
 and in thy righteousness [Ps. 143:1].

**David appeals to
 the faithfulness and righteousness of God for an answer.**

Isn't this exactly what believers are to do when they sin?

If we confess our sins,
 he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins,
 and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness
 (1 John 1:9).

He is faithful and just [or righteous].

**Like David,
 we appeal to God
 on the basis of His faithfulness and His righteousness.**

Somewhere along the way . . .

Christians have LOST THEIR PASSION

We don't know **WHEN** it Started
 It **JUST STARTED**

We don't know **WHY** –
 We don't know **HOW** –

We couldn't tell you the **MINUTE** –
 We couldn't tell you the **HOUR** –
 We couldn't tell you the **DAY** -

For some of us it might have been last Month -
For some of us it might have been last Year -
For some of us it might have been last Decade -

All we know is: IT JUST HAPPENED !

**And the THING THAT HAPPENED
somewhere ALONG THE LINE**

**In your Life
And in my Life
We became **SPIRITUALLY DRY****

**If we're honest with ourselves
If we can get beyond the Suit & Tie -
If we can get beyond the Make-Up -
If we can get beyond the Front -**

Somewhere along the way –

We became SPIRITUALLY DRY –

We lost our PASSION !

**When we FIRST got Saved
When we FIRST born again
When we FIRST gave our life and heart to Jesus**

You remember the time you got saved . . .

**You felt like you could
go to HELL with a Water Pistol
and put out the Fire !!!
Squirt Squirt Spuirt**

Somewhere along the way: Something Happened:

**Someone may have Hurt You deeply -
Someone playing with your Feelings & Emotions –
Been attacked by Sickness or Fear –**

**Your finances depleted: (Can't pay the Bills)
Some people so broke, they can't even pay attention**

**Some may be on Automatic Pilot
Just going through the motions**

LOST YOUR PASSION !!!

If the TRUTH were told
If we're HONEST with ourselves

If we could get to where nobody can see but GOD . . .
And look at ourselves in the mirrow

**We've Lost It
We're Dry**

Our Witness is a thing of the Past !

And now
we find ourselves **SPIRITUALLY DRY**

we find ourselves **without any real PASSION**

Well guess what folks,
You've come to the **RIGHT PLACE !**
At the **RIGHT TIME !**

If that's your situation
If that's your condition

**I have an announcement to make:
You're not here today by mistake:**

We all stand in need of REVIVAL

We all stand in need of RENEWAL

We all stand in need of RESTORATION

Let me remind you: **YOU CAN BE RENEWED**

YOU CAN REGAIN YOUR LOST PASSION

David, at one time
had a ONE on ONE Relationship with God

Look at Psalm 23 NKJV

It is David's Testimony of how close he & God were

1. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
2. He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.
3. He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.
4. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; For You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
5. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.
6. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

Isn't that personal

Yet, in Psalm 143:

David's passion is gone

He is **SPIRITUALLY DRY**

He has **Lost his PASSION**

Look at Vs. 1-2 and see David;s PRAYER

1. Hear my prayer, O LORD,
Give ear to my supplications!
In Your faithfulness answer me, And in Your righteousness
2. Do not enter into judgment with Your servant,
For in Your sight no one living is righteous.

HE CRIED OUT,

But:

He didn't cry out to the GOVERNMENT -

He didn't cry out to the CHURCH -

He didn't cry out to the PASTOR -

We're grateful to all of these;

BUT Sometimes only GOD can help !!!

He cried out to GOD

Now look at VS 3-6 (**David's Predicament**)

3. For the enemy has **persecuted** my soul;
He has **crushed** my life to the ground;
He has made me **dwell in darkness**,
like those who have long been dead.
4. Therefore my spirit is **overwhelmed** within me;
My heart within me is **distressed**.

Persecuted	Crushed	Dwelling in Darkness
Overwhelmed		Distressed

5. **I remember** the days of old;
I **meditate** on all Your works;
I **muse** (*ponder*) on the work of Your hands.
6. I spread out my hands to You;
My soul longs for You like a thirsty land.

God I remember how it used to be . . .

God I remember	the Days of Old
God I remember when my	<u>joy was genuine</u>
God I remember when my	<u>Laughter was Sincere</u>
God I remember when my	<u>Light used to Shine</u>
God I remember when I	<u>Practiced what I Preached</u>
God I remember when I	<u>Walked by Faith, not Sight</u>

God I remember when **Your GRACE was Sufficient**

That was before I got	<u>RELIGIOUS</u>
That was before	<u>BUSINESS MEETINGS</u>
That was before	<u>BUDGETS</u>
That was before I got all	<u>MESSED UP</u>

BUT LORD, I REMEMBER THE DAYS OF OLD

LORD, the Enemy has crushed my Soul

LORD, I long for YOU !

Look now in VS 7-10 DAVID'S PLEA

7. Answer me speedily, O LORD; My spirit fails!
Do not hide Your face from me,
Lest I be like those who go down into the pit.
8. Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning,
For in You do I trust;
Cause me to know the way in which I should walk,
For I lift up my soul to You.
9. Deliver me, O LORD, from my enemies; In You I take shelter.
10. Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.

LORD, I need to hear from YOU

I know I can call my **pastor**
I know I can call my **deacon**
I know I can call my **friend**

But I need to hear from YOU !!!

I'm **DRY**
I'm **Washed-UP**

But, I'm not giving up !!!

I've become **SPIRITUALLY DEAD...**

But, I DON'T WANT TO BE BURIED

HELP ME LORD ...

MY SPIRIT IS FAILING ...

HELP ME LORD**I'VE LOST MY PASSION****I'M SPIRITUALLY DRY****LORD . . . Give me Another Chance**

I've tried MY WAY
 Now, I want to try YOUR WAY

I've tried the REST
 Now I want to try the BEST

LORD . . .

He gave ADAM & EVE another Chance
 He gave ABRAHAM & SARAH another Chance
 He gave MOSES another Chance
 He gave SAMSON another Chance
 He gave DAVID another Chance
 He gave CHILDREN of ISRAEL another Chance
 He gave PETER another Chance
 He gave WOMAN at the WELL another Chance

I know HE gave some of you another Chance
GOD GAVE ME another Chance

VS 11-12 DAVID'S PROPERSITION**I think David Loudly CRIED OUT R-E-V-I-V-E ME !****11. Revive me, O LORD, for Your name's sake!****For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.**

**12. In Your mercy cut off my enemies,
 And destroy all those who afflict my soul;
 For I am Your servant.**

Listen to David's Proposal:

Lord I'm Dry

Lord my Spirit is Dying

Lord I'm	<u>CRUSHED</u>
Lord Bring me	<u>Back to the CROSS</u>
Lord Bring me	<u>Back to my JOY</u>
Take me back to when	<u>I FIRST BELIVED</u>

LORD I Pray ...
 LORD I Request ...
 REVIVE ME O' LORD
 RESTORE ME O' LORD
 RENEW ME O' LORD

BRING ME BACK TO THE CROSS!!!

GOD REVIVE my JOY
 GOD REVIVE my LAUGHTER
 GOD REVIVE my SMILE
 GOD REVIVE my WORSHIP
 GOD REVIVE my PRASIE
 GOD REVIVE my PREACHING
 GOD REVIVE my SINGING
 GOD REVIVE my TEACHING
 GOD REVIVE my WITNESSING

GOD DON'T JUST DO IT FOR ME
 GOD DON'T JUST DO IT FOR CHURCH
 GOD DON'T JUST DO IT FOR FAMILY
 GOD DON'T JUST DO IT FOR LEADERS
 GOD DON'T JUST DO IT FOR DEACONS

GOD DON'T JUST DO IT FOR PREACHER

The Reason I'M PLEADING is:

DO IT FOR YOUR NAME SAKE !!!

GOD DO IT FOR YOU

The Corner Stone	The Mighty God
The First & Last	The Rock
The Good Shepherd	Bright & Morning
The Head of the	Star
Church	The Rose of Sharon
I am that I am	Wonderful
Emmanuel	Counselor
King of Ages	The Might One
The Way	Lamb of God
The Truth	Lamb of Judah
The Light	Lord of Lord's
King of Kings	

REVIVE US LORD

FOR YOU NAME'S SAKE

FOR YOUR NAMES SAKE