

Associate Pastor Richard Yun

Title: God, Our Restorer

Text: Psalm 126

When the LORD brought back the captivity of Zion,
We were like those who dream.

2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
And our tongue with singing.
Then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

3 The LORD has done great things for us,
And we are glad.

4 Bring back our captivity, O LORD,
As the streams in the South.

5 Those who sow in tears
Shall reap in joy.

6 He who continually goes forth weeping,
Bearing seed for sowing,
Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing,
Bringing his sheaves *with him*.

Introduction

Psalm 126 was a special Psalm to the children of Israel because it reminded them of the Lord’s past works in the life of their nation and of His promise to carry on that work into the future.

It is also a special Psalm to those who are in the church of Jesus Christ. It speaks to us of what the Lord has done for us in saving us and it also reminds us that God has a plan to bless us and use us for His glory into the future.

1. GOD GIVES THE REASONS TO PRAISE (vv 1-3)

- **They Praise God for Their Deliverance** – As the Israelites began this hymn of praise, they did so by remembering the great grace of God and how God in His great power had delivered them.
- **They Speak Of Their Delight in God**–They were amazed at the grace, love and power of their God. Even some of the sinners around them recognized the work of God in their lives and gave God the glory.
- **They Decide to Praise God with gladness**– As these people think about all they have received from the Lord, they make a decision and say, “**And we are glad.**”

2. GOD GIVES THE HOPE TO PRAY (v4)

The people of God needed restoration. By their worldliness, they became unusable for winning the world. They did not give the nations occasion to praise God.

But a remnant reconsecrated their lives to God while they were in the Babylonian exile and laid hold of His promises. They see God reversing the real-life circumstances and restoring them.

Our inspired psalmist lifts up his voice with a word of hope and encouragement for them, for us, from the Throne of Grace.

3. GOD GIVES THE PROMISE OF RESTORATION (vv 5-6)

- **The Task Of The Sower** – The sower is to “*go forth*” and sow that seed. The verb form there is in the present tense. This speaks of a continual, consistent going and sowing.
- **The Tears Of The Sower** – Notice that this farmer goes out to sow and as he sows he is shedding tears, **v. 6**. Why does he weep? Because he knows that everything depends on the next crop.

God promises that the life spent for this purpose will “return with songs of joy”. The payoff is there, and it’s worth it!

- **The Triumph Of The Sower** – The sower went to the fields, he worked and he sowed, now he returns with rejoicing, bearing in his arms the fruits of his labours. He has a great harvest to show for the investment of his time and his tears.

CONCLUSION

- This Psalm invites us to believe again. It claims that God is able to restore his captive people. He is able to do great things for us and through us.
- He is able to replace our tears with laughter. He promises that our hard sowing will be compensated with abundant reaping.