

# GREGORYDICKOW

## MINISTRIES

### **Restoration of Something Lost**

We all know what it's like to have years taken from us – to lose precious time, relationships, money, opportunities, health, even hope. Regardless of what it is that has been broken, stolen or lost – IT'S TIME TO GET IT BACK... and GOD PROMISES WE CAN AND WILL!

In Samuel 30, David's city was attacked and plundered by the Amalekites. Verses 1-3 say that the city was burned with fire and their wives, sons, and daughters were taken captive.

### **I believe this gives us a picture of the 3 primary areas the devil attacks in our lives:**

1. The city was burned with fire. This is our possessions, our protection, our finances.
2. Their wives were taken. This is our relationships. Satan has taken so much in this area, damaging our homes with heartache, misunderstandings, divorce, abuse, alcohol, hurt, and rejection.
3. Their sons and daughters were taken captive. This represents our future. The devil is trying to snuff out our future before it even comes to pass – before it matures. And he's definitely trying to keep our children from experiencing God's perfect will for their lives as well!

Well, the good news is found in this marvelous promise God made to David after everything he had was taken from him: "...you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all" (I Samuel 30:8).

### **And so shall YOU!**

God would not lie, and He is no respecter of persons. Put your trust in the God of integrity Who keeps His promises to a thousand generations.

Whatever is missing, stolen, broken, or damaged in your life was done so by the devil. Jesus said in John 10:10, "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy."

Well, let's find out how to get it all back. In Proverbs 6:31 it says clearly, "...when he

(the thief) is found, he must restore sevenfold.” Restore means “to put back, to give back, to repair to perfect order.”

We want our health in perfect order, and we want the same for our finances and our families. But the key is: the thief must be found. We have to find out where the thief got in, and by doing so, we catch him. It is at that point he must restore sevenfold.

### **How do we do that?**

Well, when David discovered that the enemy had raided his city and family, he did several things:

**1. He encouraged himself in the Lord** (I Samuel 30:6). Sometimes when we face the toughest situations or the most difficult losses in our lives, other people will not always know how to help us or encourage us. We must look to God! We must look at how God is on our side. Begin to praise Him no matter what you’re going through. Don’t wait for things to change Praise him now, and things will begin to change. Tell yourself you’re going to make it – that you are the head and not the tail. Tell yourself that God is on your side; therefore, you can’t fail. Tell yourself that things are turning around for your good. Begin now!

**2. David asked for the priestly garments** (I Samuel 30:7). A priest would put on the holy garments and then have the right to go directly into God’s presence and receive from Him what was needed.

Well, as a born-again believer, you are a new creature in Christ, and you can now go before God with the holy garments of righteousness. And you have the right, through the blood of Jesus, to receive God’s help and direction. Hebrews 4:15 says we can come boldly to His throne to receive mercy and grace in a time of need. When you have lost something, you are in a time of need, and you can go to God. He will show you what to do. So many Christians have little confidence in their ability to hear from God. You can hear His voice!

**3. David asked God, “Should I pursue them, shall I overtake them?”** (verse 8a). Often times you are faced with two options, and you’re trying to figure out which to do. It’s o.k. to ask the Lord, “should I choose option A or option B?” Then you follow the peace of God in your heart. Colossians 3:15 (Amplified) says “...the peace (soul harmony which comes) from Christ rule (act as umpire continually) in your hearts [deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds...”]Whichever one you have peace about is almost always the one the Holy Spirit is showing you. Keep in mind though, the one you have peace about will not always be the easiest one to choose. Now notice what God says to David when he asks Him specifically what to do. (You must be specific; James 4:2) I Samuel 10:8b and God said, “Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them AND WITHOUT FAIL RECOVER ALL.”

**4. Finally, David did what God told him to do!** (verse 9). “So David went...” And in Verse 18: “So David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away...” David brought it all back. Well, it’s time for you to bring it all back, and if you follow this simple process, you, too, shall recover all!

**Don’t let the thief hold on to your stuff one second longer! Take these steps to see it happen in your life.**