

WHO CUT DOWN MY TREE

Job 14:7-9 & 14 B

- 7 "For there is hope for a tree, If it is cut down, that it will sprout again,
And that its tender shoots will not cease.
8 Though its root may grow old in the earth, And its stump may die in the
ground,
9 Yet at the scent of water it will bud And bring forth branches like a plant.
14 All the days of my hard service I will wait, Till my change comes.

I. In scripture we are compared to being a spiritual tree that is to produce:
the Fruit of The Holy Spirit (Gal 5:22-23 and also the Righteousness of
God:

A. Isa 61:3 That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of
the LORD, that He may be glorified."

1. There are times in our walk with God, and while living on this earth
that we encounter negative things in life:

a. even though we may truly be living for The Lord

2. Sometimes in life we may find our self walking around asking this
question:

a. WHO CUT DOWN MY TREE?

(1) I am living for God

(2) I am walking out the truth of God's word

(3) and now look what has happened in my life...WHO CUT DOWN
MY TREE?

3. And we find our self in a season in life that is described as seen in:

Job 14 and asking the same questions Job in his day:

a. Job 14:7 If it is cut down, that it will sprout again,
And that its tender shoots will not cease.

8 Though its root may grow old in the earth,
And its stump may die in the ground

(1) WHO CUT DOWN MY TREE

B. We each need to believe the fact that regardless of our circumstance:
CHANGE IS COMING!!!!

1. vs 14: "Till my change comes"

C. Share a few facts with you in regards to CHANGE:

- 1. Agricultural Age lasted about 5,000 years**
- 2. Then came the Industrial Revolution / lasted about 150 years**
- 3. Next came the Information Age / lasted close to 50 years**
- 4. Now we are in a season called: Shift Age only expected to last 10 years**
 - (a) The reason they entitled this the Shift Age is due to the fact of how constant & rapid change keeps taking place in this Shift Age**

D. No longer do we live in a day of when we graduate from school and enter into our careers that we retire from the same job we started with

- 1. in fact they are telling us that the person who had retired in the year 2008 will have changed jobs / careers 11.5 times before retirement**

E. Today You may find yourself in the midst of Change:

- 1. Financial situation changed**
- 2. Job / Career situation changed**
- 3. Health issues may have brought about great change in your life**
- 4. You may have experienced change in a relationship:**
 - a. 51% of all Marriages in America in up in divorce**
 - b. You may have been betrayed by someone on the job or in ministry**
 - c. You may have been abandoned in life by a spouse / or parent**
 - d. you may have sensed a change in the degree of spiritual warfare that you are presently experiencing**
 - e. You may have experienced the Blessing of The Lord being hindered or lifted to various degrees in your life**
 - f. The list of negative experiences that both Christians & non-Christians are experiencing today is endless & bringing constant change into our life**

F. We are living in a mist of great change...it is all around us:

- 1. The work place changed'**
- 2. The community has changed**
- 3. the nation has changed**
- 4. And you may find yourself asking: WHO CUT DOWN MY TREE?**
 - a. There are two factors behind the scene in discerning who cut down our tree:**
 - b. First: There is God Himself who may be cutting down our tree:**

- (1) in Jn 15 1 the bible says: John 15:1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.² Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away;
- (a) Any area of our life that is fruitless demands a visit from not the devil but Our Heavenly Father & He will begin to cut away at the non-fruitful areas of our life
- (2) Heb 12:5 "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;
6 For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives."
- (a) when we get into disobedience & sin...God will chastise us & of it means cutting down our tree....He will do so in order to get our attention
- (3) Also in regards to God being involved in cutting down our tree, we have to come to an understanding of God preparing us & taking us into new seasons so the
- (a) Will of God & Purpose of God for our life may come to pass, as seen in the life of Joseph: this is revealed when Joseph speaks to his brothers:
- (1) Gen 50:20 But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.
- c. Secondly: there is the devil who attempts to cut down our tree:
- (1) John 10:10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

II. When the devil is involved in cutting down our tree, he always tries to bring HOPELESSNESS into our heart & mind:

A. Prov 13:12 Hope deferred makes the heart sick, But when the desire comes, it is a tree of life.

1. When we enter into hopelessness we start to question: Who cut down my tree
- Will my tree sprout again
 - will my tender shoots sprout once again
 - will my stump be resurrected

B. Why HOPE is so important:

- 1. It is documented that since 9 / 11 the use of antidepressants has shot up 75% since the very existence**
 - a. Due to the constant change people are experiencing they say they are feeling more vulnerable, powerless & trapped**
 - (1) because they have allowed the devil to bring them into hopelessness**
- 2. The first decade of the twenty first century began with the worst terrorist Attack upon our nation**
 - a. And the last decade of the twenty first century ended up with the worst global economic conditions**
- 3. And when we allow hopelessness to enter our hearts & mind we start thinking:**
 - a. Do I give it another shot**
 - b. or do I down size my dreams**
 - (1) do not become goalless & dreamless in life**
- 4. Heb 6:19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast,**
 - a. Hope serves as an anchor in the storms of life**
 - b. Hope is always attached to an achievement of a goal**
 - c. God has created us to be hopeful & to dream dreams**

III. I have a promise from God's word for each of us:

- A. Job 14:7 "For there is hope for a tree,
If it is cut down, that it will sprout again,
And that its tender shoots will not cease.**
- 1. God promises that there is HOPE for our tree**
 - a. what ever that tree may be:**
 - (1) your walk with God**
 - (2) your family**
 - (3) your ministry**
 - (4) your career**
 - (5) your health**
 - (6) your finances**
 - (7) our nation**
 - (8) even the world**
 - (9) the church**

2. It does not matter what the condition of your tree may be:

a. Job 14:8 8 Though its root may grow old in the earth, And its stump may die in the ground,

(1) If all you have is a stump left:

(a) Matt 19:26 "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

(b) Phil 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

(c) Listen: Till my change comes: Phil 1:6 being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Chris

B. Even if it was the devil who may have cut down your tree he messed up

1. If it Ws the dealing of God in your life, and He cut you back to a stump / pruned you back....& left you a stump for a reason

2. Or even if it was the devil who cut down your tree....he messed up because he left a stump

a. and a stump has roots in the soil

3. Job 14:9 Yet at the scent of water it will bud

And bring forth branches like a plant.

a. "YET AT THE SCENT OF WATER"

**(1) Two of the things the Holy Spirit is compared to in scripture is:
WIND & WATER**

(a) Acts 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

(b.) John 7:38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water

© Ezek 47:1 Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was water, flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar.

(1) these waters are a type of flow of the Holy Spirit

4. The winds of the Spirit are carrying the scent of water
 - a. Time to pout your spiritual sniffer into the wind of the Holy Spirit
 - (1) **“AT THE SCENT OF WATER”**
 - (a) According to Job 14:9: We will “bring forth branches like a plant”
 - (b) I will sprout again
 - © My tender shoots will not cease
 - (d) All I have left is a stump: but my roots are still in the ground:
 - (1) I am rooted & grounded in the Love of God Eph 3:17
 - (2) Col 2:7 “rooted and built up in Him (Christ) and established in the faith,”
 - (3) I am rooted in and grounded in the Word of God
5. “Till My Change Comes”
 - a. my roots will continually go down looking for living waters
 - b. Till my change comes:
 - (1) I will continually look towards the winds of the Holy Spirit
Carrying the scent of water
 - (1) and when I smell / when I catch that scent of those living waters
I will step out by faith & follow the leading of the Holy Ghost
 - (a) You may catch the scent of water s the word is preached & faith comes into your heart
 - (b) you may catch the scent of these living waters at the altar & The Spirit is telling you get out of your seat & get prayed for
 - © If you follow the scent of water / the Holy Spirit will lead you into restoration & into the will of God
 - (d) and you will go from hopelessness to hope as you hear The Father say to you:
 - (1) Jer 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.
 - (a) You will live again
 - (b) You will bare fruit
 - © you will expand
 - (d) you will fulfill your dreams
 - (e) you will see the promises of God come to pass in your life

IV. JOB 14:14 “TILL MY CHANGE COMES”

A. You cannot quit now

1. This is not the time to give up on life or your dreams

a. It is time to watch for the scent of water

b. Only Jesus offers LIVING WATERS

c. Only the Holy Spirit offers us the LATTER RAIN

(1) Joel 2:23 Be glad then, you children of Zion,

And rejoice in the LORD your God;

**For He has given you the former rain faithfully, And He will cause
the rain to come down for you --**

The former rain,

**d. Only Jesus can cause your tree that was cut down to a stump
to live again**

e. Only Jesus can bring the change you dream of

(1) Right where you are begin to call upon His name