

## Title: Turn

Brandy Helton, Garden Gathering, 1/15/23

As always, I am going to bring the word the Lord gave me for today. I am going to give it as I received it and come back and expound more on it. Be still and listen. Father, I pray that everyone will have an ear to hear what it is that you are saying to us. We thank you for it.

He says, "Turn to me. Look at me. When was the last time you stopped and purposefully, looked at me? Today is the day to turn. Turn aside from other voices, faces, events, traumas, dangers, and turn to look at me. I am your beloved Lord. Look at me. Child, look at me. Look at me. Listen to my words and give attention to what I am saying. Turn, now. Gaze at and look into my glory. Look, I remove veils now from you so you can see clearly again. I bring renewal. I bring change. I bring life and life more abundantly. But, you must turn now, and look deeply past the surface and allow your spirit to go beyond the veil to see into my heart and my eyes for you. Look up, for your redemption draws nigh.

### II Chronicles 7:1-22 NKJV

*"When Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. And the priests could not enter the house of the Lord, because of the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord's house. When all of the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshiped and praised the Lord saying: 'For He is good, for His mercy endures forever.' Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the Lord. King Solomon offered a sacrifice of 22,000 bulls, and 120,000 sheep. So the king and all the people dedicated the house of God, and the priests attended to their services; the Levites also with instruments of the music of the Lord, which King David had made to praise the Lord, saying, 'For His mercy endures forever,' whenever David offered praise by their ministry. The priests sounded trumpets opposite them, while all Israel stood. Furthermore, Solomon consecrated the middle of the court that was in front of the house of the Lord; for there he offered burnt offerings and the fat of the peace offerings, because the bronze altar which Solomon had made was not able to receive the burnt offerings, the grain offerings and the fat. At that time, Solomon kept the feast seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great assembly from the entrance of Hamath to the brook of Egypt. And on the eighth day, they held a sacred assembly, for they observed the dedication of the altar seven days, and the feast seven days. On the 23rd day of the seventh month, he sent the people away to their tents, joyful and glad of heart for the good that the Lord had done for David, for Solomon, and for His people Israel. Thus Solomon finished the house of the Lord and the king's house; and Solomon successfully accomplished all that came into his heart to make in the house of the Lord and in his own house. Then the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: 'I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice. When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or I command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place. For now I have chosen and sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually. As for you, if you walk before Me as your father David walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments, then I will establish the*

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*throne of your kingdom, as I covenanted with David your father, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man as ruler in Israel. But if you turn away, and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them, then I will uproot them from My land which I have given them; and this house which I have sanctified for My name I will cast out of My sight, and will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples. And as for this house, which is exalted, everyone who passes by it will be astonished and say, 'Why has the Lord done thus to this land and this house?' Then they will answer, 'Because they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and embraced other gods, and worshiped them and served them; therefore, He has brought all this calamity on them.'* That is the conclusion of the passage.

Now He says, "Do not turn to the left or to the right. Follow My voice. Stay the course. Listen to My heart. Listen to the instructions I give My chosen ones."

Deuteronomy 5:32

Jeremiah 38:20

Jeremiah 42:6

"Do not go your own way. Go with Me in My way. There are many highways to travel on, and there are many roads that lead to this way or that way. But, look up into My eyes and into My heart, to see and know the way in which you should go and walk. My way is not complicated, but it is narrow."

Matthew 7:13-14

"So turn now. Turn, look at Me. Look at Me. What am I doing? What am I doing? Turn and look and see what He is doing. Inquire of His heart. Do not listen to the voices that lead you astray or aside. Turn back to Me. Return, turn and look."

James 5:19-20

"Turn around and look up. Turn away from foolish things. Turn towards Me. Turn to Me. Return. Turn your eyes towards Jesus. Look full in His wonderful face. Look at Me. Turn back, turn around, turn aside. Hear the voice of God and feel Holy Spirit again. Return to the Lord with all of your hearts."

Joel 2:13

Amen. So, it very much speaks for itself. But, the heart in this message to His Church, and to His Bride, is that the Father, the Son, Jesus Christ, and great Holy Spirit, want our full attention. As parents, sometimes you have to tell your children, "Look at me." Correct? Maybe a few times. "Look at me."

When you have gone through something that has been hard, difficult, shameful, or you have been in disobedience, it is hard to "lift up your head, and look straight in the eyes to the Lord." Saying, "Father, forgive me, because I have sinned, and I have displeased you." Shame is the first thing to come over God's people whenever there is sin, and whenever there is disobedience. You would think that God would do something different, other than just say, "Look at me." But, as soon as you lift up your head, you lift up your face, your countenance, to look at the Lord, into His face, into His word, and straight at Him, then the the veil is removed immediately. The sin is removed immediately. That is because of the glory and the countenance of His face, the love, and who He is. How many times is it hard to turn and do that?

It is a call for His Bride to turn and gaze back into His face. Look into His face. Look at His face and turn. Whatever else you have been looking at consistently, *He* says, "No, just look at Me. You need to look at Me right now. You need to gaze here. I am going to take you deeper than

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you have ever been.” It is a repentance. It is a turning. It is an attitude of our heart that is turning, and it is a consistency. If we just looked at the face of Jesus once a year, what is the point? This should be daily. Everyone, say “daily.” It is a daily walk with the Lord.

You say, “Well, I do not have visions of Jesus.” We walk by faith and not by sight. But, sometimes He shows His face to you. He will always do it through His Word. Holy Spirit will reveal another side and another aspect of the Lord's face. Lift up your face towards us, Lord, and bless us. God is so amazing and His call this morning, is simply put, “Turn.”

So, as I go back through this passage, there is a great anointing here. There is a great anointing here, to be able to hear what the Spirit of the Lord is saying. This is not just for that “heathen sinner,” who needs to repent and turn to God. This is to His House. This is to His Bride. This is to His people. When we turn, then the world will know. When we turn, the world will know. “Turn to me.” Hear it, “Turn to Me. When was the last time you stopped and purposely looked at Me?”

Now, we talk about that. “Well, everybody may have their time with God.” You may have your prayer time, and you may have time with Him. But, “When was the last time, He asks, when you stopped intentionally to just look at Him.” Saying, “All I want to do is look at you right now. I just want to look into your face.” Now God did “give us the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, in the knowledge of Him.” So, we know, from Ephesians one, that I have the Holy Ghost in me, who can illuminate my heart. When I set my face to seek Him. He can open the eyes of my understanding to seek God in a whole new way. We have all grown in this. Since we have been born again, we are all growing. We will continue to grow, until we see Him face to face. Then it is going to be like, “wow, there you are!” How wonderful is that? But, it is intentional. This is the cry of His heart. “When was the last time you stopped and just purposely looked at Him?” He is drawing us to this.

He said, “Today is the day to turn.” Now, when He tells me, “today,” I take heed. It is very scriptural. “Today,” it is all through the Word. You may say, “Well, that is pretty much every day.” But, there are “todays.” Okay, “Renewal is here.” It is a time to look at and gaze upon the Lord. “It is a day to turn. Turn aside from all the other voices, faces, events, traumas and dangers. Turn to look at me.” That is obvious, because many are the voices and many are the things that we will continue to walk through. “Many things will continue to come. This is your abiding place.” This is “hide me in the cleft of the rock,” right? This is the safe place. Do not just hide. Go to Him, look at Him, and seek His face saying, “Show me your glory.” He said, “I am your beloved Lord, so, look at Me.” You know sometimes you just have to be still. *Sit* there and think on that for a little bit. Do not go on with your requests. Do not go and start decreeing and declaring. Sometimes just sit down, be still, and say, “I just want to see You. Show me your glory. I want to seek your face.” Look at Him and just be quiet.

He said, “Child, and that is a Father, “Look at me. Look at me and listen to my words.” He will always point to His word. “Give attention. Give attention.” So, I can look at it. I can read it. But, I have to attend to it. I have to attend to it, yes? I have to attend to His word. I have to obey His Word. I have to follow His word. I need to let it be Lord, here. Yes, I have to follow the Lordship of Jesus.

“Turn now and gaze at and into My glory.” What does that look like? Well, when you look in the face of Christ, there is the glory, yes. I know that in the Bible, I think it was Peter, James and John who got to see the transfigured Christ. They see Him in His glory in the transfiguration, and they all fell on their faces. The Apostle John describes that, in Revelation, chapter one, he said he “fell on his face as a dead man.” So be it. You cannot come in and limit God. You cannot tell Him how much of His face you want. If He says, “Turn, and look at my face,” your

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face, Lord, I will seek.” Then you let the countenance of His glory do what He has to do. There is where the anointing is. You do not argue with God about how much you want to see, and what you do not want to see. Or, what you have done in the past, or what you do not believe will ever happen? You go and look into His face, with your heart wide open, to just behold Him and let Him reveal Himself to you. That is His cry. “Look at Me and give attention to what I am saying. Gaze at Me. Look into My glory. Now, I remove the veils from you, so you can see clearly again.

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. The veil has been removed. It has been torn in two. So that we have full access, through the blood of Jesus, to God. There is nothing hindering. There is nothing in the way. That is the truth. “I removed veils now from you, so that you can see clearly again, and that is glory to glory.” If you have gone through a difficult time, or a dry season, or you are worn out and weary and exhausted. Or, if you have backpedaled a bit and kind of fallen from what God has called you to do. This is a call. “I removed the veils now. They were removed, so you can come and see clearly. I bring renewal, I bring change. I bring life, and I will bring life more abundantly.” That is who Jesus is. He will always do that.

Remember, God's Kingdom is always one of increase. He cannot decrease. God is always for us. He is always drawing us to Himself. He always wants to reveal Himself to us. He is never in a bad mood. Sometimes you may not want to talk to some people on the planet. But, He is always, wanting to talk to us. He is always wanting us to stop, and look at Him. Listen to Him, and let Him love us. He is always for us. Amen.

“You must turn now, and look deeply, past the surface.” Everyone say, “surface level.” Allow your spirit to go beyond the veil, to see into My heart and eyes for you. Now this goes again back to “another veil was removed.” You must go deep, past the surface. You know how we meet someone and have a “surface level” talk. “Where do you work? Where do you go to school? Hey, good to meet you. Where do you live? Have a good day.” Surface level, yes? “Hey God, how are you doing? I had an awesome day today. Thank you for my food, my bread, my water! Bless You, hallelujah!”

“Go beyond the surface. Do not hold back. Do not hesitate. Go all the way in.” As soon as you sit down, set your gaze upon Him. “Go all the way in.” Do not think you have to say that prayer to get there. He says, “Just come, and look at Me. Go all the way in.” That is truth. “Look up, your redemption draws near, now. Oh, Lord Jesus, “Come.”

#### II Chronicles 7:14

The passage from Second Chronicles, chapter seven, was very, very powerful. Most people understand this verse. We use this so that we can get our way. We pray this prayer, because we do not want to suffer. We do not want to lack, or we do not want harm. We do not want danger or to be blown up, right? This is why *we quote* this verse.

But, if you start at the beginning. The whole point was that Father was building a house. His glory was there. His glory is so tangible and so real. Heaven invaded Earth in the little sphere of that glorious temple, that man made to hold the God of Heaven. When the glory of God came and filled the house, you could not enter it because of the cloud. You could not even go in, because of the presence of God. Not even all the priests who were used to looking at His face, because they were the only ones who could go before God with the blood to sacrifice, atone, seek His face, and pray on behalf of all the people. Those priests were called, that was their duty. But, they could not enter because of the glory of God's presence in the temple. His face was in the temple. His glory was in the temple. His presence was in the temple. His face was being manifested to His people. That is all through the Bible. They prayed all those prayers, including that high priestly prayer.

Numbers 6:24-27

He lifted up His face, and they are worshiping and dedicating. Solomon gives the offerings and the tithes of thousands and thousands of animals sacrificed to honor God in this place. God is wanting to reveal His heart here.

II Chronicles 7:12

Jesus said, "You did not choose me, I chose you. I called you to be my disciples. You did not choose me. I chose you." He chose us. He chose us. Isn't that amazing? He has chosen to put His Holy Spirit in our temple. He has chosen for us, in our flesh, to be able to encounter that glory before we get to Heaven. Heaven is the top, you cannot beat it. We are looking forward to Heaven, amen. But, right now, while it is called today, this is the call, "Turn, look, gaze and believe. Stay here with me. Look into my face, because there is that glory." There is that glory. That is the call. He knows what He has to do with humans.

II Chronicles 7:13

What is the point? Somewhere His people have gone astray. But, if "My people, humble themselves, pray and seek My face." That is that, "Turn. Look at my face. Pray and seek my face." That is where we are, "Turn." Turn, turn from your wicked ways, because if you are really doing that, repentance is easy. The flesh submits quickly in the fear of the Lord, when you turn and you look into His face.

II Chronicles 7:14-15

"When you turn from *your* wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven. I will forgive *your* sin, and I will heal *your* land." Amen. This is the Lord talking. He says, "turn," and the Lord's eyes will be open, and His heart. His eyes will be open. His ears are attentive to all that you say. Ever feel like you are hitting that "bronze heaven?" You are praying and they are, "bonk," going nowhere. You just had a good talk with yourself. But, you know when you have broken through in your communing with the Lord. You know it. You all know it when it is just ritualistic or dead. You know when you have broken through in humility, and the fear of the Lord is there.

II Chronicles 7:15-16

Hallelujah. But, you are the temple of the Holy Ghost, and that is a seal through Lord Jesus Christ. We have an eternal covenant. He said He will not leave us, fail us, or forsake us. That is a promise. But, the warning is, "If you turn away."

II Chronicles 7:17-18

You see, I like the Father saying, "Turn, look at me." I like that, right? But, this is, "When you turn away." Has anyone been in an argument with someone? When two people are fighting or having a disagreement, and one turns and walks away, that is what it looks like. It is not pretty.

II Chronicles 7:19-20

"If you go off and serve other gods and you worship them," Here is what He is going to do.

II Chronicles 7:20

"I will uproot them from My land which I have given them." There are consequences.

"Today is the day to turn. Do not turn to left or right." If I were to do a word search on that phrase in the Old Testament, "He told His people, do not turn to the left or right," how many times does He say that? What is His word? "Straight is the way, and follow Me." When hiking on trails in the mountains, if you say, "I hear the sound of a creek, I am going off the trail to look for it," you never know where you are going to end up. Sometimes we do that. I am a trailblazer and want to stick to the path. He says, "Do not turn to the left or to the right. Follow my voice." Follow my voice, which is His word, right? "Stay the course. Steady, listen to My heart. Listen

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to the instructions I give my chosen ones.” Thank you, Lord. He does not leave us beloved. He is guiding us into all truth, the Scripture says. So, you can trust him. You can trust the path that you are on. But, He is looking for our full attention as never before. Amen!

#### Jeremiah 38:20

Can you hear the Word of God coming to the prophet, saying to the people, “Please obey the Lord, and what I am saying to you.” God is speaking through His Church, through His people, and through His prophets. Yes, “Please obey the Lord.” Do you hear that plea? “Please obey the Lord.” When you have children, you say, “Please obey me. Please obey me.” Right? “It will be well with you, and your soul shall live.”

#### Jeremiah 42:6

“Whether it is pleasant or unpleasant, we will listen to the voice of the Lord our God.” You have to be still and look at His face. Turn and look into His face. Go beyond the veil. Let Him speak to you in that place. He said, “Do not go your own way.”

#### John 15

“Apart from me, you can do nothing.” Go with Me, in My way. That means, “Lord, I am going to pray for your will to be done. Whatever you want me to do. Wherever you want me. Whatever it is you are calling me to, that is what I want to do. Not my flesh, not what I want to do, in my selfishness.” It is what He wants. That is the submission to the Lord. To follow the Lamb, wherever He goes. “Do not go your own way. But, go with Me in My way.” Scripture says that “Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.’ There are many highways to travel on. In the spirit realm, there are highways in the spirit. There are highways in the Spirit. “There are many roads that lead this way or that way, but look up into My eyes and My heart to see and know the way in which you should go.”

I think I am hearing in all these scriptures, that there is sometimes in our heart a way that we think that we should go. Right? There is a way, that we think is right and sounds good. Sounds like a plan. But, is it submitted to God Almighty? Have we stopped and looked at His face and said, “Is this your plan?” Or, “Is this just my way?” I know I can be zealous for something, but is it my plan or is it yours? That is where you must go. Hear it? “The way in which you should go and walk, My way is not complicated, but it is very narrow.”

#### Matthew 7:13-14

I was born again after hearing that verse. “Narrow is the gate and difficult is the way that leads to life. There are only a few who find it.” Those words are from Jesus. It makes you very thankful that you, “looked at His face, and you turned from your wicked ways,” and chose Jesus. He is the only way isn't He? It is not Jesus and my way. It is Jesus and His way. So, “He is saying, “Turn, now. Turn, look at Me, look at Me. What am I doing?”

Turn and look and see what He is doing. Inquire of His heart. He already knows what is in ours. We tell Him all the time. That is intimacy with our Head and our Bridegroom. “Turn, look, and see what He is doing.” Inquire of His heart. “Do not listen to the voices that lead you astray. They are always trying to get you off track and on another path.” He says, “Turn back to Me. Return, turn, and look.”

These are some questions for you to ask.

Would you please tell me what is in your heart, Lord?

What do you need, Lord?

What do you want, Lord?

Where is He going?

What impossibility is He about to give to you for you to do?

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James 5:19-20

He said this to me, "Turn the sinner back from the error of His ways." But, this is in context of the Church, "Those who have gone astray." We know that we are supposed to save the lost. Yes, and through the grace of God, we go and give them the gospel, saying, "Repent. Turn from your wicked ways." We all started there. But, this is to the House of the Lord. "If any one among you," Church, "wanders from the truth." Somewhere, we got off the path. Yes, "If anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins." James is straightforward. There you go, yes.

So, "turn around, look up, and turn away from these foolish things. Turn towards, Me." What foolish things? Ask Jesus. It is not mine or someone else's job to point them out. I do my part with God. You do your part with God. If you want to really know what a fool is, read the book of Proverbs. There are plenty of examples, right? But He says, "Turn away from foolish things. Turn towards Me. Turn to Me. Return." So, turn your eyes towards, Jesus, and look full in His wonderful face. "Look at Me." Can you hear it? "Turn back, turn around, turn aside, and hear the voice of God, and feel Holy Spirit, again."

How many of you have not felt Holy Spirit in you for a long time? How many have not really felt His presence in a long time? Now, is the time. Now, is the day to turn. Now, is the day to get our gaze fixed and look back into His wonderful face. Holy Spirit is right there with you, lighting upon you. There He is, and you feel Him. It is like something starts beating again in your heart.

When our eyes go astray after other lovers, the gods of this world, the lusts, the pride of the flesh, the world, and the devil, our eyes left His. Holy Spirit will not work there. He is holy, holy, holy. That is why He is called Holy Spirit. "Return to Lord with all your heart."

Joel 2:13

This might have been a tradition for them to rip up some things showing their lamentations and repentance. Thank God we do not do that. But, the Lord is after the heart, yes. The whole point is the heart. So, "Rend your heart, not your garments," not just doing more things for God. He wants your heart. "Return to the Lord, your God," *in your heart*, because He is gracious and He is merciful. He is slow to anger. In His great kindness, He relents from doing harm. That is the hour that we are in. If you have enough courage, strength, and love in your heart, go beyond the veil to sit down, as He has called us, to seek His face. That is the invitation. This is what He sang and spoke over the Church all night.

Do not say, "Well, I have no need to turn." Well, you sure do, because that is what you just said. "I am doing great." Really? Well, you just told me where you were. So, "I set my face to seek the Lord. Your face, Oh God I will seek. I will stop, and I will gaze there. I am going to receive your love. I am willing to go beyond that veil into what you are wanting to show me, because of the Spirit of wisdom and revelation. The knowledge of Jesus will enlighten the eyes of my understanding, that I would know the love of God and the glory.

I am going to close with this. It is kind of an exhortation and a blessing.

1 Peter 3:8-12

He says, "Finally, all of you be of one mind." We talked about this last weekend at the Vision Conference.

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Let's stand up and pray. Father, we thank You for Your Word today. We honor Your word. We honor Your Holy Spirit. We honor the breath that You are breathing. Today, we honor the message of Father's heart. We receive it with all of our heart. We will set ourselves to seek Your face, to know You, to go beyond the veil with expectancy of great Holy Ghost revealing who You are to us yet again. We know that we go from glory to glory, and strength to strength, and faith to faith. We hear the word "turn." We will look and we will gaze into the face of our God. We will hear what He would say to us. Yes, Lord, we would choose to be obedient and not go to the left or the right of it. Not run and retreat, but follow the voice. Follow the way. Father God, You will deliver us from evil. We cast down all the arguments and other voices, and the condemnation, the fears, the torments, on the outside of this tabernacle. We just submit ourselves wholly to You, in the fear of the Lord. We honor your renewal and the day to turn. In Jesus' mighty name, amen. Amen. God bless you.