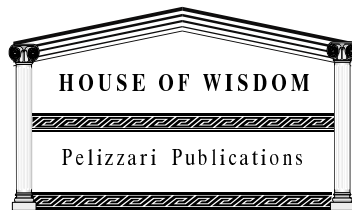


**SERMON NOTES SERIES**  
**PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY NOTES**

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**GETTING PAST  
THE PAST**



**DR. JOHN PELIZZARI, PH.D.**  
**SENIOR PASTOR**

Hi,

Over the years I have had numerous people ask me for a copy of my sermon notes for their own personal Bible studies. I am glad to be able to present them to you. You have in your hands an exact copy of my sermon notes for your very own personal studies. I pray that as you study the Word, that the Holy Spirit will add even more than what you have before you. Put yourself there in what you are studying. What were they feeling, what were they facing...make the Word come alive by placing yourself there.

I am also including a list of the resources that I use to obtain my information, but I will say this, without the Holy Spirit guiding and teaching you under the anointing all you have is just a bunch of books. I always pray before, during, and upon deliverance of each message I receive. I pray that...***you might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding (Colossians 1:9)***. I am both honored and blessed that you have selected a Sermon Notes Series and I pray that it will be a blessing to you!

With Much Love,  
Pastor John

## RESOURCES USED

- \* The Companion Bible
- \* Dake's Annotated Reference Bible
- \* Young's Analytical Concordance To The Bible
- \* A Dictionary Of Bible Types
- \* Vine's Expository Dictionary Of New Testament Words
- \* The American College Dictionary
- \* World's Bible Handbook
- \* The Zondervan Pictorial Bible Dictionary
- \* Nelson's Three- in- One Bible Reference Companion
- \* The Word -The Bible In 26 Translations
- \* God's Plan For Man
- \* Harper's Encyclopedia Of Bible Life
- \* Nelson's Expository Dictionary Of The Old Testament
- \* Manners And Customs From the Bible
- \* What The Bible Is All About
- \* Halley's Bible Handbook

*These are just a small listing of the study aides that I use. The greatest study aide available is letting the Holy Spirit be your teacher. May you get to know Him!*

Words translated from the Gk = Greek and Hb=Hebrew.

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## OUR VISION

“My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge;”

*Hosea 4:6*

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:”

*Proverbs 23:7*

“...and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;”

*Colossians 1:9*

“Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: and by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches. A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.”

*Proverbs 24:3-5*

“And the Gospel must first be published among all nations.”

*Mark 13:10*

As the Scriptures speak for themselves, our vision is to empower Believers everywhere to live a victorious abundant lifestyle that can be obtained through wisdom and understanding. If you are willing to change the way you think, you can change the way you live. A renewed mind towards the Word of God established you firmly in the faith and opens the door for the blessings and benefits of God to become evident in your life.

Because We Believe In You,  
*John and Karen Pelizzari*

## GETTING PAST THE PAST

**Proverbs 24:10 If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.**

1. Let me draw your attention to ‘**the day of adversity.**’

**Adversity** - Hb - *tsarah* - **tightness** - the implication means that things are so tight in your life that you don’t see how you are making it from day to day.

- You’re barely afloat covering the bills.
- You should be going under, you’re behind in everything and it is really overwhelming but somehow you’re still in the game.
- a. ***A female rival*** - the symbolism is that the least likely person (man or woman) that you would have never guessed becoming your enemy has become your fiercest opponent.
- b. ***Anguish*** - is severe mental or physical pain or suffering.
- c. ***Distress*** - extreme anxiety.
- Feeling stretched beyond your mental / physical/ financial capabilities by being forced to remedy a situation yourself

because there doesn't seem to be any help in sight.

- d. **Trouble** - difficulties or problems, to have comfort and dependability removed.
2. So there are times in a believer's life that all hell will break loose and it will feel like satan is winning.
  - a. This could go on for a day, weeks, months or years.
  - b. So who is behind all of this adversity?

**Romans 8:31** What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

3. The first thing that you need to settle in your heart today is that God is not the One who caused it.
  - a. God does not send tornadoes to destroy lives and homes any more than He sends temptations, trials, and afflictions into our lives.

**James 1:13** Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

4. God does not use evil to make His point.

**James 1:13 (MSG)** Don't let anyone under pressure to give in to evil say, "God is trying to trip me up." God is impervious to evil, and puts evil in no one's way.

5. God does not have a double standard.

**2 Peter 2:9** The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

**2 Peter 2:9 (NLT)** So you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials, even while punishing the wicked right up until the day of judgment.

6. God is into rescuing people, not abusing them. Now notice also that the very ones who caused your problems and victimized you in whatever way you went through, God began punishing them.
  - a. Meaning life didn't go well for them after you were victimized.
  - b. Notice that God is in the restoration business, not child abuse.
7. God's power to rebuild is always greater than the power of destruction.
8. But, where there is sin, there is suffering.

- a. Sin is always at the expense of another person .
9. So why do the atrocities that occur happen to good, innocent people?
- a. Because there are people and there are devils.
  - b. There are people motivated by devils.
  - c. There are people motivated by fleshly desires and compulsions.
  - d. And then there is us, we ourselves have a tendency to open the door for the enemy.
10. Most Christians think satan is their worst enemy.
- a. We believe that without satan, we would never sin.
  - b. This is not true because sin begins in us.

**James 1:14-16 [14] But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. [15] Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. [16] Do not err, my beloved brethren.**

11. See, the reason children and adults are molested, raped, beaten and abused is because someone else had a lust problem.

**James 1:14-16 (NLT) [14] Temptation comes from the lure of our own evil desires. [15] These evil desires lead to evil actions, and evil actions lead to death. [16] So don't be misled, my dear brothers and sisters.**

12. Even when satan and all of his demons will be bound for one thousand years during the millennium, there will still be sin on the earth.
- a. Satan can only do in and to us what we allow him to do.
  - b. That is the nature of the flesh — it tempts us to abandon the will of God and solve our own problems or take matters into our own hands.
13. The most asked question among church folks today. ***Why Does God Allow Us to Suffer?***
- a. If God does not bring suffering into our lives, and if God is truly compassionate and loving toward us, if He is all powerful, all knowing, why doesn't He stop the devil?
  - b. Why did I have to go through years of abuse?
    - 1. Where was He when I was being molested?

2. Where was He when I was being raped and beaten?
3. Why didn't He answer my prayers when I was faced with a painful divorce?
4. Why did my loved one have to die as I stood on His Word believing otherwise?

**purpose is to give life in all its fullness.**

14. First we must clear up our thinking and put the blame on the one who motivated it all.

**John 10:10     The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.**

15. The thief is satan. He has a threefold plan for mankind.
- a. **Steal** - to take what belongs to you, whether it was your innocence, confidence, joy.
  - b. **Kill** - to make you a walking dead like he is, no hope, no aspirations, no dreams or expectations of anything good to ever coming your way.
  - c. **Destroy** - any efforts of hope or the things that you have worked for all your life.

**John 10:10 (NLT)     The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My**

16. Jesus wants to fill up your life with good things.

**John 10:10 (MSG)     A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.**

17. Jesus wants to give you a **more and better life than they ever dreamed of.**

**Colossians 2:13-15     [13] And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; [14] Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; [15] And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.**

18. God won the greatest battle of all against satan at the resurrection of Jesus.

19. He has chosen to leave us and satan on the earth to prove to the devil and all of his demons that the

victory can continue through God's children, the Church, even though Jesus is absent from this planet.

20. What you went through is not over until you allow Jesus to heal you and restore everything that satan stole along the way.

a. What you went through is not what you are.

**3 John 1:2 Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.**

21. Once you allow Him to prosper your soul, life will change and you'll see more of His restoration promises being manifest in your life.

22. But as long as you are putting up a resistance, the longer the healing and restoration process will take.

a. How do you resist God?

b. By choosing not to believe what He said about things and going by your feelings and the things you have been told and experienced all your life.

1. I'm just not smart enough, I'm just a retard...

2. All my life I was told...

3. Just don't feel I deserve it...

4. No one wants me. I'm ugly, fat, gross looking, fill in your own blanks.

**Proverbs 6:2 Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth.**

23. Remember, the spirit world's voice activated, good or bad.

**Proverbs 6:2 (NLT) if you have trapped yourself by your agreement and are caught by what you said—**

24. Stop agreeing with what happened and start agreeing with what God says.

25. See, God has left us on earth, not to escape adversity, but to win against it.

26. He has given us superior weapons and intelligence against satan.

a. You have the mind of Christ.

27. God loves to watch us take on the kingdom of darkness and win our daily battles.

a. Actually, He receives glory in our daily victories over the devil.

**Psalm 34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.**

28. Whether you are in the will of God or not, difficulties will come.

- a. Satan is no respecter of persons either, he just hates all of humanity.

29. But, our worst enemy is ourselves.

**2 Timothy 2:25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;**

30. Some people *oppose themselves*.

- a. They can believe it for everybody else but themselves.
- b. They will even argue, debate and get hostile towards you for bringing it up.

31. So how should a pastor handle this?

**2 Timothy 2:24-25 (MSG) [24] God's servant must not be argumentative, but a gentle listener and a teacher who keeps cool, [25]**

**working firmly but patiently with those who refuse to obey. You never know how or when God might sober them up with a change of heart and a turning to the truth,**

32. You keep at until one of these years, they may actually get it.

- a. And the pastor has to try not to lose their cool along the way.

33. Suffering is part of a believer's life.

**1 Peter 4:13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.**

34. That is a difficult statement for many Christians to accept, but the truth is, no victory comes without a fight.

- a. The devil is out to block as many of our blessings as he possibly can.
- b. Our job is to walk into enemy territory and take back our stolen blessings.

- c. Before Abraham could tithe that large amount to Melchizedek, he had to take back his family and the spoils from the wicked kings who robbed him.
- d. Listen...before David could ascend to the throne of Israel, he had to take back the families of his men and regain the spoils of war.
  - 1. Along the way, he faced many changes as he was being transformed from the mentality of a shepherd into the mentality of a king.

35. Although Jesus has won the battle at the cross and the resurrection, He has left the responsibility to you to recapture the blessings of healing, deliverance, and prosperity from the hands of the devil.

**2 Timothy 2:26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.**

- 36. It's time to get out of the will of satan and into the will of God.
- 37. God doesn't see adversity and suffering in the same way we do.
- 38. In God's eyes, adversity is:

- a. **An opportunity for advancement.** Adversity brings challenges. Challenges are opportunities for promotion.
- b. **An opportunity for victory.** Victory only comes in battle. Without battles, there would be no victories. The good news is, we are guaranteed a victory in every battle we face.
- c. **An opportunity for growth.** Maturity comes through struggles. This is true both in our natural lives and in our spiritual lives.
- d. **An opportunity to glorify God.** God is glorified through the use and growth of our faith.
  - 1. **Romans 4:20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;**
- e. **An opportunity to develop patience.** Coming through trials is the only way to develop patience.
- f. **An opportunity to develop character.** The fruit of the spirit is developed under pressure. We think it is better to come out of a trial, but actually, God is more interested in our development during the trial. Our character is

shaped during the trial, you will either harden up or heal.

g. **An opportunity for blessing.** God can turn every type of cursing into a blessing, every battle into a victory.

1. **Romans 8:28** **And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.**

39. If your adversity is self-induced, allow the Word of God to correct you.

40. If it is the result of others having violated you, don't oppose God but stay in faith, and allow God to turn it around.

**Adversity is not a tool to defeat you. It an opportunity for great blessings!**

**E N D**