

## **DISOBEDIENT HEARTS**

During December, our Wednesday Christmas study is entitled, Turning Hearts. It is taken from Gabriel's message to the priest Zachariah regarding the ministry of his son, John, to the nation of Israel.

- Dec.5 Turning the Nation's Heart Back to the Lord (Luke 1:16)
- Dec.12 Turning Fathers Hearts Back to Children (Luke 1:17a)
- **Dec.19 Turning Disobedient Hearts Back to Divine Wisdom (Luke 1:17b)**
- Dec.26 Turning Zachariah's Heart Back to Faith (Luke 1:20)

Gabriel's primary message to Zachariah was that as the prophetic forerunner of Christ, JB's ministry was to build the pivot of Believers out a nation in reversionism for the coming of Christ. "And it is he who will go as a **forerunner** before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, **to turn the hearts (epistrepho/ a.a.infin) [2 divine purposes] of the fathers back to the children, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous; so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.**" (Luke 1:17)

**We will study two aspects of Turning Disobedient Hearts Back to Divine Wisdom.**

### **1. John's ministry was to turn the hearts of the disobedient back to divine wisdom.**

The Greek word for disobedient is (apeithes). Apeithes refers to people who are unwilling to be persuaded who have obstinate hearts towards the will of God for their lives (Titus 1:15-2:1; 3:3-7).

As unbelievers, we were formerly known as "sons of disobedient" in Eph.2:1-5. But as believers we have been reconciled to God through Christ and are sons of God (Eph.2:16-22).

### **2. Turning the hearts back to divine wisdom will be a difficult but not impossible task with a nation engaged in national and religious apostasy.**

John's ministry was to turn the hearts of the disobedient "to an attitude (phronesis) [practical theology] of the righteous (dikaios)." (Acts 14:1-7; 17:1-9; 19:8-10).

JB's ministry was to build a pivot of spiritual advancing believers out of nation in reversionism prepared for the coming of the Lord.

**There are seven progressive stages to reversionism (Prov.14:14; Gal.5:14; Heb.3:12).**

- Primary and secondary negative volition (NV)      Heb.10:25; Matt.16:21-23
- State of carnality      Eph.4:19; Matt.3:7-9
- OMCD life style      Eph.4:17
- Emotional revolt and black-out of soul      Eph.4:18
- Scar tissue of soul      Eph.4:19
- Reverse process reversionism      Ex.32; 2 Tim.4:14; (Eph.4:22-24)
- Sin unto death      1 John 5:16

**You can recover from any stage.**