

NEWS AND VIEWS
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*“Southern Baptists with the Full
Gospel for the Whole World”*

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ROAD TO RESTORATION

Psalm 23:3

He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Many times on the side of the highway I will see a car with a white handkerchief, a white towel, or a white plastic bag hanging out of the window. When I see this, it is my understanding that the owner is leaving all of us a message about the vehicle. I believe that the message is meant to be understood as a message of distress. The owner is not trying to convey that the vehicle is abandoned. Only that the vehicle is disabled, out of fuel, or in need of repair.

Perhaps your life today resembles that vehicle on the side of the road. Just as there is a limit to how far a broken or empty car can travel, there is a limit to how far a broken or empty life can keep going. If you are feeling broken today it may be time to send a message. Are you feeling abandoned on the side of life's highway? Abandonment hurts. It's painful to feel like no one cares. It causes a person to want to give up. Well, maybe it is time to give up. Maybe it's time to surrender. Give up trying to repair or fix your broken life and surrender your life to God. Maybe it's time to give up trying to fill the emptiness and ask God for assistance.

When you raise the white flag of surrender to God, He is glorified. When you give up control of a life that is already out of control, God is glorified. He delights in repairing that which is broken, restoring disabled lives, and sending them out to travel freely on life's highway. He is able to fill that emptiness that we desperately want to fill.

Here's a couple of thoughts...

I. THE ROAD TO RESTORATION BEGINS ON THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS. Broken down on the side of the road, we need to be restored to the journey. Our souls are broken down from the beginning of our lives. We are in need of restoration. Sometimes a car is more apt to break down on rough roads. Sometimes a car can get stuck on low roads. God's road for our lives is the Highway of Holiness. Righteousness is goodness. The road to righteousness is to travel the road God travels. Being like God will lead you to God. We need His help to be like Him. We need His assistance on whatever road we travel.

II. THE ROAD TO RESTORATION IS NAMED TO HONOR GOD. Many times we see signs that tell us the road on which we are traveling is named for someone. The purpose is to honor that person or to lead you to their location. The King's Highway is the road to restoration...for it honors and leads to the King. Which road are you traveling today? And where will it lead?

Blessings in the coming year,
Pastor Sam