



**Preparation for Revival – Part 4  
Breaking Up Fallow Ground**

**Matt. 13:18-23**

- Before a harvest can come, the ground must be prepared.*
- The soil here represents the condition of the heart before God.*
- Four Types:**
  - Hard.*
  - Stony* (Inconsistent and offendable).
  - Weedy* (Unable to bear righteous fruit).
  - Prepared.*

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**Preparation for Revival – Part 4  
Breaking Up Fallow Ground**

**Hosea 10:12:** “Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground, for it is time to seek the LORD, till He comes and rains righteousness on you.”

- The former rain comes to soften the soil so it can be plowed.*
- If the heart is prepared according to 2 Chron. 7:14, the Lord has promised to send the former and latter rain of the Spirit, and bring forth a last days harvest of the earth.*

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**What is Fallow Ground?**

**Ground that has yielded fruit in the past, but has now become unproductive.**

- It usually grows unfruitful and unproductive through several ways:*
  - Idleness/Carelessness.*
  - Slothfulness.*

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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What Are the Characteristics of Fallow Ground?</b></p> <p><b><u>It is Hard.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hearts that have grown insensitive and unresponsive to the voice and leading of the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>•Hearts that have grown cold in love toward the saints.</li> <li>•Hearts that have grown indifferent toward the lost.</li> <li>•Formality and outward show with little or no love, joy or life.</li> <li>•“Profess much; possess little.”</li> </ul>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What Are the Characteristics of Fallow Ground?</b></p> <p><b><u>It is covered in Weeds.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Thorns were the fruit of the curse (Gen. 3:18).</li> <li>•<b>Jer. 4:3:</b> “For thus says the LORD to the men of Judah and Jerusalem: ‘Break up your fallow ground, and do not sow among thorns.’”</li> <li>•The heart has grown slothful, indifferent or neglectful.</li> </ul>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What Are the Characteristics of Fallow Ground?</b></p> <p><b><u>It is Unfruitful.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•We’re not talking about “religious activity.”</li> <li>•Christlikeness is absent.</li> <li>•<u>Practical holiness and power in daily life.</u></li> </ul>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God Intends to Bless</b></p> <p><i>All creation is intended to show His glory and for our pleasure and benefit.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•As God's people keep covenant, God promises:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<u>Good weather patterns.</u></li> <li>•<u>Abundant provision.</u></li> <li>•<u>Harmony between man and creation.</u></li> </ul> </li> <li>•<i>Blessings are contingent upon man's heart condition and obedience.</i></li> </ul>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God's Covenant of Peace</b></p> <p><i><u>Ez. 34:25-28:</u> "I will make a covenant of peace with them, and cause wild beasts to cease from the land; and they will dwell safely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods. I will make them and the places all around My hill a blessing; and I will cause showers to come down in their season; there shall be showers of blessing. Then the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase. They shall be safe in their land; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke and delivered them from the hand of those who enslaved them. And they shall no longer be a prey for the nations, nor shall beasts of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and no one shall make them afraid."</i></p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God's Covenant of Peace</b></p> <p><u>God promises peace, safety and showers of blessing.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<i>The prophet rebukes the selfish, self-centered leaders and holds them responsible for the condition of God's scattered flock.</i></li> <li>•<i>The people of God have become prey to the enemy because of the unrighteous example and stewardship of leaders.</i></li> </ul>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God's Covenant of Power</b></p> <p><b>Ex. 34:10-11:</b> <i>“And He said: ‘Behold, I make a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation; and all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the LORD. For it is an awesome thing that I will do with you. Observe what I command you this day. Behold, I am driving out from before you the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite.’”</i></p> <p><b>•God promises displays of His power if we humble ourselves and obey.</b></p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God's Covenant of Faithfulness</b></p> <p><b>Deut. 7:12-15:</b> <i>“Then it shall come to pass, because you listen to these judgments, and keep and do them, that the LORD your God will keep with you the covenant and the mercy which He swore to your fathers. And He will love you and bless you and multiply you; He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your land, your grain and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flock, in the land of which He swore to your fathers to give you. You shall be blessed above all peoples; there shall not be a male or female barren among you or among your livestock. And the LORD will take away from you all sickness, and will afflict you with none of the terrible diseases of Egypt which you have known, but will lay them on all those who hate you.”</i></p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God's Covenant of Faithfulness</b></p> <p><b><u>We did not choose Him...He chose us!</u></b></p> <p><b><u>•We are to respond to Him by:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Loving Him.</li> <li>•Obeying Him.</li> <li>•Occupying His land and allowing Him to fulfill His purposes.</li> </ul> <p><b>•He promises to bless and honor us.</b></p> <p><b>•As long as God and man are in right relationship, the earth would be blessed and in return, bless man in abundance.</b></p> <p><b>•Sin, in breaking relationship and covenant, has given Satan power in both the spiritual and physical realms.</b></p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Defilement of the Spiritual and Physical Land</b></p> <p><b><u>Things that cause defilement (becoming unuseable to God) and God's presence and blessing to withdraw:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>Sexual Immorality</b> – Lev. 18:24-28.</li> <li>•<b>Shedding Innocent Blood</b> – Numbers 35:33-34.</li> <li>•<b>Idolatry and Occultism</b> – Psalm 106:34-37.</li> <li>•<b>Broken Covenants</b> – 2 Sam. 21:1-3.</li> </ul>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Defilement of Immorality by Believers</b></p> <p><b><u>Jer. 23:10-11:</u></b> “<i>For the land is full of adulterers; for because of a curse the land mourns. The pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up. Their course of life is evil, and their might is not right. For both prophet and priest are profane; yes, in My house I have found their wickedness,</i>” says the LORD.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>The sins of God's people are even more to blame for the conditions in the land than that of unbelievers.</b></li> </ul>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Defilement by Immorality by Believers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>Praise the Lord for the power of His blood to cleanse from sin.</b></li> <li>•<b>Ask the Lord to search our hearts for any immoral thoughts and actions.</b></li> <li>•<b>Confess every way that mindsets and lifestyles of the world have influenced our thinking and actions.</b></li> <li>•<b>Repent and renounce everything He reveals.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>Change your household and lifestyle.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>•<b>Pray for every hidden thing in our lives to be revealed and brought to repentance.</b></li> <li>•<b>Pray for cleansing through the blood.</b></li> <li>•<b>Ask the Holy Spirit to come and thoroughly purge every area of our lives and land.</b></li> </ul>
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