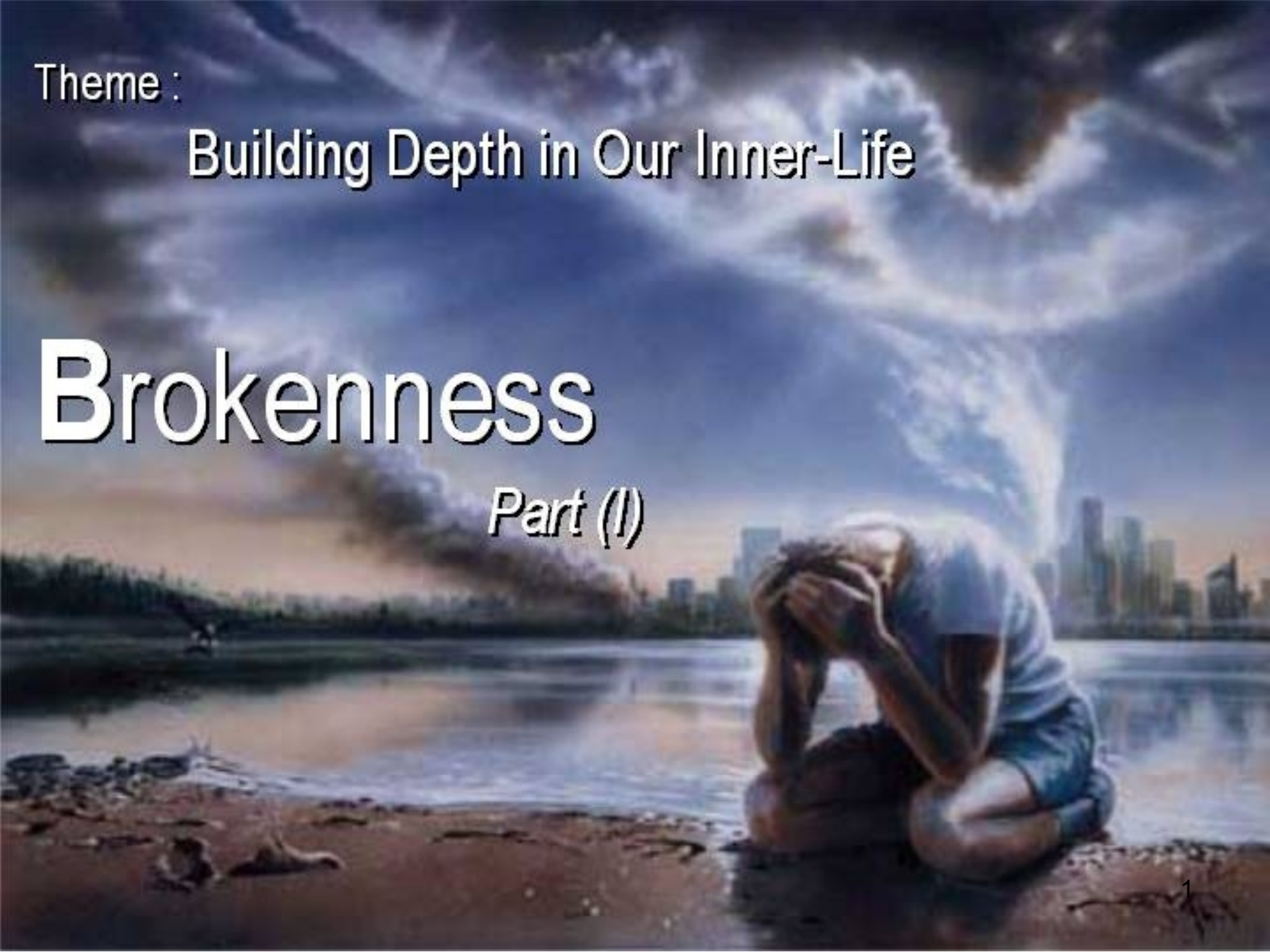


Theme :

Building Depth in Our Inner-Life

Brokenness

Part (I)



An open book with a cloudy sky background. The book is open, showing two pages of text. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds against a light blue background. The text is centered on the page.

Biblical Portraits of
“**broken**” and “**unbroken**”
people

Biblical Examples

1. **2 Kings - King Saul & King David**

King Saul

1 Samuel 15:12b

Saul went to Carmel, and indeed,
he set up a monument for himself;
and he has gone on around, passed by,
and gone down to Gilgal.”

King Saul

1 Samuel 15:18 - 24

¹⁸Now the LORD sent you on a mission, and said, 'Go, and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.'

King Saul

1 Samuel 15:18 - 24

¹⁹Why then did you not obey
the voice of the LORD?

Why did you swoop down on the spoil,
and do evil in the sight of the LORD?"

King Saul

1 Samuel 15:18 - 24

²⁰And Saul said to Samuel,
“But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD,
and gone on the mission on which
the LORD sent me, and brought back
Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly
destroyed the Amalekites.”

King Saul

1 Samuel 15:18 - 24

²¹But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal.”

King Saul

1 Samuel 15:18 - 24

²²So Samuel said: “Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams.

King Saul

1 Samuel 15:18 - 24

²³For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,
and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.

Because you have rejected
the word of the LORD,

He also has rejected you from being king.”

King Saul

1 Samuel 15:18 - 24

²⁴Then Saul said to Samuel,

“I have sinned, for I have transgressed
the commandment of the LORD
and your words, because I feared the people
and obeyed their voice ...

King Saul

1 Samuel 15:30

Then he said,

“I have sinned; yet honor me now, please,
before the elders of my people and
before Israel, and return with me,
that I may worship the LORD your God.”

King Saul

- ❖ Full of himself - set up monument.
- ❖ Scheming partial obedience for self interests.
- ❖ When Confronted, Self-Justification and accused others instead of admitting own folly.
- ❖ Face Issue - before leaders and people - Pride.

King David

When confronted by Samuel
for murdering Uriah and
the adultery with Bathsheba

2 Samuel 12:7a

Then Nathan said to David,
“You are the man! ...”

King David

When confronted by Samuel
for murdering Uriah and
the adultery with Bathsheba

2 Samuel 12:13a

So David said to Nathan,

“I have sinned against the LORD.”

When confronted by Samuel for murdering Uriah and the adultery with Bathsheba

- No self-justification
- No accusing others
 - No face issues
- Immediate confession and repentance

Psalm 51

Psalm 32

Biblical Examples

1. 2 Kings - King Saul & King David
2. **The Pharisee and the Tax Collector**

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Luke 18:9 - 14

⁹Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Luke 18:9 - 14

¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Luke 18:9 - 14

¹¹The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector.

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Luke 18:9 - 14

¹²I fast twice a week;
I give tithes of all that I possess.

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Luke 18:9 - 14

¹³And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, **‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’**

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Luke 18:9 - 14

¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Biblical Examples

1. 2 Kings - King Saul & King David
2. The Pharisee and the Tax Collector
3. **Simon, the Pharisee and the Sinner Woman**

Simon, the Pharisee and the Sinner Woman

Luke 7:36 – 43

³⁶Then one of the Pharisees asked Him
to eat with him.

And He went to the Pharisee's house,
and sat down to eat.

Simon, the Pharisee and the Sinner Woman

Luke 7:36 – 43

³⁷And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil

Simon, the Pharisee and the Sinner Woman

Luke 7:36 – 43

³⁸and stood at His feet behind Him weeping;
and she began to wash His feet with her tears,
and wiped them with the hair of her head;
and she kissed His feet and anointed them
with the fragrant oil.

Simon, the Pharisee and the Sinner Woman

Luke 7:36 – 43

³⁹Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying,
“This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner.”

Simon, the Pharisee and the Sinner Woman

Luke 7:36 – 43

⁴⁰And Jesus answered and said to him,
“Simon, I have something to say to you.”
So he said, “Teacher, say it.”

Simon, the Pharisee and the Sinner Woman

Luke 7:36 – 43

⁴¹“There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.

Simon, the Pharisee and the Sinner Woman

Luke 7:36 – 43

⁴²And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both.

Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?”

Simon, the Pharisee and the Sinner Woman

Luke 7:36 – 43

⁴³Simon answered and said,
“I suppose the one whom he forgave more.”
And He said to him,
“You have rightly judged.”

Simon, the Pharisee and the Sinner Woman

Luke 7:47

Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much.

But to whom little is forgiven,
the same loves little.”

Brokenness gives us a correct perspective
of our sins and God's forgiveness

A person is crouching on a sandy beach, their head buried in their hands in a gesture of despair or grief. The background shows a city skyline across a body of water under a cloudy sky. The overall mood is one of sadness and loss.

Truths about Brokenness

I. Brokenness is the Realization of the corruption and futility of everything in our self-life.

WHY?

I. Brokenness is the **Realization** of the corruption and futility of everything in our self-life.

Romans 3:10

As it is written: “There is **none righteous**,
no, not one

Romans 3:23

for **all have sinned** and
fall short of the glory of God

I. Brokenness is the **Realization** of the corruption and futility of everything in our self-life.

Romans 8:7 - 8

⁷ ..the **carnal mind is enmity against God;**
for it is not subject to the law of God,
nor indeed can be. ⁸So then, those who are in
the flesh cannot please God.

I. Brokenness is the Realization of the corruption and futility of everything in our self-life.

John 6:63a

It is the Spirit who gives life;
the flesh profits nothing.

Our flesh = our carnality = our sinful nature

Our pride = our arrogance
= our self-sufficiency

The Responses of :-

- **King David** – when confronted with murder and adultery immediately confessed-agreed.
- **The Tax Collector** who knows he is a doomed sinner and needs the Mercy and Grace of God.
- **The woman with the Alabaster Box** who loved the Lord much because she realized she had been forgiven much.

I. Brokenness is the **Realization** of the corruption and futility of everything in our self-life.

Isaiah 6:5

So I said : “Woe is me, for I am undone!
Because **I am a man of unclean lips,**
and I dwell in the midst of
a people of unclean lips; for my eyes
have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.”

I. Brokenness is the Realization of the corruption and futility of everything in our self-life.

Luke 5:8

When Simon Peter saw it,
he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying,

“Depart from me,
for I am a sinful man, O Lord!”

Brokenness - a Realization ... occurs:-

- Death of a loved one you take for granted ... now lonely, cannot do without that person
- Life's Circumstances - hard knocks - retrenched, demoted, desperate ...
- Life's lessons - hopefully mellow with age having suffered pain
- Strive until come to end of oneself - Jacob

I. Brokenness is the Realization of the corruption and futility of everything in our self-life.

II. The Lord is looking for Brokenness in our lives.

II. The Lord is looking for Brokenness in our lives.

2 Pictures of **Brokenness**

Picture #1

The Potter and The Clay

Broken ...

in order to be made
whole and beautiful
perfect and attractive



Picture #2



To tame a horse is to **BREAK** a horse's wild and stubborn will to make it **obedient to the master.**

**Broken ...
in order to be useful
to the Master**

II. The Lord is looking for **Brokenness** in our lives.

Joshua 5:13 – 15

¹³And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand.

And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, **“Are You for us or for our adversaries?”**

II. The Lord is looking for **Brokenness** in our lives.

Joshua 5:13 – 15

¹⁴So He said, “**No**, but as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.”

And **Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped**, and said to Him, “What does **my Lord** say to His servant?”

II. The Lord is looking for **Brokenness** in our lives.

Joshua 5:13 – 15

¹⁵Then the Commander of the LORD's army
said to Joshua,

“Take your sandal off your foot,
for the place where you stand is holy.”

And Joshua did so.

- I. Brokenness is the Realization of the corruption and futility of everything in our self-life.
- II. The Lord is looking for Brokenness in our lives.
- III. Brokenness is the Posture of total dependency on God.

III. Brokenness is the Posture of total dependency on God.

Matthew 5:3

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

The word “**POOR**”

(Greek – Beggar, destitute) in spirit

III. Brokenness is the Posture of total dependency on God.

Psalm 51:17

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit,
a broken and a contrite heart—
these, O God, You will not despise.

Isaiah 66:2b

... on this one will I look:
On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit,
and who trembles at My word.

III. Brokenness is the Posture of total dependency on God.

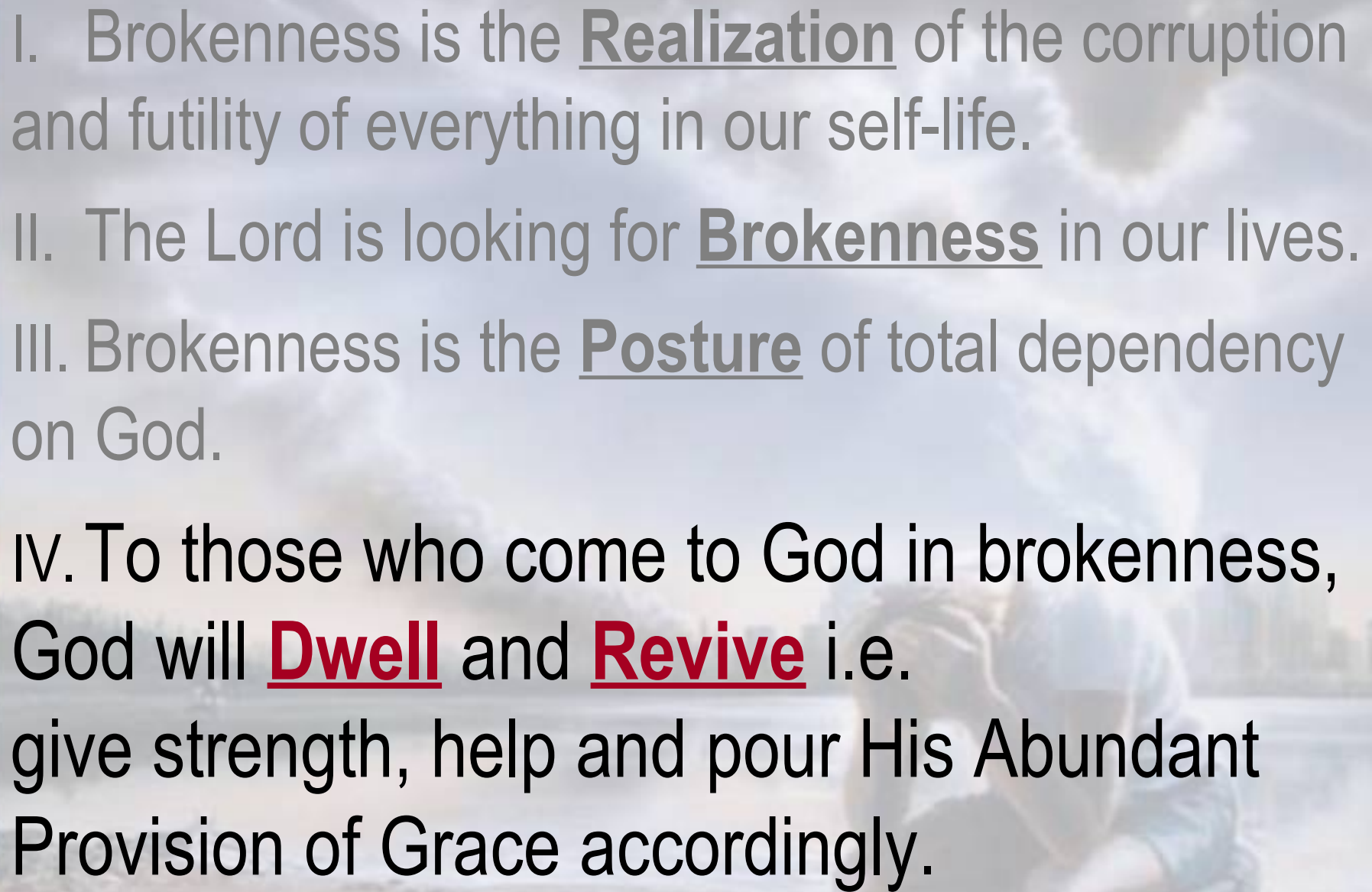
Brokenness =

Humility

Gentleness

Contriteness

A Recognition of the futility
of our own strength

- 
- I. Brokenness is the Realization of the corruption and futility of everything in our self-life.
- II. The Lord is looking for Brokenness in our lives.
- III. Brokenness is the Posture of total dependency on God.
- IV. To those who come to God in brokenness, God will Dwell and Revive i.e. give strength, help and pour His Abundant Provision of Grace accordingly.

Isaiah 57:15

For thus says the High and Lofty One
Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
“I dwell in the high and holy place,
with him who has a contrite and humble spirit,
to revive the spirit of the humble,
and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

IV. To those who come to God in brokenness,
God will Dwell and Revive.

James 4:6b (NASB)

... “God gives Grace to the humble.”

James 4:6b (AMP)

... God gives Grace [continually] to the lowly
(those who are humble enough to receive it).

Examples of God's Grace

Protection

Peace

Favor

Wisdom

Revelation

Tangible Presence
of God

Provision

Intervention through
People & Circumstances

Deliverance from
a bondage

Salvation

Miracles & Healings

Biblical Examples

1. 2 Kings - King Saul & King David
2. The Pharisee and the Tax Collector
3. Simon, the Pharisee and the Sinner Woman
4. **2 Sons and their Father** (Luke 15)

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:17 - 25

¹⁷But when he came to himself, he said,
'How many of my father's hired servants
have bread enough and to spare,
and I perish with hunger!

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:17 - 25

¹⁸I will arise and go to my father,
and will say to him,
“Father, I have sinned against heaven
and before you,

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:17 - 25

¹⁹and I am no longer worthy
to be called your son.

Make me like one of your hired servants.””

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:17 - 25

²⁰And he arose and came to his father.

But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:17 - 25

²¹And the son said to him,
'Father, I have sinned against heaven
and in your sight,
and am no longer worthy
to be called your son.'

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:17 - 25

²²But the father said to his servants,
'Bring out the best robe and put it on him,
and put a ring on his hand and
sandals on his feet.

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:17 - 25

²³And bring the fattened calf here and kill it,
and let us eat and be merry;

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:17 - 25

²⁴for this my son was dead and is alive again;
he was lost and is found.'
And they began to be merry.

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:17 - 25

²⁵Now his older son was in the field.

And as he came and drew near to the house,
he heard music and dancing.

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:28 - 31

**²⁸But he was angry and would not go in.
Therefore his father came out and
pleaded with him.**

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:28 - 31

²⁹So he answered and said to his father,
'Lo, these many years I have been serving
you; I never transgressed your commandment
at any time; and yet you never gave me
a young goat, that I might make merry
with my friends.

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:28 - 31

³⁰But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.

2 Sons and their Father

Luke 15:28 - 31

³¹And he said to him,
'Son, you are always with me,
and all that I have is yours.'

2 Sons and their Father

- Younger Son
- Now broken
- Realized he sinned
- Return to the Father
- Elder Son – in spite of living with father
- Religiosity – no relationship
- No Life-Change - no Joy
- Do not know Father's heart

BROKEN or UNBROKEN

In the 4 stories,

4 Individuals were **Humble & Broken**

and

4 Others were **Proud & Unbroken**

Which **CATEGORY** are you?

Summary Conclusion - Truths about Brokenness

- I. Brokenness is the **Realization** of the corruption and futility of everything in our self-life.
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Summary Conclusion - Truths about Brokenness

IV. To those who come to God in brokenness, God will Dwell and Revive i.e. give strength, help and pour His Abundant Provision of Grace accordingly.

Conclusion

Acts 7:51

You stiff-necked and uncircumcised
in heart and ears!

You always resist the Holy Spirit;
as your fathers did, so do you.

**Unless your heart is circumcised,
the Lord cannot heal
your broken-hardened heart.**