

## Restoring the Broken

November 5, 2006

“Surprised by Joy”  
Ezra 1:1-11

### Introduction:

This morning we start a new sermon series aimed at understanding and experiencing God’s work of restoration in our lives. Whether a broken spirit, broken body, or broken relationships, we all desire God’s healing touch at some level in our lives.

### Interpretation:

God is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
in, and through, whomever he wishes to accomplish  
his purposes of restoration.

### Application:

- God’s \_\_\_\_\_ makes  
\_\_\_\_\_ necessary.
- God’s \_\_\_\_\_ makes  
\_\_\_\_\_ a joy.

## Going Deeper

1. How do the passages below describe God's sovereign work in the world?

- Exodus 7:3
- Isaiah 45:1-14
- Psalm 139:16
- Romans 13:1-7
- Ezra 1:1
- Daniel 4:25
- John 19:11
- Ephesians 1:4-14

2. How does the notion of God's sovereign rule over all the events of human history make you feel?

3. After reading Habakkuk's prayer, what part of his emotion can you relate to? Why? (Habakkuk 1:2-3)

4. In what areas of your life have you experienced God's sovereign work of restoration?

5. In what areas of your life are you still waiting for God to bring restoration? How is your faith being stretched as you wait? (Hebrews 11:6)

6. In what ways, if any, are you tempted to grow "weary in doing good" as you wait upon God's restoration? (Galatians 6:8-9)

GEBC sermons and sermon notes are available on line at [www.gebible.org](http://www.gebible.org). From the home page, click on services and then sermons.