

WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

Four Things That Are Needed For Renewal And Restoration

Study Guide

Old Testament Studies

John Weaver

Weaver Bible College

A lesson-by-lesson companion for reading, discussion, and written responses.

Downloadable classroom edition | 8.5 x 11 inches

Name / group

Date

Contents

Lesson 1: Pastor John Weaver - Four Things That Are Needed For Renewal And Restoration - Part One of Two 4

Major Themes 4

Key Arguments 5

Scripture References 6

Discussion Questions 9

Applications 11

Personal Application and Notes 12

Lesson 2: Pastor John Weaver - Four Things That Are Needed For Renewal And Restoration - Part Two of Two 13

Major Themes 13

Key Arguments 14

Scripture References 15

Discussion Questions 17

Applications 19

Personal Application and Notes 20

Online Lecture Resources 21

Using this guide

Read the corresponding chapter, then work through the themes, arguments, and Scripture references.

Write your responses before discussing the questions with others. Use the application pages to identify a practical next step.

The study material is retained from the existing lecture study guides. Added writing prompts provide space for your own response.

Print at Actual Size / 100% on US Letter paper. Single-sided and double-sided printing are both suitable. Lessons begin on the next available page; no blank pages are inserted.

Reading assignments refer to the September 30, 2026 edition of the companion book. Online lecture links and QR codes are collected at the end.

LESSON 1

Pastor John Weaver - Four Things That Are Needed For Renewal And Restoration

Part One of Two

January 28, 2026

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-22.

Major Themes

Imminent Danger and the Need for Awareness

Christians must recognize the serious threats facing the nation and church, including moral decay, division, and external enemies, and not ignore warning signs like the people of Noah's day.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'we're in deep trouble in this country' and warns against ignoring warnings, comparing it to ignoring cancer symptoms or a car's overheating light. He cites Proverbs 22:3 on the prudent man foreseeing evil.

Utter Helplessness Apart from God

Renewal requires acknowledging that human strength is insufficient; God only moves when His people realize they can do nothing without Him, as seen in the stories of Gideon, Asa, and Moses.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'It's only when we reach the end of ourselves and when we realize our own helplessness and our own powerlessness that God will help us.' He references Judges 7, 2 Chronicles 14, and Exodus 5-6.

The Danger of Pride and Self-Reliance

God opposes the proud and curses those who trust in human strength. A stiff neck - refusing to listen or receive instruction - prevents God's help.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Jeremiah 17:5, 'Cursed is the man that trusteth in man,' and explains that a stiff neck means not listening or receiving instruction (Jeremiah 17:23). He says, 'God curses pride. God curses arrogance.'

Divisions Exploited by Enemies

Enemies recognize and exploit divisions within a nation or church, and many divisions are forced upon people to keep them from uniting against the real enemy.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'our enemies always recognize the advantages that they possess in the multitudinous divisions that abound' and lists numerous divisions in America, stating, 'our enemies want to keep it that way.'

Dependence on God's Promises for Help

Despite human helplessness, God promises to strengthen, help, and uphold His people. Believers can do all things through Christ who strengthens them.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Isaiah 41:10, 13-14; Isaiah 44:2; and Philippians 4:13, emphasizing God's repeated promise, 'I will help thee.'

Key Arguments

Ignoring warnings leads to destruction, as in Noah's day.

Just as the antediluvians ignored Noah's preaching and were destroyed, modern Christians who ignore warning signs will face judgment.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'ignoring warning signs is not going to make evil disappear' and recounts how people mocked Noah because it had never rained, yet the flood came.

Nahash's demand to gouge out right eyes was a strategic move to disable and humiliate Israel.

Removing the right eye would prevent the men from fighting effectively, as they used their right eye to aim weapons, and would bring reproach on Israel and its God.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'if that right eye is plucked out, then they cannot fight. They cannot resist.' He adds that it would show God's apparent weakness.

God reduces human resources to ensure He gets the glory.

In Gideon's story, God reduced the army from 32,000 to 300 so Israel could not boast in their own strength.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Judges 7:2, 'The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.'

God only delivers when His people acknowledge their powerlessness.

In Exodus, God allowed the situation to worsen until Moses and the elders were completely helpless, then He declared He would act.

Lecture support: Weaver points to Exodus 5-6, where after Moses complains, God says, 'Now shalt thou see what I will do to Pharaoh.'

You cannot reason with a tyrant; only God can deliver.

Pharaoh's refusal to listen shows that human reasoning is futile against oppressive powers; dependence on God is the only solution.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'You cannot reason with a tyrant. You cannot reason with a bureaucrat because they're petty tyrants.'

Pride and self-sufficiency bring God's curse.

Trusting in human strength or refusing instruction (a stiff neck) places one under God's curse, while humility attracts His help.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Jeremiah 17:5 and Psalm 138:6, 'Though the Lord be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off.'

Scripture References

1 Samuel 11:1-15

The main text of the sermon, describing Nahash's threat against Jabesh Gilead and Saul's deliverance.

Genesis 6:3

God's declaration that His Spirit would not always strive with man, giving 120 years before the flood.

2 Peter 2:5

Noah is called a preacher of righteousness.

Hebrews 11:7

By faith Noah prepared an ark, condemning the world.

1 Peter 3:20

God's longsuffering waited in the days of Noah while the ark was preparing.

Genesis 2:6

A mist went up from the earth and watered the ground; it had not rained before the flood.

Genesis 7:11

The fountains of the great deep were broken up and the windows of heaven opened, causing the flood.

Genesis 19:38

The origin of the Ammonites from Lot's incestuous relationship with his daughter.

Judges 11:13

The king of Ammon falsely claimed Israel took their land.

Judges 11:33

Jephthah's great slaughter of the Ammonites, humiliating them.

1 Samuel 10:27

The children of Belial despised Saul and brought him no presents, showing division in Israel.

Proverbs 22:3

A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, but the simple pass on and are punished.

Judges 7:1-7

God reduces Gideon's army from 32,000 to 300 to prevent Israel from boasting in their own strength.

2 Chronicles 14:9-15

Asa's prayer for help against a million-man army, acknowledging powerlessness.

Proverbs 21:31

The horse is prepared for battle, but safety is of the Lord.

Exodus 5:1-6:1

Moses and Aaron's initial failure to free Israel; God makes them helpless before delivering.

Jeremiah 17:5

Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his arm.

Psalm 75:5

Lift not up your horn on high; speak not with a stiff neck.

Jeremiah 17:23

They made their neck stiff, refusing to hear or receive instruction.

Psalm 138:6

Though the Lord be high, He respects the lowly, but the proud He knows afar off.

Study notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Discussion Questions

1. What are some warning signs in our nation and churches that we might be ignoring, similar to the people of Noah's day?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes that many Christians are like the ostrich with its head in the sand, ignoring imminent danger.

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2. How does Nahash's demand to gouge out the right eyes serve as a metaphor for how the enemy seeks to disable and humiliate God's people today?

Consider: Weaver explains that removing the right eye would prevent fighting and bring reproach on Israel and God.

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3. In what areas of your life are you tempted to trust in your own strength rather than acknowledging your helplessness before God?

Consider: Weaver argues that God only helps when we realize we can do nothing apart from Him, using Gideon and Asa as examples.

4. Why does God sometimes allow situations to worsen before He delivers, as seen in Exodus 5-6?

Consider: Weaver points out that God made Israel's situation worse until they were completely helpless, then He acted.

5. What does it mean to have a 'stiff neck,' and how can we avoid this attitude in our relationship with God?

Consider: Weaver defines a stiff neck as refusing to listen or receive instruction, citing Jeremiah 17:23.

6. How can we cultivate 'seeing eyes and hearing ears' to perceive spiritual and physical dangers around us?

Consider: Weaver applies the message by urging prayer for awareness, using the cartoon of the men with 'The end is near' signs.

Applications

Pray for seeing eyes and hearing ears to recognize danger.

Believers must ask God to open their eyes to the threats facing them, so they can take defensive action and not be caught unaware.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'We must pray for seeing eyes and hearing ears that we may see and hear and understand the dangers that we are in, because we will never act in the defensive measure... until we see it.'

Acknowledge personal nothingness and inability apart from Christ.

Christians should confess that they are nothing and can do nothing without Jesus, fostering total dependence on Him.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'We need to understand that we can do absolutely nothing apart from the Lord Jesus Christ. We have to come to two realizations. Number one, I am nothing. ... The second realization we need to come to is I can do nothing.'

Rely on God's promises for help rather than human strength.

In the face of danger and helplessness, believers should trust God's repeated promises to strengthen, help, and uphold them.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Isaiah 41:10, 13-14 and Isaiah 44:2, emphasizing God's 'I will help thee,' and concludes, 'Fear not. God is going to help us.'

Study notes

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 2

Pastor John Weaver - Four Things That Are Needed For Renewal And Restoration

Part Two of Two

April 20, 2026

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 23-40.

Major Themes

Righteous Anger

A Holy Spirit-inspired anger is necessary for renewal, distinct from sinful human anger, and commanded in Scripture to confront sin and tyranny.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'And the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard those tidings, and his anger was greatly kindled' (1 Samuel 11:6) and explains that Ephesians 4:26 commands believers to be angry without sinning.

Fear of the Lord

The fear of the Lord is the only source of true unity and motivation for God's people to act together for restoration.

Lecture support: Weaver cites 1 Samuel 11:7: 'And the fear of the Lord fell on the people, and they came out with one consent,' and references other passages where the fear of God brought protection and unity.

National Decline and Tyranny

America has declined from a unified nation under God to a divided empire controlled by elites, with increasing government overreach and loss of freedoms.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'We're not really a nation... we are an empire of divided people ruled over by an elite,' and discusses licensing as control over every aspect of life.

Human Helplessness and Divine Intervention

Renewal requires recognizing our utter helplessness and depending on God to turn and quicken us, as seen in Psalms 80 and 85.

Lecture support: Weaver reads Psalm 80:3, 'Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine, and we shall be saved,' and emphasizes that without God's quickening, we will not be turned.

Love of Neighbor as Self-Defense

Loving your neighbor as yourself includes defending the innocent and helpless, as an application of God's law.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'If you're willing to defend yourself, you should also be willing to defend your neighbor,' referencing Leviticus 19:18 and New Testament citations.

Key Arguments

Anger is not inherently sinful; God commands righteous anger.

Weaver argues that Scripture shows God's anger and commands believers to be angry without sinning, distinguishing between righteous indignation and sinful human anger.

Lecture support: He cites Numbers 32:10, Mark 3:5, and Ephesians 4:26, stating, 'Be ye angry, and sin not' is a command, and explains that God's anger is holy.

The fear of the Lord is the only unifying force for God's people.

Weaver contends that human programs fail, but the fear of God falling on people unites them to act with one consent, as in 1 Samuel 11:7.

Lecture support: He says, 'It is only the fear of God that can bring forth unity,' and illustrates with Genesis 35:5, 2 Chronicles 17:10, and Acts 19:17.

America's decline is due to abandoning biblical foundations.

Weaver argues that the nation has moved from a unified, English-speaking, Christian-rooted society to a multicultural empire, losing freedoms through licensing and indoctrination.

Lecture support: He states, 'Only the old heads remember what we used to be,' and critiques public schools as 'indoctrinating morons and idiots.'

Mercy to the guilty is cruelty to the innocent.

Weaver asserts that biblical justice requires punishing evildoers, and that misplaced mercy leads to more victimization, citing Deuteronomy 19:13.

Lecture support: He quotes Adam Smith, 'Mercy to the guilty is cruelty to the innocent,' and references a murderer released 33 times.

Scripture References

1 Samuel 11:1-8

The main text of the sermon, describing Nahash's threat to Jabesh Gilead and Saul's response.

Psalms 80:3,7,19

Used to show the need for God to turn and quicken His people for salvation.

Psalms 85:4

Another plea for God to turn His people and cease His anger.

1 John 3:4

Defines sin as transgression of the law, used to argue that anger is not inherently sinful.

Romans 3:20

States that by the law is the knowledge of sin, supporting the definition of sin.

Numbers 32:10,13

Shows God's anger was kindled against Israel, proving anger can be holy.

Zephaniah 2:3

Mentions the day of the Lord's anger, indicating God's righteous wrath.

Psalms 7:11

States God is angry with the wicked every day, affirming divine anger.

Mark 3:1-5

Jesus looked at the Pharisees with anger, demonstrating righteous indignation.

Ephesians 4:26-27

Commands believers to be angry and sin not, showing anger can be righteous.

Ephesians 4:31

Commands putting away wrath and anger, indicating sinful anger must be removed.

Colossians 3:8,21

Commands putting off anger and not provoking children to anger, distinguishing sinful anger.

Proverbs 25:23

An angry countenance drives away a backbiting tongue, illustrating righteous anger.

Proverbs 14:17

He that is soon angry deals foolishly, warning against quick-tempered anger.

Proverbs 22:24-25

Make no friendship with an angry man, lest you learn his ways.

Proverbs 29:22

An angry man stirs up strife, and a furious man abounds in transgression.

Leviticus 19:18

Love your neighbor as yourself, the first occurrence of this command.

Romans 13:9

Love your neighbor as yourself summarizes the commandments.

Galatians 5:14

All the law is fulfilled in loving your neighbor as yourself.

James 2:8

Fulfilling the royal law by loving your neighbor as yourself.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. How can we distinguish between righteous anger and sinful anger in our own lives?

Consider: Weaver explains that righteous anger is directed at sin and produced by the Spirit, while sinful anger is fleshly and explosive or internalized.

2. What does it mean for the fear of the Lord to fall on a people, and how can we pray for this today?

Consider: Weaver describes the fear of the Lord as a unifying force that leads to action, citing 1 Samuel 11:7 and other passages.

3. In what ways have we become desensitized to the imminent dangers facing our nation and the church?

Consider: Weaver argues that many Americans are complacent as long as they have entertainment, and that Christians must recognize present dangers.

4. How does the command to love your neighbor as yourself apply to defending the innocent and opposing tyranny?

Consider: Weaver uses the example of defending Dinah to illustrate that loving your neighbor includes physical defense.

5. What are practical ways to cultivate a biblical anger against sin without falling into sinful anger?

Consider: Weaver discusses the need for anger to be directed at resolving sin biblically, not at people.

Applications

Act under God's principles and timing

Believers should move and act according to God's leading, like Israel followed the pillar of cloud and fire.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'We should learn to act under His principles, His precepts, His truth. We move when He says move, we stay when He says stay.'

Diminish fleshly anger and cultivate righteous anger

A proper fear of the Lord will reduce sinful anger and increase a desire for biblical anger that deals with sin.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'A proper fear of the Lord will result in a diminishing of our natural fleshly anger and a desire to have a biblical and righteous anger.'

Pray for the fear of the Lord to unite His people

Believers should pray Psalm 86:11, asking God to unite their hearts to fear His name, leading to unity and action.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'If I'm praying, Lord, unite my heart to fear thy name... how long do you think it's going to take us to be united?'

Meditate on the four truths for renewal

Weaver urges the congregation to dwell on the four points: imminent danger, helplessness, righteous anger, and fear of the Lord.

Lecture support: He concludes, 'Dwell upon these four truths. We need them in our lives. We need each one of them.'

Study notes

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

Online Lecture Resources

Scan a code or select the lecture link in the PDF. The original lecture identifiers and destinations are preserved.

Lesson 1: Pastor John Weaver - Four Things That Are Needed For Renewal And Restoration - Part One of Two

Lecture JW01183

[Open the formatted lecture online](#)



https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01183&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

Lesson 2: Pastor John Weaver - Four Things That Are Needed For Renewal And Restoration - Part Two of Two

Lecture JW01184

[Open the formatted lecture online](#)



https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01184&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

Source information

Study material: existing Major Themes, Key Arguments, Scripture References, Discussion Questions, and Applications from the corresponding Weaver Bible College lecture records. Original lecture titles and provenance are retained in those source records.

Layout upgraded September 30, 2026. Original manuscripts, study-guide data, and previous PDFs have not been changed.