

Rediscovery

We are often amazed at new things. For instance a recent computer chip was tested that ran at over 44 Terabytes per second - enough to download ten high definition movies in one second! We love new technology and new things in general, new cars, new homes, new toys, etc. It is not a new or modern phenomenon. The Athenians on Mars Hill loved telling and hearing new things (Acts 17:16-21).

But there is another item that often interests us - the *rediscovery* of old things that were either forgotten or ignored for a period of time. We've all experienced it, from finding an old doll in the attic to rediscovering a beloved item in a loved one's estate treasures. This is not a new phenomenon either!

After the Assyrian's invasion of Judah, under their general Sennacherib, they besieged Jerusalem. Although the Assyrian attack failed, it left Jerusalem in bad shape. Judah's king Josiah saw that their nation's fate was brought about because they had ignored Jehovah God and His book. Josiah's men had found a dusty old book in the temple and read it to him. All were amazed - it was the book of the Lord! Following the discovery of that book, Josiah lead sweeping reforms, casting idolatry out of the nation and re-instituting feast and fast days prescribed therein. It was an astounding *rediscovery* from the not-so-distant past. (Read II Kings 22 and 23 for the details of this incredible story.)

Likewise, in two of my favorite Old Testament books, Ezra and Nehemiah, God's people *rediscovered* their blessings. They had just returned from 70 years of captivity in Babylon and were rebuilding the capitol city of Jerusalem. They were rebuilding residences but neglecting the house of God. (See Haggai 1:1-4.) (For more info see also Ezra 1; 5:1-11; 6:14, and Nehemiah 2:11-20; 3: 26-31. In fact much of these two books are about the rebuilding and rededication of the temple.)

Today, we have been "socially distanced" by various decrees and thus have missed some things very precious to us. In Acts 2:42, we see the congregation sharing four vital things,

They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, the breaking of bread and to prayer.

After speaking to each family personally, I am so very encouraged to see that we are all missing our fellowship and communion together. We certainly have not forgotten the things of God in these recent months, but we do, indeed, share the joy and deeper appreciation of these things we have missed. We may not be actually *rediscovering* forgotten things, but we are certainly recognizing the importance and the joy of coming together again to bless one another and to give honor to God for His unspeakable blessings. On June 7th we plan to resume our worship and our fellowship as His people.

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