



SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG
METHODIST CHURCH



SERMON



A RENEWED

Church

LAMENTATIONS 5:19-22

BISHOP JEYAKUMAR

26 SEPTEMBER 2021



SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG
METHODIST CHURCH

A RENEWED CHURCH

Lamentations 5:19-22

SS Methodist Church

26 September, 2021

Bishop T. Jeyakumar





**But you, O LORD, reign forever;
your throne endures to all generations.**

**Why do you forget us forever,
why do you forsake us for so many days?**

**Restore us to yourself, O LORD,
that we may be restored!**

**Renew our days as of old—
unless you have utterly rejected us,
and you remain exceedingly angry with us.**

Lamentations 5:19-22





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A RENEWED CHURCH

Lamentations 5:19-22

Sungai Way-Subang Methodist Church

26 September, 2021

T. Jeyakumar

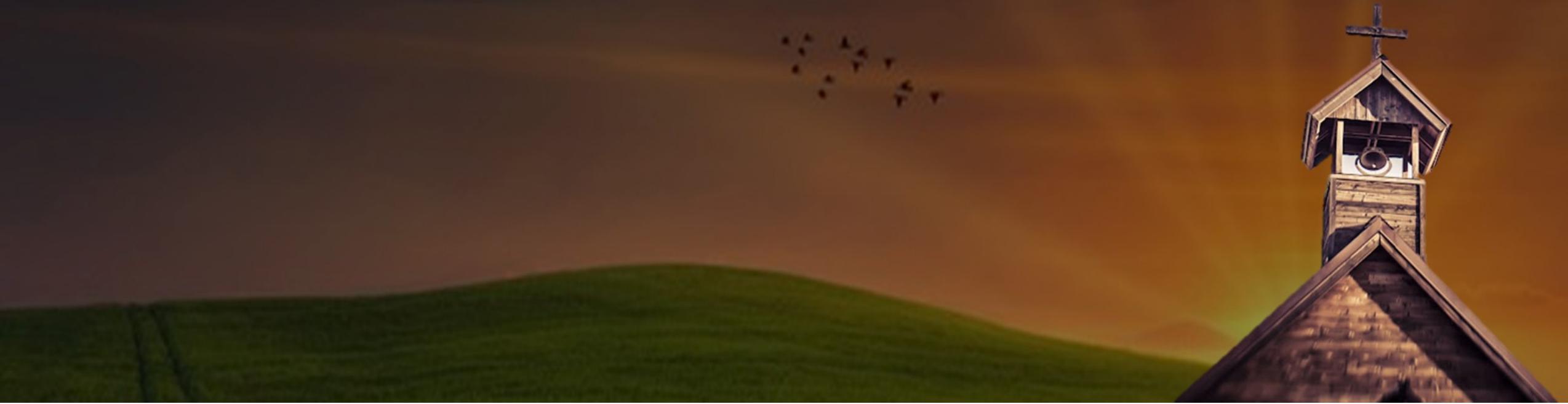




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A French Soldier with Amnesia

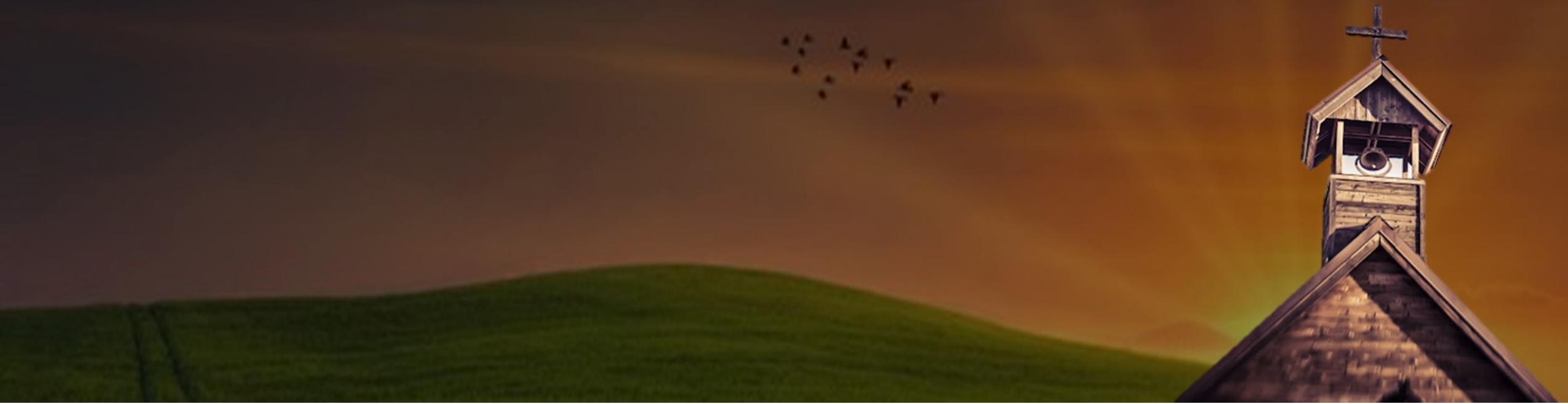
“Who Am I?”





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The church too has forgotten who she is
and what she is all about.





But you, O LORD, reign forever;
your throne endures to all generations.

Why do you forget us forever,
why do you forsake us for so many days?

Restore us to yourself, O LORD,
that we may be restored!

Renew our days as of old—

unless you have utterly rejected us,
and you remain exceedingly angry with us.

Lamentations 5:19-22





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A RENEWED CHURCH

+ Empowering Churches

+ Enriching Families

+ Enhancing Education

+ Engaging the Nation





- The book of Lamentations deals with national suffering.
- There are 5 laments in the book. Every chapter is one lament.
- Chapter 5 is the last lament and it is an intercessory prayer.
- Jeremiah acknowledges God is responsible
- for Jerusalem's judgment.
- Jerusalem deserved her punishment because of her repeated sins.





Yet at the same time he pleads
with God on behalf of the people
to accept their confession of sin
and show mercy to the people.





All around Jerusalem there was destruction
and suffering.

In the last four verses we see the faith of
Jeremiah in a Sovereign GOD.

GOD reigns forever.

GOD is in absolute control.





In verse 21 Jeremiah pleads
with God to restore
the people to Himself (God),
and **renew the days as of old.**





Renewal is so very important in the Bible and the history of the Church.

John Wesley translates
the last bit of verse 21 as,
“Restore us to our former estate.”





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Renewal

- the conversion of their hearts
and the transformation of their lives.





First Jeremiah prays for repentance
only then he seeks renewal.

**There can be no renewal
without repentance.**





1. Renewed in our vision of GOD.

That HE is holy
God in His righteousness and holiness
will not tolerate the nation's sins,
the individual's sins,
and the church's corporate sins.





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**2. Renewed in our
understanding of our call.**

To live holy lives.





This is Methodism's main point or big idea: salvation brings not only forgiveness and pardon, but also **empowerment and freedom to live a faithful and holy life altogether and right now.**

John Wesley called this our *grand depositum* – this teaching or doctrine is a treasure that God has entrusted to the people called Methodists. Those who are in Christ are offered full salvation – meaning this – it is a salvation that addresses our past sin and offers freedom from the power of sin in the here and now.





3. Renewed in our proclamation of the message of hope.

God will show His mercy if we turn away
from our sins. God is a faithful God.

He will not forsake us.

But He wants to see us turn to Him.

In all our proclamations we must remind
our people to repent, and tell them that if
we will GOD will show mercy.





4. Renewed in our witness to the world.

Renewed in our vision to be a light in the darkness.

Israel was called to be a witness to the world.

Not to exist for herself.

But the Israelites forgot about the rest of the world and thought of themselves as an exclusive nation.

Instead of being a witness to the nations surrounding them and the foreigners in their midst, Israel lived carelessly, recklessly, selfishly and sinfully.





5. Renewed in our compassion.

Jeremiah pleaded with them to repent while bringing to them the message of judgment.

He mourned over the suffering of the people

(Jer. 8:21 and 9:1).

“Ardent as was his love for the people, he was primarily driven by what God felt for Israel....

Love involves an appreciation of what is precious in the beloved person.

Israel was precious because it was the consort and the beloved of the Lord.”

(Abraham J Heschel, The Prophets)





We will see God do

an old and yet a new thing called renewal.

We will then experience that renewal that Jeremiah sought after and which you and I want so badly but don't know how to get it.

God is not unwilling my friends.

God is willing to do it even now.

Why must He wait till tmro when

He can do it today? Why must you wait for tmro when you can receive it today?





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The Church must regain
her memory
and become
A RENEWED CHURCH

