



## Return unto Me

*James 4:6-15*

Is your heart far from God? Have you strayed from Him? Are you sensing a distance between you and your Creator/Redeemer? Do you feel that you are not as close to the Lord as you once were? Are you longing to restore a right relationship with the Lord? If so, what can you do about it? The Bible makes it abundantly clear that you need to take the first step, and if you do your part, God promises that He will surely do His part.

Consider the following three passages:

☞ 1) **“Return unto Me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts”** (*Malachi 3:7*). Jeremiah adds this encouraging word: “Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings” (*Jer. 3:22*).

☞ 2) “Therefore say thou unto them, **Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Turn ye unto Me, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the Lord of hosts**” (*Zech. 1:3*). In case one should doubt that this message was from the LORD, God affirmed this three times with “saith the LORD.” He has given you His promise. Will you act on it?

☞ 3) **“Draw nigh (near) to God, and He will draw nigh (near) to you”** (*James 4:8*). Will God really honor these three promises? Consider the following: “But when they in their trouble did turn unto the LORD God of Israel, and sought Him, He was found of them” (*2 Chron. 15:4*). “Yet when they returned, and cried unto Thee, Thou heardest them from heaven: and many times didst Thou deliver them according to Thy mercies” (*Neh. 9:28*).

**Return, turn, draw near!** It’s a simple formula. God is ready, willing and eager to return to you and turn to you and draw near to you, but you must make the first move. God is waiting to be merciful!

~George Zeller: [www.middletonbiblechurch.org](http://www.middletonbiblechurch.org)



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