

## Studies on Revival

## When Revival Occurs

*“O LORD, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.” – Habakkuk 3:2*

## I. How Personal Revival Feels

- Brokenness
  - It is so often overlooked that true Revival begins where human strength ends – II Corinthians 12:9
  - This is the common reaction when we are exposed to the greatness of God – Isaiah 6:5
  - Great tragedy or loss marks the beginning of when God has mightily used individuals.
- Hunger for God
  - Our desire toward God becomes a consuming need – Psalm 42:1-2
  - When we have a taste of the divine, we cannot be satisfied with anything else – Psalm 63:1-2
  - This is manifested in desires toward time alone with God, studying His Word, communing in prayer, praising Him in song, or similar activities.
- Revulsion toward Sin, Self, and World
  - As we draw neared to God’s heart, we should experience the same positive and negative reactions that He has. – I John 2:15
  - We cannot seek after God while also seeking sin and self – Matthew 6:24
- Desire to bring Revival and Salvation to others
  - As our love toward God deepens and toward self wanes, we see the needs of others more clearly. – Philippians 2:4, Matthew 22:39

## II. How Corporate Revival Looks

- Christ will be glorified
  - Not the church, speaker, human, method, music, or anything else
  - “When revival comes, we won’t be talking about revival, but about Jesus.” – Paul Chappell
- Sins will be confessed
  - By all principles of holiness in the Scriptures, the presence of God or the presence of sins will cause the other to retreat – II Corinthians 6:14
- Routines and methods will be ignored by the Spirit
  - God will not be reduced to a formula or program. He moves and works in His own time and way.
  - Warning – Too many today try to force revival by demolishing form and tradition. The history of revival is not one of wholesale change, but tweaks and adjustments. There are too many Scriptural and time-tested principles behind what we do to ignorantly assume everything must be thrown out.

- There will be lasting impact
  - “Any true revival can be proven by the fact that it changed the moral climate of an area or nation.” – Leonard Ravenhill
  - Eternal impact = souls won to Christ
  - Lives changed and hearts aflame in Christians
- A hunger for Revival’s return
  - Once we experience the presence and power of God, nothing else will satisfy – Exodus 33:11

“A revived church is the only hope for a dying world.” – Andrew Murray

“It is my conviction that we are never going to have a revival until God has brought the church of Jesus Christ to the point of desperation.” – Stephen Olford

“Whenever, in any century, whether in a single heart or in a company of believers, there has been a fresh effusion of the Spirit, there has followed inevitably a fresh endeavor in the work of evangelizing the world.” - A. J. Gordon