**BETTER TOGETHER** in 2022

FEBRUARY 27, 2022

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**Revive**

**Revival Has 3 R’s**

Revelation 2:2-5; James 4:8



*Will you not* ***revive us*** *again, that your people may rejoice in you?* Psalm 85:6

*May the hammer of a HIGHER GOD smash your small cosmos.* G.K. Chesterton

**Renewal**: When God touches the heart of a single individual.

**Revival**: When God touches a community of faith.

**Awakening**: When the wider society is impacted.

*It pleased God ..to display his free and sovereign mercy in the conversion of a great multitude of souls in a short space of time, turning them from a formal, cold and careless profession of Christianity, to the lively exercise of every Christian grace, and the powerful practice of our holy religion.* Jonathan Edwards

**The end goal is everyone in submission fully to Jesus** and thereby, fully glorifying Him and fully experiencing His goodness.

**Various Definitions**

*God's quickening visitation of his people, touching their hearts and deepening his work of grace in their lives.* J. I. Packer

*The sovereign act of God, in which He restores His own backsliding people to repentance, faith and obedience.* Stephen Olford

*Times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord*. J. Edwin Orr

*The awakening or quickening of God's people to their true nature and purpose.* Robert Coleman

*The return of the Church from her backslidings, and the conversion of sinners.* Charles Finney

*An extraordinary movement of the Holy Spirit producing extraordinary results.* Richard Owen Roberts

*A community saturated with God.* Duncan Campbell

*The work of the Holy Spirit in restoring the people of God to a more vital spiritual life, witness, and work by prayer and the Word after repentance in crisis for their spiritual decline.* Earle Cairns

*Actually a revival is simply a restoration to vigorous health. It relates to the living, not to the dead. The dead cannot be revived, but we do administer food and medicine to those who are faint or ill, in order to restore them to vigorous health. Thus spiritual revival is the restoration of ailing Christians to vigorous spiritual health.* Berean Bible Society

*even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved …* Ephesians 2:5

*Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God. … Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’* John 3:3,7

**What does revival look like?** Isaiah 6:1-8

1. We **recognize** our need for a fresh touch from God.

*In the year that King Uzziah died;* Isaiah 6:1a

2. We see **God** as He really is.

***I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne****, high and lifted up and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:* ***“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory****!” And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.* Isaiah 6:1b-4

3. We see our **sinfulness** and need for cleansing.

*And I said: “****Woe is me****! For I am lost;* ***for I am a man of unclean lips****, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”* Isaiah 6:5

4. We receive God's **gracious** provision.

*Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips;* ***your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for****.”* Isaiah 6:6

5. God then calls us to join His **mission**.

*And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “****Whom shall I send, and who will go for us****?”*  Isaiah 6:7-8a

6. We respond with **joyful** obedience.

*Then I said, “****Here I am! Send me****.”* Isaiah 6:8b

What do we need to do?

Acknowledge that God sees you and **knows** the **good** that you have done.

***I know your works****, your* ***toil*** *and your* ***patient endurance****, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. I know you are* ***enduring patiently*** *and* ***bearing up for my name’s sake****, and you have not grown weary.* Revelation 2:2–3

Realize that doing **good** is not the same as **loving** God.

***But*** *I have this against you, that* ***you have abandoned the love you had at first****.* Revelation 2:4

**The 3 R’s of Revival**

***Remember*** *therefore from where you have fallen;* ***repent****, and* ***do the works you did at first****.* Revelation 2:5a

**Remember** – **Repent** - **Return**

Without **revival**, we will live in the **dark**.

*…* ***If not****, I will come to you and* ***remove your lampstand*** *from its place, unless you repent.* Revelation 2:5b

Draw **near** to God.

***Draw near to God****, and* ***he will draw near to you****.* ***Cleanse*** *your hands, you sinners, and* ***purify*** *your hearts, you double-minded.* James 4:8