

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Exodus 20:1-17 & Psalm 85

**SINGING:** 221:1-3 – 330:1, 3 – 216:1-4 – 121:1-4 – 422:1-2

**OPENING OBSERVATIONS ...**

- A. What is the reason for the spiritual decay in society and church?
  
- B. Though as NRC churches we stand apart from many Christian churches, there is no time to be complacent (Revelations 2-3)
  
- C. Awakening of a society always begins with the awaking of the church

**THE NEED AND HOPE FOR REVIVAL**

- I. Why is this need existing? II. What will revival do?  
III. What is the hope for such revival?

**I. WHY IS THIS NEED FOR REVIVAL EXISTING?**

- A. ‘Though favored’ (1-3) a church can experience God’s anger (4-7)
  - 1. God’s past favors (1-3) were *costly favors*
  
  - 2. God’s displeasures (4-7) are in some measure present with us
  
- B. What angers God against His people and even their prayers? (Ps. 80:4)
  - 1. All sin angers God as “He is angry with the wicked every day”
  
  - 2. Yet the sins against His love and light anger Him most
  
- C. How does God act when *He becomes angry* with His Church?
  - 1. He withdraws or withholds Himself more and more from ordinances
    - a. both preaching and sacraments leaves His church lean
  
  - 2. Ponder the following questions to examine the evidences
    - a. Is the preaching of law bringing knowledge of sin – convicting?
  
    - b. How many simply study and copy language of God’s people rather than their exercises?
  
    - c. How many claim to be saved without ever learning to loathe themselves and hate/flee sin as the spiritual leprosy?
  
    - d. Is the Gospel preaching being blessed to ‘fill God’s children?’
  
    - e. Are the Gospel promises leading God’s children to assurance?

## **II. WHAT WILL REVIVAL DO?**

A. Revival will bring as well as restore *the joy of salvation* (vs. 6-7)

1. revival always begins with the *revival of preachers/preaching*

- preaching is *wielding the sword of the Spirit* to wound
- preaching is *proclaiming glad tidings as ambassadors of peace*

2. revival will restore God's children in glory of salvation

- it will heal from backsliding and restore true communion
- it will bring heavenly-mindedness and life & peace & love
- it will bring assurance of faith – rejoicing in hope

3. revival will bring an extension to God's Kingdom

B. Main fruit of revival is *the glory of God* (vs. 9-13)

1. God's main purpose in saving is *not to bring sinners comfort* but to *glorify Himself in all His acts of grace and mercy*

2. What glorifies God most?

## **III. WHAT IS THE HOPE FOR SUCH A REVIVAL?**

A. The only hope always has been and is: *God's sovereign grace*

1. This was the first beam of hope in a fallen Paradise

2. This is still the only beam of hope: *For the LORD shall judge His people, and repent Himself for His servants, when He seeth that their power is gone, and there is none shut up, or left.* (Deut. 32:36)

3. This hope is realized and possible through *Cross and Resurrection of Jesus Christ whom God (the Father) has exalted to be a Prince and a Savior, for to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sin.* (Acts 5:31)

**Closing Direction:** *Go unto Joseph!* (Genesis 41:55)