

Revival – 09/13/20

TEXT- Hos 4:6 *My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.*

INTRO – The book of Hosea came from the prophet Hosea who was directed by God to preach repentance to Israel (The Northern Kingdom).

Jeroboam II was king and the country enjoyed great prosperity.

However the nation was making many evil alliances and it was rotting away inwardly. Hosea had to experience the decay of Israel through his marriage to an adulteress woman, Gomer. This became an object lesson to the nation.

- Gomer bore Hosea 3 children
- Gomer left her home to live with other men
- God commanded Hosea to go find his wayward wife
- Hosea found her being sold at the slave market
- Hosea bought his own wife back
- Gomer repented of her sins

You can trace Israel's history through the three children

Jezreel – scattered 1:4

Lo-ruhamah – unpitied 1:6

Lo-ammi – not my people 1:9

Spiritual adultery is just as evil for NT Christians as in the OT

Israel needed a revival just as today we need a revival

I. What Is Revival?

Revival refers to a spiritual reawakening from a state of dormancy or stagnation in the life of a believer. It encompasses the resurfacing of a love for God, an appreciation of God's holiness, a passion for His Word and His church, a convicting awareness of personal and corporate sin, a spirit of humility, and a desire for repentance and growth in righteousness. Revival invigorates and sometimes deepens a believer's faith, opening his or her eyes to the truth in a fresh, new way. It generally involves the connotation of a fresh start with a clean slate, marking a new beginning of a life lived in obedience to God. Revival breaks the charm and power of the world, which blinds the eyes of men, and generates both the will and power to live in the world but not of the world.

The (First) Great Awakening

The Great Awakening, spread through the American colonies between 1725

and 1760. Under preachers like Gilbert Tennent, Jonathan Edwards and George Whitefield,

Fulton Street Revival

Beginning as a prayer meeting of six people on Fulton Street in New York City in 1857, the Prayer Meeting Revival spread quickly throughout the world. Over the next two years, a million converts were added to American churches and a million to churches in England and Ireland

At the same time as the Great Awakening in America was the Wesleyan revival in England. At the time of John Wesley's death in 1791, Methodists numbered 79,000 in England and 40,000 in America.

The Asbury Revival

In 1970 at this Methodist college chapel students began to pray and testify. It went on all day and then all night and lasted for two weeks. Students began calling home and word spread. News casters came and spent hours attending. People came from neighboring states.

The Welsh Revival

The Welsh Revival began in 1904 under the preaching of Evan Roberts. Within two years, 100,000 converts were added to the Welsh Church. More than 5 million came to Christ as the revival spread throughout the world.

II. When Is Revival Needed?

Hos 5:15 *I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.*

Jonah 1:1-2 *Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, 2 Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.*

III. How Does Revival Come?

It is difficult to predict. But certain circumstances will be present.

It's all about Him! We want God to come down.

God came down

- God came down on Mt Sinai
- God came down in the incarnation
- God came down at Pentecost
 - A. We must get a new vision and relationship with God
- We want more than forgiveness.
- We want more than obedience
- We want God Himself
 - B. We must get a new vision of ourselves

Isa 6:5 *Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.*

Isa 64:6 *But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.*

C. We must recognize our sin 4:6

Hos 5:1 *Hear ye this, O priests; and hearken, ye house of Israel; and give ye ear, O house of the king; for judgment is toward you, because ye have been a snare on Mizpah, and a net spread upon Tabor.*

Hos 5:4 *They will not frame their doings to turn unto their God: for the spirit of whoredoms is in the midst of them, and they have not known the LORD.*

Hos 5:6 *They shall go with their flocks and with their herds to seek the LORD; but they shall not find him; he hath withdrawn himself from them.*

Heb 10:31 *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

Rom 13:11 *And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.*

Rev 3:17 *Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:*

D. We must confess our sin

Heb 12:28-29 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: 29 For our God *is* a consuming fire.

Jas 4:2-3 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. 3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts.

Mat 7:7-8 *Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.*

Hos 6:1-3 Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. 2 After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight. 3 Then shall we know, *if* we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter *and* former rain unto the earth.

Jer 33:3 Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

We are complacent in our sins.

Hos 10:12 *Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.*

Dr. R. A. Torrey said,

“I have a theory...that there is not a church, chapel, or mission on earth where you cannot have revival, provided there is a little nucleus of faithful people who will hold onto God until He comes down. First, let a few Christians—there need not be many—get thoroughly right with God themselves. This is the prime essential. If this is not done, the rest, I’m sorry to say, cannot be done, and it will come to nothing. Second, let them bind themselves together to pray for revival until God opens the heavens and comes down. Third, let them put themselves at the disposal of God to use them as He sees fit in winning others to Christ.

IV. The Results of Revival

The evidence of revival, a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon believers, is changed lives. Great movements toward righteousness, and evangelism occur. Believers are once again spending time in prayer and reading and obeying God’s Word. There is confession of sin and repentance.

Pro 14:34 *Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.*

CONCL –

1 Co 15:34 *Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.*

The Problems That Prevent Revival

We are corrupted by our sins.

We dress in self-righteousness, come to church, and look around in haughtiness and pride. We try to cover ourselves with the very thing that defiles and condemns us. Our “righteousness” is a filthy rag in His sight. *...and we all do fade as a leaf...* (v. 6)

Have you stirred yourself up to take hold of God, or are you simply a Sunday morning bench warmer, believing you’ve done God a favor by going? Is there a yearning, burning, longing for revival in your heart? If you get serious, God will send revival.