

BOOK OF 2 KINGS
ELEMENTS OF GENUINE REVIVAL
PT 4—REMEMBRANCE
2 KINGS 23:21-23

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Introduction

We are in our fourth week looking at the **REVIVAL** that took place in **JUDAH** during the reign of the good **KING JOSIAH** even as **JUDAH** was under a cloud of impending **JUDGMENT** from the **LORD!**

We have been noting **THE ELEMENTS OF GENUINE REVIVAL** as we go through the text here.

We first saw how **GENUINE REVIVAL INVOLVES REDEDICATION!**
A RENEWED DEVOTION TO THE HOUSE OF GOD AND THE
WORD OF GOD!

Then we saw how **GENUINE REVIVAL INVOLVES REPENTANCE!**
KING JOSIAH and **JUDAH REPENTED** and joined together in a **COVENANT** by which **they committed themselves to keep and honor the WORD OF GOD. REDEDICATION...REPENTANCE..**

Then last week we saw that **GENUINE REVIVAL INVOLVES REFORMATION!** They showed their **REPENTANCE** with their actions by making major changes in their nation!

Lastly, we see that **GENUINE REVIVAL INVOLVES REMEMBRANCE!**
(23:21-23)

I. WE SEE JOSIAH’S DISCOVERY OF THE PASSOVER FEAST THAT THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN COMMEMORATING!
(2 Kings 23:21; Exodus 12)

As **JOSIAH** sought to **REFORM JUDAH**, there were many different things that he discovered in the **LAW** when it was read to him!
JUDAH had been grossly deficient with regard to her obedience to the **LORD!** That had to be somewhat overwhelming don’t you think!

As they discovered the things in the **LAW** where they were deficient, they would rectify those things as best they could with the **LORD’S** help! And that’s how one gets back to the **LORD** too! One step at a time with the **LORD’S** help!

In **EXODUS 12**, we read where **ISRAEL** had been given instructions to observe the **LORD’S PASSOVER** and apply the **BLOOD** of the **PASSOVER LAMB** to the **DOORPOSTS** of their house to keep the **PLAGUE of the DEATH ANGEL** from visiting them on the night when the mighty outstretched **ARM** of the **LORD REDEEMED** them from **EGYPT!**

One of the things **JOSIAH** discovered from the **WORD OF GOD** there was that the command for **ISRAEL** to hold the **PASSOVER FEAST** every year had been ignored for a very long time that stretched back to the days of the **JUDGES.**

They were to have this **ANNUAL** time of **REMEMBRANCE** to commemorate **GOD’S DELIVERANCE** of **ISRAEL** from their bondage in **EGYPT!** (*Exodus 12:14, 21-28*)

II. WE SEE THAT ISRAEL HAD NOT KEPT THE PASSOVER FOR MANY YEARS! (2 Kings 23:22)
ISRAEL and **JUDAH** had been **GUILTY** of **NOT OBSERVING** the **ANNUAL PASSOVER FEAST** as commanded by the **LORD** and thereby they had failed to keep their **DELIVERANCE** and their **REDEMPTION** by the **LORD** fresh in their minds!

After all, it was to be a **MEMORIAL** unto them! **MEMORIALS** are for **REMEMBERING!**

One of the reasons **ISRAEL** and **JUDAH** had continually fallen into **IDOLATRY** was that they had forgotten **who they were, what was expected of them** and **WHO** their **REDEEMER** was.

When they got their eyes off their **LORD** and **HIS** goodness to them, they lost their passion for **HIM.** Their love dimmed and they wandered off into sin. So, **JOSIAH** called them back to the **LORD** again!
He called on them to **REMEMBER** all of the things that they and their fathers had forgotten!

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III. WE SEE HOW THIS SHOULD BE AN EXAMPLE TO US IN OUR DAY!

Romans 15:4–6—“4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. 5 Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: 6 That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

There are lessons for us wherever we are in the **SCRIPTURE** and that includes the **OLD TESTAMENT** just as well as the **NEW TESTAMENT!**

A. When We Find Our Life At Odds With The SCRIPTURE, We Need To Take A Similar Path As JOSIAH and JUDAH Did To Have REVIVAL And Get Back To Where We Need To Be In Our Life!

1. **Rededication! (To the Word Of God And The Temple of God!)**
2. **Repentance! (Turn Back To God!)**
3. **Reformation! (Get Things Back Right With God!)**
4. **Remembrance! (Don't Forget The Important Things That Help Us To Remember!)**

B. When REVIVAL Comes We Will Have A Keen Awareness Of Who We Are And What We Have In JESUS!

There will be a **GENUINE, BURNING PASSION** for the **LORD** within the heart of the **REVIVED SAINT** as they remember what they were when **JESUS** found them, where they were headed and what **JESUS** did for them when **HE SAVED** them by **HIS GRACE**.

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We need to continually take a trip back in our minds and **REMEMBER**, lest we **FORGET!** (e.g. *Ephesians 2:1-10*)

When we **REMEMBER** what the **LORD** has done for us and **WALK IN LIGHT** of **WHAT WE HAVE** and **WHO WE ARE** in **CHRIST JESUS:**

It will fill our hearts with profound **LOVE for HIM!**

It will fill us with **WORSHIP** and **PRAISE for HIM!**

It will fill us with excitement about the things of the **LORD!**

We will burn with a **PASSIONATE LOVE** for the **ONE WHO** gave everything to **DELIVER** us from our sins!

When we **REMEMBER** like we should, we will have **REVIVAL!** But if we don't **REMEMBER**, we will continue to stray away from the **ONE WHO** should be **PREEMINENT** in our lives!

(e.g. **The CHURCH of EPHESUS. Revelation 2:1-5**)

They were told to “**REMEMBER**”, “**REPENT**” and “**REPEAT**”!

That was the **LORD'S** prescription for their **REVIVAL!**

Oh, and **REMEMBER** the admonition was **NOT** just for them!

It was also to whomever has an ear to hear!

When we **REMEMBER WHO WE ARE** and **WHAT WE HAVE**, we cannot help but be in love with our **LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST!**

And, in spite of what **WE** may think a **GENUINE REVIVAL** is; a **GENUINE REVIVAL** is all about **GOD'S** people falling back in love with **HIM** all over again! We need to **REMEMBER!**

If the **LORD** has spoken to you about your need of **GENUINE REVIVAL** in your own life and you want to talk to **HIM** about it, this would be a good time to do that! That's our **BIBLE STUDY** for this evening so let's pull out our prayer list and pray for the needs of others and if the **LORD** has moved you to pray for **REVIVAL**, do so!