

~OUR REVIVAL HERITAGE~

Trinity Baptist Church
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Thoughts on Revival
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Part 2

In our last study, "What Is Revival? Part One"; we approached the reason for revival, the results of revival, and we introduced the request for revival.

How do we start the process of seeking the Lord for revival? How is our request made to God for divine intervention into the lives of men and women?

The answer is found in the Word of God. It is prayer! It is intense, focused prayer about our personal spiritual condition. It is a brokenness about our own sin and shortcomings. It is a sincere plea to God for forgiveness, and the desire to be more like Jesus.

We have united here at Trinity around the Word of God. Our entire Church is studying the life of Christ in 2011 as we explore the book of John, verse by verse.

Our motto, "The Word in us, and us in the Word!" should be repeated for the start of this new year.

Our burden is "Revival for our country, our community, and our church!" We need revival! Political parties cannot repair our marriages or go find our children in the world. We need a mighty demonstration of God's power!

Our plea should be the Church, unified in spirit and prayer! It is not a new program we need; but a new prayer life we plead!

Our prayer should declare our personal need. We must approach humbly before God, with bent knee and broken spirit. "Oh God, it is me! Revive me! Stir me! Forgive my prayerlessness! Touch my cold spirit! Bend my pride! Please don't allow me to quench the Holy Spirit with my stubborn spirit! Oh, God, please don't pass us by! Send a great awakening, touch our hearts, heal our faith, and revive Your Church!"

It is not the use of better methods, but the use of better men, women, singles and teens. The Holy Spirit of God uses men and women of faith and men and women of prayer. We must beg God to soften our “hard heart”, so that we can repent and do our first works among this generation!

When the Church is clean and in fellowship, then the family of faith can unite in prayer for sinners and the reviving of this sleeping Church of today.

The God of Noah’s day, of Abraham’s day, of Elijah’s day and of Daniel’s day is the same God of this day! We have the testimony of these men that the promise of the Bible is true and it is the fact that God answers prayer!

Think about how frail the Church is today. Think about how weak and childish Christians are today. We have a form of godliness, but our lives and our actions deny the power of a living God!

Jim Cymbala wrote a powerful illustration of this fact in his book, *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire*:

“Over the last 30 years, more books have been written about marriage than in all the preceding 2,000 years of church history. But ask any Pastor in America if there aren’t proportionally more troubled marriages today than in any other era. We have all the ‘how to’s’, but our homes are still falling apart.”

We have stopped praying! The Word of God says, “Call upon me, and I will help you.”

“If any two agree” in prayer is still in the Bible. Matthew 18:19 calls us to unity of prayer and purpose.

Psalms 55 talks about praying in the morning, praying at noon, and praying in the evening. Verse seventeen says, “Evening, and morning, and at noon will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.”

James 5:16 also reminds us that revival starts with a clean heart. “Confess your faults one to another and pray one for another... The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

Together, in prayer, we believe God for a life-changing revival!

You are loved,



Pastor Ralph Sexton