

## Revival Is A Personal Thing

2 Chronicles 7:14 - If My people, (turn to somebody and tell them he's talking to you) who are called by My name, (what's that name) will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

He's talking to all of us that are called by that name.

In its most basic sense, a saint is a "holy one," someone who is set apart for God's special purposes.

- As a result, every follower of Jesus is a saint.
- God's not simply wanting numbers, He's wanting saints.
- Saints that will humble themselves and pray and seek the face of God and turn from the world of sin.
- He can give you the power to be victorious over sin.

***Notice in 2 Chronicles 7:14 the 4 things that hinder a response from heaven.***

- ***And we need a response from heaven.***

***There are 4 things we must do in every service if we want to hear from heaven.***

- We must humble ourselves. We must pray. We must seek His face.
- And we must turn from our wicked ways.

**"Revival Is A Personal Thing"**

- You may say **those 4 things** mentioned, humbling ourselves, praying, seeking God, and turning from our wicked ways **sounds easy, is it?**
- First of all, we must understand what revival is –
- The word in its simplest form means to make something come alive again that's gone to sleep or become drowsy.

**There are three times the Bible tells us in (Psalms 138:7) “Revive me” in (Psalms 85:6) “Revive Us” and in (Habakkuk 3:2) “Revive your Work”**

**Psalm 138:7** - <sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, **You will revive me**; You will stretch out Your hand Against the wrath of my enemies, And Your right hand will save me.

**Psalm 85:6** - <sup>6</sup> Will You not **revive us again**, That Your people may rejoice in You?

**Habakkuk 3:2** - <sup>2</sup> O Lord, I have heard Your speech *and* was afraid; O Lord, **revive Your work** in the midst of the years! In the midst of the years make *it* known; In wrath remember mercy.

***We must understand that revival always begins with me (individually),***

- But if I can get to a **place of revival for (myself)** -
- Then it **can spread to (us)** and when revival spreads to **all of us** -
- **Then** we can ask God to **spread revival to (your work)**.

Do we understand **it begins with me individually**, then it spreads throughout the church, then we can spread it throughout our city?

**True revival begins with me**, it begins with you, ***revival is an individual call of God to wake up.***

**I can't help you humble yourself, and I can't make you pray, or seek the face of God and ***I can't make anyone turn from their wicked ways, but I sure can do that for myself.*****

**2 Chronicles 7:14** was spoken by King Solomon at the dedication of the temple.

- It is a verse of Scripture that was ***spoken to the nation of Israel, not to allow disobedience and rebellion to be part of them.***
- **Solomon told them that if they are **willing to humble themselves and pray and seek the face of God and turn from the idolatry of that day, **they can and will here from heaven.******
- Here me when I say that **you cannot buy revival**, you cannot **live good enough** to have revival, you cannot **schedule a revival.**

**Revival is a supernatural, sovereign act of God.**

- **We cannot produce** a revival meeting today **if God does not** allow it.
- **We can meet certain requirements** found in the word of the Lord **that qualifies us** to be **ready for revival**.

**First of all, we must humble ourselves.**

**He says, If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves**

- This is not a verse scripture that is directed to the lost people of the world.
- **Lost people do not need revival, they need to be saved!**
- If you're here today and **you're not saved**, you need to repent of your sins, be saved in Jesus's name.

**2 Chronicles 7:14 is for us that are saved.**

**We are too humble ourselves, this is speaking of getting rid of our pride.**

- In the O.T. the word - **Pride** means ***"to rise or to swell up."***
- **Pride** says, ***"I do not need God, I can make my own way. I know best."***
- **That is the attitude of most Christians today.**
- ***We think we have God so figured out***, and for that reason **we fail to submit to Him**.
- We come in **before Him** in His holy presence and **think nothing about it**.

**Anytime you read of someone in the Bible coming in the presence of God -**

- They **fell to their face**, or **to their knees**, or
- They wrapped themselves **in sackcloth and ashes**, or
- They **bowed down** or **fell down face first** **and worshipped Him**.
- They did not try and talk or look or say anything to God.

**Revelation 3:17** - <sup>17</sup> Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—

Did you hear what that Scripture said about us, ***we're wretched, we're miserable, we're poor, blind, and naked.***

- **My pride doesn't want to hear that....**
- ***Have we learned* how to function without the help of the Lord?**
- **Has our pride destroyed the power of the church?**
- How does our worship and our prayer life, and our dedication and our sacrifice measure up to that church?

**I'm amazed at the worship I've been seeing here, no inhibitions, no reservations, no restrictions, no limitations, no worries, no fear, no doubt.**

- ***No one cared* how the person next to them worshipped.**
- No one cared how they looked when they worshipped.
- No one cared if they did or if they didn't.
- No one cared if the person next to them cared or not.

**What kind of worship would we have *if all of us would put our pride aside* and just began worshipping God.**

I don't care what it looks like, **I'm putting my pride aside** and **giving God everything**, I got.

**David danced before the Lord so intently that it says in:**

**2 Samuel 6:13-16** - <sup>13</sup> And so it was, when those bearing the ark of the Lord had gone six paces, that he sacrificed oxen and fatted sheep.

<sup>14</sup> **Then David danced before the Lord with all his might**; and David was wearing a linen ephod. <sup>15</sup> So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet.

<sup>16</sup> Now as the ark of the Lord came into the City of David, Michal, Saul's daughter, looked through a window and saw King David leaping and whirling before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart.

Let me ask, do you despise worship, if you do you have a problem with your pride.

**The reason we don't want to really worship God like we know we need to,**

- IS because **we think God is going to stop loving us** when He finds out what kind of people we are.
- **Wrong**, Christ loved us long before we ever started loving Him.
- That's why we ought to worship and praise Him.

**If my people that are called by my name would humble themselves.**

**Why can't we get past our pride?**

- We want to look good worshipping,
- we want to look good crying,
- we want to look good losing our self to God,
- **How long has it been since you were at a place in your worship,**
- **That you did not care what it looked like.**
- **Who are you trying to impress and who really matters to you?**

In the book of Proverbs, God gives a list of things He hates, and the first one on the list is pride.

**Proverbs 6:16-19** - <sup>16</sup>These six *things* the Lord hates, yes, seven *are* an abomination to Him:

<sup>17</sup> A proud look, A lying tongue, **Hands** that shed innocent blood,

<sup>18</sup> A **heart** that devises wicked plans, **Feet** that are swift in running to evil,

<sup>19</sup> A **false witness** who speaks lies, and one who sows discord among brethren.

**Pride is included in the seven deadly sins**, we are warned that if we exalt ourselves, **God will bring us down**.

**Proverbs 8:13** - To fear the Lord is to hate evil; **I hate pride** and arrogance, evil behavior, and perverse speech.

- **The fear of the LORD** is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way.
- **When pride comes, then comes shame**:
- How many of us right now are too ashamed to worship.

I'll say it again; **A lack of worship is a pride issue.**

**Proverbs 16:5** - <sup>5</sup> The Lord detests all the **proud of heart**. Be sure of this: ***They will not go unpunished.***

**Proverbs 16:18** - <sup>18</sup> Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

**How can you tell if you have a pride problem?**

- **Pride doesn't want to listen.**
- **Pride wants to talk about itself.**
- **Pride wants to do it itself.**
- **Pride has an intense desire to be noticed.**
- **Pride believes that it deserves everything it gets.**
- **Pride is not thankful.**
- **Pride cannot be corrected.**
- **Pride does not like to follow instructions.**
- **Pride brags.**
- **Pride criticizes and likes to put others down.**
- **Pride doesn't want to worship.**

**"If my people which are called by my name would *"humble themselves"*.**

**The word *"humble"* means *"to bend the knee; to bring down; to place self under another."***

**We like to be in charge, we like to do it when we feel like it, we **don't** want to feel like we have to.**

- **I believe that **God is looking for a people** that will do anything they have to, to bring themselves under His authority.**
- **We are dependent upon Him.**
- **We were nothing when He found us; and today we're nothing without Him.**

**The 2nd thing that is stopping revival is a lack of prayer.**

***"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray"*.**

**Acts 4:31** - <sup>31</sup> After **they prayed**, the place where **they were meeting** was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

**That's my kind of revival.**

- Notice the words ***"prayer"*** and ***"together"*** (meeting).
- If there is ***one thing we need*** desperately ***when we gather, it is prayer.***
- There is **strength in unity**, and there is **strength in togetherness** and we need it especially **in the time of revival.**
- Togetherness and agreement go hand and hand.

**Church there is strength in unity**

- The word says; when they had prayed, **not before**, but **when** they had prayed, **the house was shaken.**
- We need to **learn how to pray together.**
- I'm sure that there are ***many ingredients for revival,*** but ***you can never have revival without prayer.***

**Prayerlessness is the first cousin to pride.**

- ***Prayerlessness says, "I do not need to call on the Lord, I can make it just fine without Him."***

**Prayerlessness does not say, "He is all I need"; but "I am all I need."**

- Prayer looks to God and says, ***"I can't, but you can!"***
- ***"The church is dying on its feet because it is not living on its knees!"***

**If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face.**

**The word "seek" means "to search out by any method; especially by worship and prayer."**

The word “**face**” refers to “***the countenance; to turn toward His direction.***”

- It means as **God’s people** that *we stop looking for help and answers everywhere else*, we need to look to Him.

**Do you understand what I just said, *revival does not come to people who seek revival; but revival comes to people who seek God!***

- Too many people are caught up in **what God can do for them.**
- **Seeking His face means we hunger for Him**, not what He can do for us.
- The essence of *genuine revival is falling in love with Jesus all over again.*
- **Seeking Him will bring revival** to your life and the church.

**James 4:8** - <sup>8</sup> Come near to God and he will come near to you.

**Isaiah 55:6** - <sup>6</sup> Seek the Lord while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near.

***Let me ask you to get honest right now,***  
**What is the number one priority in your life?**

- Is it your job? Is it your bank accounts or retirement?
- Is it your family? Is it your church? Is it your spouse? Is it your hobby?
- **Or is it the Lord?**

***When anything but God is the number one priority*** in your life, you are out of balance, and **you are not a candidate for revival.**

**Answer these three questions** - this will tell you *what your number one priority is.*

- **What do you spend** most of *your free time doing.*
- **What do you spend your extra money on?**
- **Where is your mind when you focus on your thoughts? You answer it for yourself.**

**Revelation 2:4-5** - 4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. 5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.

**Revelation 3:19-22** - <sup>19</sup> Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. <sup>20</sup> Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

<sup>21</sup> To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. <sup>22</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

- **If my people**, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways.

***It does no good for us to try and have revival if tomorrow were going to go back out in the world and pick sin back up.***

- **What we need is a season of repentance.**
- Because of pride and arrogance, ***we don't want to humble ourselves*** and say we're wrong.

**Proverbs 28:13** -<sup>13</sup> Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

***If you are going to have your own personal revival, you must come clean with your sins and repent.***

**1 John 1:9-10** - <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> ***If we claim we have not sinned***, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

**CLOSE:**

**James 5:16** - ***The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.***

- This refers to a person who is ***“holy, upright and keeps the commandments of the Lord.”***

**Are you a righteous man or woman?**

**Can God hear your prayers?**

**Do you even care?**

***If you do and you want revival, the first requirement is humble yourself, pray, seek the face of God, and turn from your wicked ways and God will give you the revival we need so desperately.***

**Revival Is A Personal Thing!!!**