

Seeing Revival Through the Eyes of God

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What Does God See When He Looks at Revival?

When we talk about revival, we often picture packed altars, powerful worship, extended services, etc. But revival is not just excitement. It's not even just church growth. It's not just emotion. True revival isn't something we manufacture or the results of what we manufacture—it's something God initiates. It's not what we can see, it's what God can see.

Revival, seen through the eyes of people, might look like results.

- **We get excited when the building is full, the music is loud, and the energy is high. We call it revival when the altars are busy and the service runs long.**

But through God's eyes, **revival isn't measured by results** as man sees results.

- It's measured by **repentance**. It's measured by **lives changed**.
- It's measured by **souls who were once bound by sin** and who are now living day by day **transformed by the power of God's Holy Spirit**.

Luke 15:7 - I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

Heaven **doesn't celebrate** large numbers as we do—***it rejoices over one sinner who repents***.

- **To us, a packed house looks like revival. To God, a broken heart does.**

Where we see numbers, **God sees surrender**.

- We count heads. **He counts hearts.**
- We look at who showed up. **He looks at who bowed down.**

You can have a crowd without revival.

Ephesian church in Revelation. Having commended the church of Ephesus for its doctrinal integrity and perseverance in the face of adversity, Jesus reveals in Vs 4 that he found lacking in the church...

Revelation 2:4 *Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.*

- *It had abandoned the love that characterized its early history.*

What remained was devotion to the truth, but not devotion to the Lord.

- *They had good works and strong doctrine—*
- But Jesus still said, *“I have something against thee.”*
- **Why?** *Because they left their first love.*
 - They left the things that matter most to God.
 - They got to looking around at the so called success of other churches.
 - They started thinking they had to look like and act like those churches to have revival.
 - They forgot their first love.
 - They forgot what got it all started in the first place.

John The Baptist told them what it was back in the gospels,
Matthew 3:2 “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

Peter told the people in Acts to “Repent”

Acts 2:38 Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

- Notice repentance comes before baptism.
- Notice it comes before the Holy Spirit.

Repentance comes before everything.

- **Repentance** comes before Holiness.
 - See you can have holiness **but still be living in sin**.
 - You can have holiness **but still have wrong motives**.
- **Repentance** comes before church attendance - tithing - before being on the leadership team - being on the worship team - before everything in church!

Psalm 24 speaks about the qualifications needed to approach God. Psalm 24:3-4
3 Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? 4
He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an
idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.

- ***Clean hands and a pure heart!***
- **Meaning a life of honesty, integrity, and a heart devoted to God alone.**
- **Free from vanity and deception...**

We want the power of God in our life here today, *but there are some things standing in the way.*

There's a few 'issues' the Holy Spirit has with us perhaps and we need to get those cleared up.

- I hear old John the Baptist right now! **Repent!!!**
- For the Kingdom Of Heaven is at hand!

The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand folks!

- **Right now, Heaven wants to intercede for a few of you.**
- The Kingdom is **wanting** with Holy fervor to bring justice into your situation.
- Angels of God stand **waiting for you to get the muck and the mire out of the way** so they can **go to war on your behalf...**
- **Repent!!!** Get that stuff out of the way! There **nothing God won't forgive and remove in our lives if we will just repent** of it before him

God's **not** asking how big our church is. **He's asking how surrendered we are.**

Where we see movement, **God is looking for motive.**

You can have spiritual motion without divine approval.

- **The music** can be on point.
- **The service** can be powerful.
- But if the motive is **hype over holiness**, or **performance over presence**, then we've missed it.

1 Samuel 16:7 says, “*Man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.*”

- Revival isn't about noise. **It's about yielding.**
- It's not about how high we jump—it's about how straight we walk...

What if we stopped chasing results and started pursuing repentance?

- **What if we stopped asking God to fill the building**
- **And started asking Him to empty us?**

I believe if we could see revival as God sees it, our perspective would change and as a result He could do what He really wants to do in our church.

Because ***when we see revival through God's eyes—***

- It's not about a crowd; **it's about a cross.**
- Not about a moment, but **about a movement of surrender.**
- That movement **will attract the very people God is trying to reach...**

If we want to experience true, Heaven-sent revival—we need to stop seeing it through our human lens of carnality and start seeing it through the pure and Holy eyes of God'.

Revival Begins in the Heart, Not the Crowd

God is not impressed with attendance as we are. He's not looking at the size of the worship team or the reach of our livestream as we are.

He's looking at every one of our hearts.

Isaiah 57:15 - 15 For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Revival doesn't come when pride is exalted.

- It comes **where hearts are broken before God.**

Keeping it real -

- Some of us want revival if we don't have to change.
- We want revival if it doesn't disrupt the schedule.
- We want revival—***we don't want*** the ripping up of roots that comes with it.

God's revival is not comfortable. It's consuming.

And ***it always starts with a fire on the altar—not the platform.***

God Sees Revival as a Return, Not a Performance

When the prodigal came home, **the father didn't say**, "Put on a show for me."

He didn't say, "Quote three Scriptures and prove your sincerity."

No—he RAN to his lost son. Revival is God's heart running toward the returning.

Joel 2:12-13 (KJV): *"Turn ye even to me with all your heart... and rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God..."*

We've gotten good at "rending garments"—**outward displays**.

But God is looking for hearts that are torn open.

Joel 2:12-13 - The Lord's Invitation - 12 The Lord said: It isn't too late. **You can still return to me with all your heart.** Start crying and mourning! Go without eating. 13 Don't rip your clothes to show your sorrow. **Instead, turn back to me with broken hearts.** I am merciful, kind, and caring. I don't easily lose my temper, and I don't like to punish.

Revival in God's Eyes Requires Full Surrender

Romans 12:1 - A Living Sacrifice - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as **a living sacrifice**, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

- That word sacrifice is offensive to the flesh.
- It means laying something down and leaving it there.

The problem with a living sacrifice is... it tries to crawl back off the altar.

Revival seen through God's eyes is when people say:

- "God, you can have my habits."
- "You can have my entertainment."
- "You can have my offense."
- "You can have my Sunday and my Monday."

When was the last time we laid it all down?

Revival Seen Through God's Eyes Brings Holiness, Not Just Hype

Let me just say it plainly: **True revival always brings holiness.**

- A supernatural pull toward righteousness.

If what we call revival leaves us unchanged on Monday, un-convicted on Tuesday, and undisciplined on Wednesday—it **wasn't revival**.

- It was religious adrenaline.

Titus 2:11-12 - 11 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. 12 It teaches us to say "**No**" to **ungodliness and worldly passions**, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,

CEV - God has shown us **undeserved grace** by coming to save all people. He taught us to **give up our wicked ways** and **our worldly desires** and to live decent and honest lives **in this world**.

God's grace doesn't just save you.

- It teaches you. It revives you into holy living.

God Sees Revival as a Harvest, Not Just a Moment

John 4:35 - Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.

While *we're asking for revival* inside the church, **God's eyes are on the lost outside the church.**

Revival isn't just about filling pews. ***It's about emptying Hell.***

- When the Holy Spirit fell in Acts 2, **it didn't stay in the Upper Room—it spilled into the streets.**
- The fire that falls inside us **is supposed to ignite someone else.**

If ***your version of revival doesn't result in reaching the lost***, it's **not** God's version.

CLOSE: Do You See What God Sees???

- We cry out for revival—**God is crying out for repentance and surrender.**
- We're praying for power—but **He's asking for purity.**
- We want a move—but **He wants a dwelling place.**

Revival is not a weekend. It's a new way of walking.

2 Chronicles 16:9 - For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.

And the eyes of the Lord are searching for people who will say, ***"God, do whatever it takes—just don't pass me by."***

2 Chronicles 7:14 "If my people, which are called by my name, shall **humble themselves, and pray**, and **seek my face**, and **turn from their wicked ways**; then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Do you see what God see?

- Is your altar built? **Humble yourself and Pray!**
- Is your heart broken? **Seek His Face! Turn from Your Wicked ways!**
- **Are you ready to stop seeing revival the way you want it—and start seeing it the way God wants it? *I will forgive their sin* and *heal their land.***

Let us see revival—not through the lens of man, but **through the eyes of God.**