

**“The Kind of Revival I Would Like To See”**  
**Psalm 85:6**

Introduction: According to Noah Webster, revival is a recovery to life from death. It means to recover life. It also means to recover to activity. It seems as if the churches of our day are in a comatose state with no hope of revival. Dear brethren, our eyes are dry because our hearts are dry.

1. The church will either have a revival or a funeral.
2. Revival is the inrushing of the Spirit of God into the body that threatens to become a corpse.
3. It seems like our pillars in the church have gave way to pillows. We are a sleeping church.
4. It was a blazing bush that drew Moses. Moses was called by fire. Elijah called down fire. Elisha mad a fire. Micah prophesied fire. John the Baptist preached that He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire. Jesus came to send fire on the earth. What we need if fire back in our churches.
5. Metal is molten only while the fire burns; remove the fire and the metal is solid. Even so, a human heart without the heat of heaven is an iceberg.
6. We need God to burn us, bend us, bow us, and break us so that we can see revival.
7. The same church members who yell like Comanche Indians at a ball game on Saturday sit like wooden Indians in church on Sunday.
8. There can be no revival when Mr. Amen and Mr. Wet-eyes are not found in the audience.
9. There are three persons living in each of us: the one we think we are, the one other people think we are, and the one God knows we are.
10. Let us invite the searching eye of God to locate this corrupted, spotted, stinking self in us.
11. Psalm 139:23-24- *“Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”*

Body: How will America be spared from the wrath of an almighty God if the church does not experience revival? We have thousands of Bibles, multitudes of churches, endless preachers, and yet still no revival. The biggest single factor contributing to delayed revival is the omission of preaching, praying, praising, and propagating. May we have:

- I. A Preaching Revival I Corinthians 1:18- *“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”*
  - A. Titus 1:3- *“But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour”*
  - B. I Corinthians 1:21- *“For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”*
  - C. I Corinthians 2:4- *“And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power”*
  - D. Luke 8:1- *“And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him”*

- E. Acts 15:35- *“Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.”*
  - F. Acts 8:4- *“Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.”*
  - G. John the Baptist was a voice, but most preachers are nothing more than echoes.
  - H. Our preaching is much diseased today by borrowed thoughts from the brains of dead men rather than from the Lord.
  - I. The preacher should give at least one day a week to prepare his sermons and yet another day to prepare the preacher to preach the sermon. Inspired men inspire men.
  - J. Many preachers are happy to get the scraps that are left over from another man’s ministry. However, Paul built upon no man’s foundation. Chart your own course.
  - K. Paul sometimes almost starved. Yet, when the table was full, he would fast.
  - L. It takes broken men to break men. We have equipment but not enduement; commotion but not conversions; action but not unction; rattle but not revival. We are dogmatic but not dynamic.
  - M. A sermon born in the head reaches the head; a sermon born in the heart reaches the heart.
  - N. Away with this exalting of “My radio program”, “My church”, “My books”, and “My ministry”. Oh, the sickening parade of flesh in our pulpits. May God lift us out of this rut and rot!
  - O. Power in preaching cannot be learned, only earned by prayer. Victory is won or lost before the preacher’s foot enters the pulpit.
  - P. If Christ waited to be anointed before He went to preach, ought not we wait until God anoints us? The God that said, “Go ye” also said, “Tarry until”.
  - Q. Preachers who should be fishing for men are now too often fishing for compliments from men.
  - R. We need to preach like Lewis Lunsford, as a dying man to dying men.
- II. A Praying Revival Luke 18:1- *“And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint”*
- A. Matthew 21:22- *“And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive”*
  - B. I John 5:14- *“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us”*
  - C. Matthew 7:7- *“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you”*
  - D. John 14:13- *“And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”*
  - E. Matthew 7:11- *“If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?”*
  - F. Mark 11:24- *“Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.”*

- G. The blessed Holy Spirit could write the life of Elijah in two words, “He prayed.” James 5:17-18
  - H. Revival delays because our prayer decays. We cannot have big results from our small praying. Sow sparingly in prayer, reap sparingly in prayer. Sow bountifully in prayer, reap bountifully in prayer. The trouble is we are trying to get from our efforts what we never put into them.
  - I. Today we seem much more interested in having churches air-conditioned instead of prayer-conditioned.
  - J. There is no incense without fire; no prayer without flame. It seems that all we have is ashes where once there was a fire.
  - K. Preaching affects time; prayer affects eternity.
  - L. No man is greater than his prayer life. The pastor who is not praying is playing; the people who are not praying are straying. The average church knows more about promotion than prayer.
  - M. We have many organizers, but few agonizers. Lots of pastors, few wrestlers; many fears, few tears; much fashion, little passion.
  - N. To accomplish much for God, we must be much with God.
  - O. The secret of praying is praying in secret. A sinning man will stop praying and a praying man will stop sinning. Prayer changes things and it changes the one offering it.
- III. A Praising Revival Psalm 150:6- *“Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.”*
- A. Psalm 22:22- *“I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.”*
  - B. Nehemiah 8:6- *“And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.”*
  - C. Psalm 134:2- *“Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.”*
  - D. Psalm 63:4- *“Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.”*
  - E. Nehemiah 9:5- *“Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, Stand up and bless the LORD your God for ever and ever: and blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.”*
  - F. Psalm 32:11- *“Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.”*
  - G. Psalm 47:1- *“O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.”*
  - H. Ezra 3:10-13
  - I. We are so subnormal these days that the normal New Testament praising seems abnormal.
- IV. A Productive Revival Proverbs 11:30- *“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.”*

- A. Daniel 12:3- *“And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.”*
- B. I Corinthians 9:22- *“To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.”*
- C. Romans 11:14- *“If by any means I may provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save some of them.”*
- D. Jude 1:23- *“And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.”*
- E. Romans 9:1-3
- F. Romans 10:1- *“Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.”*
- G. Psalms 126:6- *“He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”*
- H. The churches are so parched that seed cannot germinate. Our altars are dry!
- I. Matthew 28:19- *“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost”*
- J. Jude 1:22- *“And of some have compassion, making a difference”*
- K. We have heard that we can become so heavenly minded that we are of no earthly use. The brutal soul-shaking truth is that we are so earthly minded we are of no heavenly use.
- L. Thousands die each day without God. Is it nothing to you? We need unction in the pulpit and action in the pew.
- M. Because the church has lost Holy Ghost fire, men are going to hell fire.
- N. “Sir,” addressing the preacher, “if I believed what you and the church of God say that you believe [about hell], even if England were covered with broken glass from coast to coast, I would walk over it, if need be, on hands and knees and think it worth while living, just to save one soul from an eternal hell like that!”
- O. God never intended His church to be a refrigerator in which to preserve perishable piety. He intended it to be an incubator in which to hatch out converts.
- P. Some people are potentially useful but are practically useless.
- Q. The birth of a natural child is predated by months of burden and days of travail; so is the birth of a sinner.
- R. Genesis 30:1- *“And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die.”*
- S. I Samuel 1:2, 5, 7, 10-13
- T. It was a shame and a reproach unto these women to be childless. Why is the church content with being childless?
- U. Most preachers have adoptions that births.
- V. See notes on Isaiah 6:1-9

Conclusion: It is amazing how we love the stories of our Baptist heritage. We enjoy traveling to their graves and churches. We love telling their histories and expounding their triumphs. However, we will do anything except imitate them. God does not want partnership with us, but

ownership of us. Will anyone get on fire for God? Fire begets fire. From one candle, ten thousand others may be lit.

- Lord, if thou canst not do something with us and through us, then please God, do something without us.
- May we become dead to the world and all its toys. Its idle pomp and fading joys.
- Acts 19:15- *“And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?”*
- YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!