

Revive Us Again

“Revive Us Again.”

These words are more than a sermon title—they are the cry of a desperate heart, the longing of a weary church, and the greatest need of our homes, our communities, and our nation. If revival is the wind of Heaven blowing low enough to touch earth, then we are living in a moment when we must open the Bible—God’s beloved Book—and let Him speak.

Dusty Bibles never lead to revival.

The psalmist prayed, “*Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?*” (Psalm 85:6). That prayer is as urgent now as it was thousands of years ago.

A Desert That Bloomed Again

In 2005, something stunning happened in the Atacama Desert of Chile—one of the driest places on planet Earth. Some areas had not seen a drop of rain in hundreds of years. Scientists declared it “too dead to ever live again.”

Then—almost without warning—rain fell.

Not much. Just a few inches.

But it was enough.

Within days, what had been lifeless, cracked earth exploded into color—purple, yellow, pink, and white flowers carpeting miles of land once thought hopelessly barren. Scientists and tourists flooded in from all over the world. They called it “*the desert bloom miracle*.”

But the most astounding truth was this:

Life had been buried beneath the surface the entire time—simply waiting for the right conditions to wake up.

Revival is like that. It is a sovereign move of God in which spiritual life that has long been dormant springs up again. It awakens God’s people to deeper faith, repentance, and mission. And when it comes, you may very well say, “*I feel like I have been born again all over again.*”

1. The Picture of Revival — What It Looks Like

Dryness Recognized: Seeing Our Spiritual Drought

Many Christians—and many churches—are dying, distracted, or divided. Revival begins when we admit that we are dry. James wrote, “*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.*”

Leonard Ravenhill said, “*As long as we are content to live without revival, we will.*”

Divine Rain Released: What Only God Can Do

Isaiah 44:3 promises,

“For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring.”

Revival is never manufactured by men—it is sent by God.

Dormant Life Revived: Seeds Buried Long Within

God uses His Word and His Spirit to tenderize, sanitize, and energize our hearts.

We have normalized the abnormal until the normal appears abnormal.

Revival is simply God restoring us to His intended normalcy.

2. The Pattern of Revival — How God Awakens His People

Revival is God’s work, but God’s people must prepare their hearts.

We can’t work it up, but God can send it down.

Repentance

Isaiah, in the temple, cried out:

“Woe is me, for I am undone... for my eyes have seen the King!” (Isaiah 6:1–5)

All revival begins where pride ends.

Requesting — Prayer

When faced with spiritual crisis, you can respond in three ways:

1. Wring your hands.
2. Sit on your hands.
3. Fold your hands—and pray.

Returning — Obedience

We do not have to continue living as we are.

There is no possibility of revival without making Christ preeminent and His Word primary.

Jesus warned the Ephesian church:

“You have left your first love... remember, repent, and do the first works.” (Revelation 2:4–5)

3. The Proofs of Revival — What Revival Produces

Passion for God

A revived believer is a person who is cross-eyed—keeping their eyes fixed on the cross.

Power in Prayer

God's plan requires God's power, and God's power proceeds from God's presence.

Personal and Public Purity

Conviction of sin is a hallmark of revival.

The world says, "Do what you want as long as you don't hurt anyone."

But what about God?

Proclaiming and Praising

Henry Blackaby wrote:

"Powerful preaching is a hallmark of true revival... bold, urgent, uncompromising preaching that sets before God's people the way of life and death."

I am unworthy—but not ungrateful.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!

Pursuit of the Lost

The strength of a revived church is measured not by its seating capacity but by its sending capacity.

4. The Pages of Revival — How God Has Moved in History

Just as Israel drifted from God in the Old Testament, so do God's people today.

Church Revivals — Pentecost and the Early Church

How could they do so much with so little, while we do so little with so much?

Revival often came in seasons of trial.

Tertullian said, *"The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church."*

Polycarp declared at age 86, *"Eighty and six years have I served Him, and He has done me no wrong."*

Jesus said, "Take up your cross and follow Me."

He didn't say, "Take up your couch."

The Reformation — Luther, Calvin, Zwingli

Luther's 95 Theses (1517) called the church back to Scripture and salvation by grace through faith.

The Great Awakenings — Edwards, Whitefield, Wesley

John Wesley's final words at age 89:

"The best of all is—God is with us."

City and Country Movements — Moody, Spurgeon, Cane Ridge

Twentieth-Century Revivals — Welsh Revival, Azusa Street, Evangelistic Crusades

Evan Roberts saw 100,000 people saved in one year.

William Seymour ignited global missions from a humble prayer meeting.

Billy Graham thundered, *"The Bible says... come to Christ."*

I don't care who gets the credit—as long as God gets the glory.

Current Stirrings — Asbury, the Global South, Digital Evangelism

Revival is not a memory. It is a possibility.

5. The Possibility of Revival — What God Can Do Today

Christ Exalted

John Piper said, *"God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him."*

Canon (Scripture) Central

True biblical sermons are not TED Talks sprinkled with verses.

Confession Widespread

Church Purified

Commission Advanced

God wants us to grow, glow, and go.

A church may drift into fellowship, but it must be led into evangelism.

6. The Prescription for Revival — What God Requires

We cannot plan a revival any more than we can plan an earthquake, and we cannot hold a revival any more than we can hold a hurricane.

There is no formula—but there are biblical ingredients.

The devil does not want you to hear this, so listen closely.

Revival is not man-made, but it often follows repentance, prayer, and obedience.

God's Revival Blueprint — 2 Chronicles 7:14

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways... then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land."

It is not the unbelievers but the believers who are holding back revival.

Humility — "Humble themselves"

Isaiah 57:15 says God revives "the spirit of the humble."

Get on your face before the Lord—there is not much competition down there.

Heart-Cry — "Pray and seek My face"

Holiness — "Turn from their wicked ways"

Healing — God's Promise

A wise old evangelist was once asked, "Why don't we see revival today?"

He thought for a moment and said:

"The reason we are not living in revival is because we are content to live without it."

Reflection and Application Questions

- 1. Where has your heart become spiritually dry—like the Atacama Desert—and what "rain" of repentance, prayer, or obedience might God be inviting you to welcome?**
- 2. When you look at the evidences of revival—love for God, hunger for His presence, conviction of sin, passion for mission—what do you see present or missing in your life?**
- 3. Revival always begins when God's people humble themselves, seek Him, and turn from sin. What step of obedience is God asking you—or our church—to take so that we don't merely read about revival but experience it?**