

## Revive Us Again!

## Psalm 85

### I. The Need of Revival

#### A. Based on its own definition – we need revival!

**Martyn Lloyd Jones**, “It is an experience in the life of the church when the Holy Spirit does an unusual work, primarily for the members of the church – a reviving of Believers, by definition an enlivening, awakening of lethargic sleeping church members!

The stirring up of the saints of God

It is not the Holy Spirit doing something new – novel – to replace the Spirit’s usual work.

It is not something different from the regular experience of the church in degree and not in kind!

Feelings are more intense / repentance is more real / joy is deeper / sincerity is more sincere / the love of the truth is a greater love for truth / the desire for God is a greater desire for God!

**Ian Murray**, “True revival is extraordinary, yet what is experienced at such times is not different in essence from the experience that belongs to Christians at other times. It is the larger earnest of the Same Spirit who abides with those who believe.

**Samuel Davis**, A Great American preacher, 1700s

He was considering the Great Awakening of the 1740

“About 16 years ago in the northern colonies when all religious concern was much out of fashion, and the people lay in a dead sleep and sin having at best a form of godliness but nothing of the power, and the country was at peace and prosperity - free from the calamities of war and epidemic sickness, when in short, there were no extraordinary calls to repentance, then suddenly, a deep general concern about eternal things swept through the country, sinners started out of their slumbers to break off from their vices and began to cry out, ‘what should we do to be saved, and made it the

great business of their life to prepare for the world to come. Then the Gospel seemed almighty and carried all before it, it pierced the very hearts of men, with an irresistible power. I have seen thousands at once melted down under it, all eager to hear as for life, and hardly a dry eye to be seen among them.”

#### B. We need it because of what it is!

We need a Work of God among us

We need the Spirit’s outpouring in a great way

We need more sensitive hearts to the Word / to the Lord / towards and against sin / towards and in love of others.

We need a greater love of the lost

We need a greater sense of our need for God – so that we would pray more and seek Him more.

### II. The Means of Revival

What are means by which Revival comes to us?

#### 1. Remembering the things God has done

He delivered His people, forgave them, reconciled them,

#### 2. Remembering that God did these things!

God is the great means of revival.

We cannot have revival without God, so we go to God!

#### 3. Praying –

God is the foundational means

Praying is the instrumental means

This is what the Psalmist is doing.

##### a. Praying for Repentance

“turn us,”

**Spurgeon**, “It is not that God needs turning from his anger as much as that we need turning from our sin; here is the hinge of the whole matter. Our trials frequently arise out of our sins, they will not go till the sins go. We need to be turned from our sins, but only God can

turn us; God the Saviour must put his hand to the work; it is indeed a main part of our salvation. Conversion is the dawn of salvation. To turn a heart to God is as difficult as to make the world to revolve upon its axis. Yet, when a man learns to pray for conversion there is hope for him, he who turns to prayer is beginning to turn from sin. It is a very blessed sight to see a whole people turn unto their God; may the Lord send forth his converting grace on our land that we may live to see the people flocking to the loving worship of God as the doves to their cotes."

**b. Praying for Reconciliation, 4**

"Wilt thou be angry with us forever?"

**c. Praying for Revival**

"wilt thou not revive us again?"

**d. Waiting expectantly, 8**

"I will hear what God the Lord will speak..."

Trusting, and continuing in prayer,

**4. Repenting**

Not just praying for repentance, but repenting as well!

- Not only asking God, "Turn us," 4

But also not "turning again to folly." 8

- Not only asking God, "Wilt thou not revive us again?"

But also fearing Him, that His salvation would be near to us