***Nuggets From The Word***

Pastor Billy Burchfield

**Wednesday, September 28, 2022**

***Revival*** is **"the awakening or quickening of God's people to their true nature and purpose in their Spiritual and physical walk with God."**

***Revival*** is **“a *spiritual reawakening*** from a state of dormancy or stagnation in the life of a believer to a ***renewed, dynamic relationship*** with God through Christ Jesus**.”**

***Through His Holy Spirit, God calls us to revival***. *Christ* reveals some circumstances that may necessitate revival. In the *letter to Ephesus*, Christ praised the church for their perseverance and discernment, **but** He stated that ***they had forsaken their first love*** (Rev. 2:4-5). As the excitement of acceptance to Christ grows cold, we lose the zeal that we had at first, becoming bogged down in the ritual, going through the motions, but no longer experience the joy of serving Christ. ***Revival*** helps restore that *first love* and *passion for Christ*. In Revelation 2:10-11, Smyrna was suffering intense persecution. The cares and worries of life can beat us down, leaving us emotionally, physically, and spiritually exhausted. ***Revival*** can lift us up to new hope and faith.
Rev. 2:14-16, reveals the problem of compromise with the world and incorporating worldly values into our belief systems. ***Revival*** helps us to rightly discern what values we should hold. Rev. 2:20-23, the problem of tolerating false teaching in our churches. We need to examine the messages that we hear and compare them to the message of the Bible. ***Revival*** helps us to find the truth. Rev. 3:1-6 describes a dead church that goes through the motions outwardly, but there is nothing underneath. It is a picture of *nominal* Christianity, outwardly prosperous, busy with the externals of religious activity, **bu**t devoid of spiritual life and power. ***Revival*** helps to resuscitate spiritual life.

Rev. 3:11, warned against complacency, a life that does not bear fruit. All of these scenarios call for revival.
***The evidence of revival*** **is** *a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon believers*, that **changes our lives**. Great movements toward righteousness, evangelism, and social justice occur. ***Believers*** are once again spending time in prayer and reading and obeying God’s Word. ***Believers*** begin to powerfully use their spiritual gifts. There is confession of sin and repentance.

***Revival*** in our nation **must begin with the People of God** – ***in our churches***.

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