

## Genuine Revival

The Greek word *anathallo* translated in English as revival, which means to flourish anew is used in the Scripture metaphorically for the mental change of attitude of believers and not for the unbelievers (Phil. 4:10). Revival (*anazio*) means "to live again", or "to regain life", was used for one's recovery from sin as in Luke 15:24 and Romans 7:9. The term revival was used only five times in the New Testament and four times in the Old Testament, and nowhere else used for revival from physical death or spiritual death.

False Spiritual Revival:

- Signs, Wonders, and Tongues (2 Thess. 2:11-12)
- Increased church attendance
- Morality Shift
- Giving up Pet Sins
- Bondage breaker phenomena (Luke 11:24-26)
- Church growth phenomena
- Out of Divine Purpose Revival of Rick Warren
- Emotionalism

There are basic principles related to genuine revival:

- Man cannot create genuine revival because it comes only from God.
- Genuine revival is only for believers.
- Man cannot bring about true revival in the life of another person.
- Genuine revival is brought about by the Holy Spirit (Psalm 11:37).
- True revival is not possible without the proclamation of Bible doctrine.
- Genuine revival comes after divine discipline (Psalm 138:7, Hosea 6:2).
- God chooses perfect time for revival of each individual believer.
- True revival involves the positive volition of the believer (Psalm 143:10, Isaiah 57:15).
- Most of the so-called spiritual revivals today are hoaxes and man-made.
- Fake "revivals" are schemers and deceivers trying to make an impression of spirituality.

Genuine revival is the work of the sovereign God apart from human work and contribution motivated by the old sin nature. The sovereignty of God operates independently from human pleading, begging, or influence. Genuine revival is free from human power, schemes, manipulation, gimmickry, trickery, and methods derived from human viewpoint. It is free from people's power technique, bribing people to attend their meetings, using political and business techniques

Genuine revival is purely the work of God the Holy Spirit in the lives of true believers who are wandering in the cosmic system. True revival is only for the true believers. It is totally impossible to revive the spiritually dead person since he has no indwelling Holy Spirit who brings about the process of revival. Revival is for believers under the state of operational or temporal death and not for those under the spiritual death. No human being can bring revival in the life of another person, individually or by group because it is the response of the soul to the call of God. Genuine revival is the personal decision of the soul in response to the call of God prompted by his positive volition.

The sovereignty of God chooses the right time for revival for each individual believer. Group revival happened in certain areas because of the widespread preaching of Bible doctrine where the believers responded to the call of God at almost the same time. Collective revival is the result of divine intervention in the lives of believers under the state of carnality or reversionism convicted by the Holy Spirit and prompted by their positive volition.

No timetable set by men in spite of human planning or intensive preparation can decide for the time of revival. God set the revival, the turning back of the believer toward his one and only goal in the Christian life, that is, spiritual maturity. Revival which does not lead to positive volition toward God and toward His Bible doctrine is not true revival.

Genuine revival is the turning back toward God and toward the importance of God's Word in his personal life. Genuine revival is never divorced from the proclamation of Bible doctrine which brings the conviction upon the soul of the believer to rebound and focus on God.

No genuine revival is possible without the preaching of genuine Bible doctrine. True revival is the affair of the soul convicted by the Holy Spirit brought about by the Word of God perceived and understood by the soul. Genuine revival is not the result of prayer and fasting, penance, sacrifice, spiritual activities or human effort to please or gain the approval of God. It is not brought about by creating an atmosphere of spirituality by praises and worship induced by human effort (Psalms 71:20, 85:6).

God in eternity past knew all the decisions and thinking of all men. Every decision that will lead to action He included to become reality. Every decision of believers leading to revival is known to God in respect to human volition. God will never force an individual to decide or do something apart from his own free-will decision.

Contrary to a popular belief among the nominal Christians, revival is not a one-time spectacular event where a traveling preacher will invoke God to bring revival in the lives of the crowd. Revival is a personal event in the life of every believer where he realizes that he is outside the will, plan and purpose of God.

Revival in reality is the result of rebound and there is no genuine revival without rebound. It is the stage of being restored to fellowship with God after a prolonged wandering in the cosmic system. In the course of the Christian life, believers with positive volition will experience several pseudo-revivals and genuine revivals.

Revival is a personal affair which does not need the assistance of another person. It is not brought by the laying of hands or by the prayer of a sensational preacher.

There are four vital elements necessary for revival:

- The indwelling Holy Spirit
- Positive volition to rebound
- The preaching of Bible doctrine
- The conviction ministry of the Holy Spirit

One has to be dead in order to be revived. Only the temporal and operational dead believers need revival. Those in consistent fellowship with God do not need revival. Corporate revival denotes corporate carnality. If believers are carnal or reversionistic, they need the conviction of the Holy Spirit through the communication of Bible doctrine to have individualized revival and then group revival.

Rebound is a problem solving device for the sins of the believer. It is a descriptive term. Rebound is a technique. It is simply admitting your sins to God the Father (1 John 1:9). Rebound is designed by God so that the believer can bounce back from sin. It is the only means to recover the Filling of the Spirit. Rebound deals with the believer's problem with sin. It restores the believer's fellowship with God in time.

Rebound is a function of the believer's Royal Priesthood. It is to be performed in the privacy of the believer's Royal Priesthood not in public display of pseudo ministry of the Holy Spirit. Rebound is the believer adjusting to the justice of God. The Lord Jesus Christ satisfied the justice of God at the Cross by dying for the sins of the whole world.

It is citing or pointing to what the Lord Jesus Christ did at the Cross. Rebound is for the believer only and not the unbeliever. It is a decision that the believer has to make in order to be restored to fellowship with God. So Rebound protects us from receiving discipline from God.

Discipline from God is never designed to hurt us but rather to drive us to acknowledge our sins to the Father so that we can enjoy fellowship with God. The believer must make a volitional decision to apply the biblical principle of Rebound in order to regain fellowship with God. Biblical Christianity is a relationship with God, which is based upon the Person and Salvation Work of Christ on the cross. This relationship with God is accessed by appropriating and experiencing eternal life in time.

Experiencing the life of God takes place in the life of the believer who is in fellowship and applying the Word of God to his own set of unique circumstances. We cannot experience and enjoy eternal life in time without the acknowledgement of sin.

God desires that we have fellowship with Him but this is hindered by the believer's own bad decisions. The negative decisions of the believers gives the old sin nature power to control the soul instead of choosing to live in the new Christ-nature. Everyone in the human race possesses an old sin nature as a result of Adam's original sin in the garden. And every time the old sinful nature controls the souls, the believers are outside the plan of God needs rebound not revival of the traveling preacher.

Genuine revival is apart from emotional and sensational ecstatic experience of the believers. It is the silent ministry of the Holy Spirit in the kardia of the believer with genuine humility toward God. The humble have seen it and are glad. You, who seek God, let your heart revive. (Psalm 69:32). Beware of pseudo revival meetings!

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