

Revival

“Revival Under Josiah” – 2 Kings 22-23 November 13, 2011

Our Sermon Series

REVIVAL		
<i>A 4-Week Series on the Revivals of the Bible and History</i>		
<i>Date</i>	<i>Message Title</i>	<i>Bible Text</i>
Nov 6	Revival under Nehemiah	Nehemiah 1-13
Nov 13	Revival under Josiah	2 Kings 22-23
Nov 20	Revival in Ephesus	Acts 19
Nov 27	Revival in Nineveh	Jonah 1-4

Definition of Revival

- J.I. Packer: “Revival is a work of God by His Spirit through His word, bringing the spiritually dead to living faith in Christ and renewing the inner life of Christians who have grown slack and sleepy. In revival, God makes all things new, giving new power and new spiritual awareness to those whose hearts and consciences have been blind, hard, and cold.”
- Charles Finney: “Revival is the renewal of the first love of Christians, resulting in the awakening and conversion of sinners to God.”
- Dan Hayes: “Revival means a movement of God’s Spirit through which multitudes of believers are renewed (revived) in their zeal and commitment to the Lord. Spiritual awakening is when large numbers of nonbelievers move from death to life (conversion).”

The Spiritual Condition During Josiah’s Day and Ours (2 Kings 21)

<i>Conditions During Josiah’s Day</i>	<i>Conditions in Our Day</i>
Josiah’s father and grandfather were very evil leaders who led the people to worship Baal, the sun, and the stars. Josiah’s predecessors built pagan altars in the Lord’s Temple desecrating it (2 Kings 21).	We worship money and famous people and sports. We build \$1 billion stadiums and gather in corporate assembly to worship football and baseball. We give our tithes of \$10 billion every year in our theater sanctuaries to watch movies.
They killed babies in false worship (2 Kings 21:6).	We have killed 50 million babies (since 1973) in the false worship of convenience and money and ourselves.
They practiced magic, sorcery, and divination (2 Kings 21:6).	We have made a series of books about magic and sorcery the #1 best-selling series of all time... having sold 450 million copies.
And because of all of this, the Lord had promised to bring judgment and wipe out their country (2 Kings 22:16-17).	Ruth Graham: “If God does not judge America, He is going to need to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah.”

God Loves to Bring Revival Through Young People

- Josiah was 8 years old when he became King of Judah, and he was 16 to 20 years old when he began to bring spiritual reform to the nation.
- 2 Chronicles 34:3** – *In the eighth year of his reign, while he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father David. In his twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of high places, Asherah poles, carved idols and cast images.*
- The Asbury College Revival of 1970 was brought by God through students.

What Led to Revival in Josiah’s Day (2 Kings 22-23)

- Getting back to _____ (22:1-10)
- _____ and an awareness of coming judgment (22:11-20)
- Renewed commitment to _____ (23:1-3)
- _____ house (23:4-20)
 - True repentance involves a removal of all idols and all articles of sin from our sphere of living and influence.
 - Application #1: By the power of God’s Spirit, go home and cleanse your life of all sinful items, all idols, and all sinful practices. What Josiah did for the nation of Judah, you do for your own home, life, and family.
- Celebratory _____ and obedience to God’s Word (23:21-25)

The Asbury College Revival of 1970

- Wesley Duewel’s book “Revival Fire” (Chapter 43)
- YouTube Video: “A Revival Account: Asbury 1970” (37:15)
- Characteristics of the Asbury Revival:
 - Repentance
 - _____
 - Testimony
 - _____
- Application #2 – What is God prompting me to do in response to what I am hearing?
 - ☐ Repent of a specific sin in my life
 - ☐ Make restitution with a specific person in my life
 - ☐ Give testimony to what God is doing
 - ☐ Pray for revival and spiritual awakening

Questions to Discuss with My Family, Friends, and Small Group

- Who is the youngest spiritual leader you have encountered?
- Read 2 Kings 22-23 aloud and discuss its meaning and applications using these notes. Share your applications with each other and pray for one another.