

“BIBLICAL REVIVAL”
FOLLOWING THE PATTERN OF THE FIRST CHURCH AT JERUSALEM
ACTS 2:37-47

INTRO: The series we are currently conducting, **BIBLICAL REVIVAL**, is not just for a few people, it is for all **BORN-AGAIN BELIEVERS** to consider. In addition, the series is not just for our church, but it is for **ALL LOCAL CHURCHES WORLDWIDE TO CONSIDER AS WELL**. But as we are gathered together here today, it behooves each of us to study and understand the **BIBLICAL CONCEPT AND PRINCIPLES OF REVIVAL** and then apply those principles as the Spirit of God works in our individual hearts. I stand before you today to announce that **THE FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALTOONA NEEDS REVIVAL, BUT THAT REVIVAL WILL ONLY HAPPEN AS EACH MEMBER OF THE FBC CONGREGATION DESIRES, PRAYS FOR AND EXPERIENCES REVIVAL IN OUR OWN HEARTS.**

NOTE: What I find interesting is that weeks ago I planned the direction of this series, but it appears that each additional week, the Lord directs me away from my intended outline to emphasize another aspect of revival. My intent today was to complete the notes that are currently in your bulletin, but as I have been praying about the series, Friday and yesterday, the Lord has directed me otherwise. **PLEASE PRAY WITH ME THAT I WILL BE VERY SENSITIVE TO THE LORD’S DIRECTION IN THIS SERIES, SO AS TO COMMUNICATE ALL AND EVERYTHING GOD DESIRES.**

TODAY, the Lord appears to be leading us to examine the qualities of the **VERY FIRST CHURCH** that was established. It came to life in Jerusalem on the **DAY OF PENTECOST, FIFTY DAYS AFTER THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST**, when the Apostles were endued with the **POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND 3000 PEOPLE WERE SAVED AND THE CHURCH WAS BORN (NOTE ACTS 22-41)**. In that first local church that ever existed, there were at least **TEN SPIRITUAL QUALITIES** present that enabled the Gospel to be preached and other churches established so that within 30 years after the church was born, by 64 AD and according to Colossians 1:6 and 23 the Gospel was preached **“IN ALL THE WORLD,”** and **“TO EVERY CREATURE WHICH IS UNDER HEAVEN.”** **TODAY, LET’S EXAMINE THOSE QUALITIES AND COMMIT TO THEM AND TRUST THE HOLY SPIRIT TO BRING REVIVAL TO US PERSONALLY AND CHURCH WIDE.**

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT HOLY SPIRIT, BIBLICALLY-BASED REVIVAL WILL COME WHEN GOD’S PEOPLE GET RIGHT WITH GOD, WHICH INVOLVES THE TOTAL APPLICATION OF ALL BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES TO EVERY ASPECT OF OUR PERSONAL AND CHURCH LIFE.

NOTE: THE PRINCIPLES SEEN IN ACTS 2 ARE NOT “ALL INCLUSIVE” TO BIBLICAL REVIVAL BUT WILL CERTAINLY CONTRIBUTE TO GOD-GIVEN REVIVAL. LET’S EXAMINE THEM TOGETHER.

NOTE: THE FOUNDATION OF REVIVAL IS FOUND IN 2 CHRONICLES 7:14 WHICH PRINCIPLES CANNOT BE AVOIDED.

- “Humble themselves” – A HUMBLE ATTITUDE
- “Pray” – A PRAYERFUL PRACTICE
- “Seek my Face” – A DESIRE TO KNOW AND DO GOD’S WILL
- “Turn from their Wicked Ways” – “A REPENTANT ACTION

BUT FOLLOWING THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF THE EARLY CHURCH WILL SURELY ENHANCE THAT REVIVAL PERSONALLY AND ECCLESIASTICALLY.

- 1) Revival will occur when **SOUND BIBLICAL DOCTRINE** is a priority – Vs. 42a
-Note: REVIVAL IS NEEDED WHEN SOUND BIBLE DOCTRINE IS AVOIDED.
- 2) Revival will occur when **TRUE SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP** is present – Vs. 42b
-Note: REVIVAL IS NEEDED WHEN SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP IS AVOIDED.
- 3) Revival will occur when the **LORD’S TABLE IS PRACTICED** biblically– Vs. 42c
-Note: REVIVAL IS NEEDED WHEN THE LORD’S TABLE IS NEGLECTED
- 4) Revival will occur when **COMBINED PRAYER** is practiced – Vs. 42d
-Note: REVIVAL IS NEEDED WHEN PRAYER TO ANY DEGREE IS RARE.
- 5) Revival will occur when **THE HOLY SPIRIT’S WORK** is evident – Vs. 43
-Note: REVIVAL IS NEEDED WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT IS NEGLECTED
- 6) Revival will occur when there is **COMMON CONCERN** for others – Vss. 44,45

- Note: REVIVAL IS NEEDED WHEN WE NEGLECT EACH OTHER.
- 7) Revival will occur when **TRUE BIBLICAL UNITY** is predominant – Vs. 46
-Note: REVIVAL IS NEEDED WHEN DISUNITY AMONG BELIEVERS OCCURS.
- 8) Revival will occur when **PRAISING GOD IS evident** – Vs. 47a
-Note: REVIVAL IS NEEDED WHEN PRAISING GOD IS ABSENT
- 9) Revival will occur when a **GOOD COMMUNITY TESTIMONY** is seen – Vs. 47b
-Note: REVIVAL IS NEEDED WHEN A CHURCH DOES NOT HAVE A GOOD REPUTATION IN THE COMMUNITY
BIBLICALLY
- 10) Revival will occur when **SOULS ARE BEING SAVED** regularly – Vs. 47c
-Note: REVIVAL IS NEEDED WHEN THERE IS THE LACK OF SEEING PEOPLE COME TO CHRIST AS PERSONAL
SAVIOR.

LESSON AND APPLICATION

GOD WANTS HIS CHURCH AND HIS PEOPLE TO BE REVIVED. BUT REVIVAL WILL NOT OCCUR UNTIL WE GET RIGHT WITH GOD IN EVERY FACET OF OUR LIVES! WHAT NEEDS TO TAKE PLACE IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW FOR REVIVAL TO BEGIN? PSALM 139:23,24