

Revivals And Church History :: Do you truly want revival? Most say "no" by Shane Idleman

Do you truly want revival? Most say "no" by Shane Idleman - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2013/5/16 10:00

As stated last week, a genuine revival is God reviving His people—“Wilt thou not revive us again that thy people may rejoice in thee?” (Psalm 85:6 KJV). Repentance is often a mark of true revival. Recall what was said about Griffith Jones, who preached during the Welsh revivals of the 18th century: “The tears began to flow in streams down their cheeks. Soon, they wept openly, and cried out, ‘What shall we do to be saved?’” Further, it was not uncommon for people to tremble and weep, or shout for joy under the anointed preaching of George Whitefield. Whitefield was the primary evangelist during the Great Awakening that occurred in the mid 1700s. During this time, old grudges and debts were forgiven, morality improved, many were added to the church, and there was a greater sense of the fear of the Lord.

Those who use past revivals to in an attempt to validate odd events today, perhaps have not truly researched revivals. In reading Charismatics and Calvinists, Pentecostals and Puritans, Acts and Azusa, as well as countless biographies of leaders such as Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Knox, John Wesley, Robert Murray Cheyne, Charles Spurgeon, and D.L. Moody, and puritans such as Thomas Goodwin, John Bunyan, John Owen, and Richard Baxter, nowhere do these leaders encourage the hysteria or the outright weirdness that we sometimes see today. Granted, there were times of strong conviction such as when people held on to trees thinking that they were falling into the abyss of hell during the famous sermon, Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God, by Jonathan Edwards. And people did cry out to God, and/or fall on the ground under the strong conviction of sin during the Revivals of George Whitefield, John Wesley, and Evan Roberts, but this is because sin, righteousness, and holiness were preached—“falling down on his face, he will worship God and report that God is truly among you” (1 Corinthians 14:25). This is true revival.

Perhaps a balanced end to this series is found in an excerpt from Duncan Campbell’s book, The Price and Power of Revival: “How is it that while we make such great claims for the power of the Gospel, we see so little of the supernatural in operation? Is there any reason why the Church today cannot everywhere equal the Church at Pentecost? I feel this is a question we ought to face with an open mind and an honest heart. What did the early Church have that we do not possess today? Nothing but the Holy Spirit; nothing but the power of God. Here I would suggest that one of the main secrets of success in the early Church lay in the fact that the early believers believed in unction from on high and not entertainment from men....How did the early Church get the people? By publicity projects, by bills, by posters, by parades, by pictures? No! The people were arrested and drawn together and brought into vital relationship with God, not by sounds from men, but by sounds from heaven....The early Church cried for unction and not for entertainment. Unction is the dire and desperate need of the ministry today.”

There is a desperate need to preach and proclaim God’s Word with genuine power if we are to experience true revival. Without God’s authority and power, words are lifeless. Where are those with uncompromising power and authority in the pulpits today? The one thing that all of the great revivals in church history had is the one thing that we often lack—the power of the Holy Spirit. The very thing that we need is the very thing that we are afraid of. Many do not truly want revival because of fear of what it may involve.

As I was completing my latest book, I prayed, “Lord, bring revival to the churches.” I was not ready for the response that followed. I felt impressed with these words: “You don’t want revival—it will ruin your schedule, your dignity, your image, and your reputation as a person who is ‘well balanced.’ Men will weep throughout the congregation. Women will wail because of the travail of their own souls. Young adults will cry like children at the magnitude of their sin. With the strength of My presence, the worship team will cease playing. Time will seem to stand still. You won’t be able to preach because of the emotions flooding your own soul. You’ll struggle to find words, but only find tears. Even the most dignified and reserved among you will be broken and humbled as little children. The proud and self-righteous will not be able to stand in My presence. The doubter and unbeliever will either run for fear, or fall on their knees and worship Me—the there can be no middle ground. The church will never be the same again.

View more of Pastor Shane's messages at: <http://westsidechristianfellowship.org>

Re: Do you truly want revival? Most say "no" by Shane Idleman - posted by enid, on: 2013/5/16 10:18

A true enough word if ever there was one.

Well-balanced seems like such an insult after reading that.

God bless.

Re: Do you truly want revival? Most say "no" by Shane Idleman, on: 2013/5/16 10:44

Amen.

The following verses came to mind after I read these words by Shane:

"For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though it were but for a season. Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death" (2 Cor. 7: 8-10).

Re: Do you truly want revival? Most say "no" by Shane Idleman - posted by wombat1 (), on: 2013/7/5 8:36

My church would probably throw this guy out in the street, they are pentecostal by name however refused to have a tarrying meeting because their program was full.

My friends all I can say is that the cloud is about or has started to move and we need to pack up our tent and move with it. Reference to the children of Israel during the exodus. They camped in places for days weeks or years until the pillar of cloud moved and I expect that some times it was the pillar of fire by night that started the move to everyone's shock and horror.

Yes we need unction and yes we need to strip away the Disney effects and slick Godless worship. I could tell you of an AOG women's conference in Melbourne however it is too embarrassing. I should say it was my wife that attended not me.

Yes I think not only revival but reformation is at hand and believe it has started, I think we the western compromised church should cry out that we not be excluded as we so thoroughly deserve if the state of church were our criteria for inclusion.

But God is merciful.....IF my people etc.I think it is up to us, right now.

Kind regards Oskar.

Re: Do you truly want revival? Most say "no" by Shane Idleman - posted by murrcolr (), on: 2013/7/5 8:52

Quote: Nothing but the Holy Spirit; nothing but the power of God.

Amen.... Without Me you can do nothing.Â” John 15:5

But what does that say of us?

Re: Do you truly want revival? Most say "no" by Shane Idleman - posted by davidkeel (), on: 2013/7/5 12:28

I feel like screaming when I read stuff about revival and I'm imprisoned in no revival. Feel dreadful at the lack of revival. There's nothing else in the Christian life worth living for and wanting, after Jesus.