

Spiritual Revival

Nehemiah 8:1-8

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- Revival involves the proclamation of God's Word and the mobilization of God's people.
- Early reforms under Ezra—Ezra 7-10
- The lapse back into the old patterns between Ezra and Nehemiah.
- The time for spiritual revival is **NOW!**

Spiritual Revival

A. General: PATTERN for Revival—Nehemiah 8-10

1. Begins with the **Proclamation** of God's Word—Nehemiah 8
2. Deepens with the **Confession** of Sin—Nehemiah 9
3. Solidifies by the **Commitments** we make—Nehemiah 10

B. Specific: Step One—Proclamation —Nehemiah 8:1-8

1. **The PEOPLE who wanted to hear God's Word—v. 1**
 - a. Initiated the revival
 - b. United as "*one man*"
 - c. Spiritually Hungry
2. **The PASTORS who proclaimed God's Word—v. 2, 4, 7-8**
 - a. Ezra the Priest—the main speaker
 - 1) Professionally qualified—Ezra 7:10
 - 2) Practically qualified—Ezra 8:22-23
 - b. The Levites—the "*assistant pastors*"—v. 4, 7-8
3. **The PROCLAMATION of God's Word—vv. 2-8**
 - a. The Time and Make-up of the assembly
 - b. The PROGRAM—Order of Service
 - 1) Prayer—vv. 5-6
 - 2) Public Reading of God's Word—v. 3
 - a) 5 to 6 hours standing
 - b) Public reading of God's Word today-- 1 Timothy 4:13
 - 3) Explanation of God's Word—vv. 7-8
 - a) "*Read distinctively*"—translated it into the language of the people.
 - b) "*Gave the sense*" so people could understand.

Application for Today:

1. Do you have a healthy, spiritual appetite?—1 Peter 2:2-3
2. Do you come expecting to hear a word from God?—1 Thessalonians 2:13
3. Are you suffering from spiritual appetite suppressants?—1 Peter 2:1