

REVIVAL PRAYING AND PRAYER PERSEVERANCE

DR JERRY R DAVIS

FOR FEBRUARY 25, LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH

LAST SUNDAY NIGHT THE SONG LEADER PRAYED BEFORE THE PASTOR PREACHED. IN THAT PRAYER HE PRAYED FOR REVIVAL. CAN I ASK, HOW MANY HER E HAVE PRAYED FOR REVIVAL LIKE THAT SONG LEADER? HIS PRAYER RESONATED IN ME. IT REMINDED ME OF A SUNDAY NIGHT SERMON I HAD PREPARED AND PREACHED AT FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH IN DEFIANCE, OHIO. I PREACHED THAT SERMON ON SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2007.

WELL, IT CAUSED ME TO WONDER. COULD WE TRULY SEE A LOCAL CHURCH REVIVAL? DO YOU BELIEVE WE COULD? WHEN IS REVIVAL REALLY NECESSARY IN A CHURCH? WHEN THE SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE IS ATTENDED BY ONLY A FEW? WHEN TRUE PRAYER IS NOT FOUND BY THE CONGREGATION ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT? WHEN LOVE FOR OTHERS ISN'T NOTICEABLE IN THE CHURCH? WHEN THERE IS NO BURDEN FOR REACHING THE LOST? WHEN SACRIFICIAL LIVING IS AN ABSENT PHENOMENA, AND OFFERINGS REFLECT IT?

CONCERNING TRUE REVIVAL, THERE ARE IN THE BIBLE, MANY STATEMENTS WHICH COULD BE VIEWED AS IF THEY WERE LAWS OF GOD, UNWRITTEN, NOT SPECIFIED, BUT NEVERTHELESS ARE BUILT ON SPECIFIC STATEMENTS, AND COULD BE TOTALLY COUNTED ON. HERE ARE A FEW OF THOSE STATEMENTS:

1. THE LAW OF ASKING AND RECEIVING (MT 7:7-10; LK 11)
2. THE LAW OF THE UNCONDEMNED HEART (1 JN 3:20-24)
3. THE LAW OF SOWING AND REAPING (GAL 6:7-8)

4. THE LAW IF ABIDING (JN 15:7)

5. THE LAW OF PERSEVERING IN PRAYER (LUKE 18:1-5)

I REFER TO THESE AS LAWS TO US BECAUSE EACH OF THESE ARE DERIVED FROM THE SCRIPTURES, WITH NO EXCEPTION TO ANY OF THEM. WE WILL SAY MORE ABOUT EACH OF THESE, BUT I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER TO CONSIDER FIRST SOME THOUGHTS UNDER THESE HEADINGS:

I. WHAT TRUE REVIVAL IS AND ISN'T

II. THE BIBLICAL TRUTH ABOUT THE LAWS OF PRAYING FOR REVIVAL.

III. THE NEED FOR PERSEVERING IN PRAYER

IV. HOW TO PERSEVERE IN PRAYER FOR

REVIVAL IF YOU ARE INTERESTED AT ALL, CONSIDER WITH ME FIRST:

I. WHAT TRUE REVIVAL IS AND ISN'T

THERE ARE SO MANY AND SUCH VARIED IDEAS OF WHAT TRUE REVIVAL IS. THAT IS WHY I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE TALKING ABOUT REVIVAL IN THE CHURCH. WHAT IS IT AFTER ALL? ONE OPINION ABOUT TRUE REVIVAL IS FOUND IN AN UNASSIGNED POST ON THE INTERNET AND SEEMS TO AT LEAST GIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF REVIVAL AND I QUOTE:

TRUE REVIVAL IS MARKED BY (1) A REDISCOVERY OF THE WORD OF GOD, (2) A RESTORED SENSE OF THE FEAR OF GOD, (3) A RETURN TO GOD THROUGH CONFESSON AND REPENTANCE, (4) A RENEWED SPIRITUAL COMMITMENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE, AND,(5) FINALLY, A REFORMATION OF TRUE PIETY.

THIS IS FOUND IN AN ARTICLE THAT GIVES IT CREDIBILITY BECAUSE THE ARTICLE IS FOUND IN APPEAL TO

REGISTER AT A PASTOR'S CONFERENCE FOR CLEARLY REFORMED PASTORS CALLED CORAM DEO, MARCH 12-14 IN MATTHEWS N. CAR. AND THE 5 THINGS MENTIONED CAN'T BE IMPROVED UPON VERY MUCH.

IN MY LIMITED KNOWLEDGE I AM THINKING ABOUT SOME THINGS THAT REVIVAL CANNOT BE. WE ARE NOT SPEAKING ABOUT :

1. A SERIES OF CHURCH MEETINGS EMPLOYING A SPECIAL SPEAKER FOR A SPECIAL AMOUNT OF TIME (T.E. REVIVAL AT X X CHURCH FEB. 18-29)

2. AN EMOTIONAL HAPPENING AT A CHURCH WHERE PEOPLE ARE MOVED, BUT NOT MOVED TO GET RIGHT WITH GOD, CONFESS THEIR SINS, AND COMMIT TO GOD AND HAVE TRUE RESULTS FOLLOWING.

3. ANY MOVEMENT AMONG THE PEOPLE OF GOD THAT DOES NOT RESULT IN A CORRECTION IN BEHAVIOR WE MUST REMEMBER THAT AS THE CHILDREN OF GOD, WE ARE A HOLY PRIESTHOOD, A CHOSEN PEOPLE AND WE NEED TO BE WHAT WE ARE. AND IF WE AREN'T WILLING TO BE WHAT GOD SAYS WE ARE, THIS IS NO MOVE OF REVIVAL. BUT NOW THE QUESTION IS WHAT IS:

II. THE BIBLICAL TRUTH ABOUT THE LAWS OF PRAYING FOR REVIVAL.

ONCE AGAIN, THESE ARE NOT LIKE THE TEN COMMANDMENTS. THESE ARE LAWS BASED ON THE INFALLIBLE WORD OF GOD. LET'S REVIEW THEM.

1. THE LAW OF ASKING AND RECEIVING. Mt 7:7-10, 7 ASK, AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN YOU; SEEK, AND YE SHALL FIND; KNOCK, AND IT SHALL BE OPENED UNTO YOU: (8) FOR EVERY ONE THAT ASKETH RECEIVETH; AND HE THAT SEEKETH FINDETH; AND TO HIM THAT KNOCKETH IT SHALL BE OPENED. (9) OR WHAT MAN IS THERE OF YOU, WHOM IF HIS SON ASK

BREAD, WILL HE GIVE HIM A STONE? (10) OR IF HE ASK A FISH, WILL HE GIVE HIM A SERPENT? (11) IF YE THEN, BEING EVIL, KNOW HOW TO GIVE GOOD GIFTS UNTO YOUR CHILDREN, HOW MUCH MORE SHALL YOUR FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN GIVE GOOD THINGS TO THEM THAT ASK HIM? HERE IT IS PRESUMED THAT WE ARE ASKING FOR A SPIRITUAL RENEWAL. THAT IS A GOOD REQUEST.

AND IN LUKE, JUST AFTER THE LORD TEACHING THE DISCIPLES TO PRAY THE OUR FATHER, THEN ALSO LUKE 11:6-11 FOR A FRIEND OF MINE IN HIS JOURNEY IS COME TO ME, AND I HAVE NOTHING TO SET BEFORE HIM? (7) AND HE FROM WITHIN SHALL ANSWER AND SAY, TROUBLE ME NOT: THE DOOR IS NOW SHUT, AND MY CHILDREN ARE WITH ME IN BED: I CANNOT RISE AND GIVE THEE.(8) I SAY UNTO YOU, THOUGH HE WILL NOT RISE AND GIVE HIM, BECAUSE HE IS HIS FRIEND, YET BECAUSE OF HIS IMPORTUNITY HE WILL RISE AND GIVE HIM AS MANY AS HE NEEDETH. (9) AND I SAY UNTO YOU, ASK, AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN YOU; SEEK, AND YE SHALL FIND; KNOCK, AND IT SHALL BE OPENED UNTO YOU.

(10) FOR EVERY ONE THAT ASKETH RECEIVETH; AND HE THAT SEEKETH FINDETH; AND TO HIM THAT KNOCKETH IT SHALL BE OPENED. (11) IF A SON SHALL ASK BREAD OF ANY OF YOU THAT IS A FATHER, WILL HE GIVE HIM A STONE? OR IF HE ASK A FISH, WILL HE FOR A FISH GIVE HIM A SERPENT?

ADDS TO THAT JAMES 1:6 BUT LET HIM ASK IN FAITH, NOTHING WAVERING. FOR HE THAT WAVERETH IS LIKE A WAVE OF THE SEA DRIVEN WITH THE WIND AND TOSSED. (7) FOR LET NOT THAT MAN THINK THAT HE SHALL RECEIVE ANY THING OF THE LORD. (8) A DOUBLE MINDED MAN IS UNSTABLE IN ALL HIS WAYS.

BASICALLY THEN WHAT IS SAID IS THAT A MAN WITH ALL SINS CONFESSED, CAN ASK IN PRAYER FOR REVIVAL. AND

THIS SCRIPTURE SAYS THAT HE SHALL RECEIVE, DOESN'T IT?
NOW GO TO THE SECOND LAW (SO CALLED). IT IS THE
LAW OF THE UNCONDEMNED HEART. I JOHN 3: 18-20 GOES
LIKE THIS: (18) MY LITTLE CHILDREN, LET US NOT LOVE IN
WORD, NEITHER IN TONGUE: BUT IN DEED AND IN TRUTH.
(19) AND HEREBY WE KNOW THAT WE ARE OF THE TRUTH,
AND SHALL ASSURE OUR HEARTS BEFORE HIM.(20) FOR IF OUR
HEART CONDEMN US, GOD IS GREATER THAN OUR HEART, AND
KNOWETH ALL THINGS. (21) BELOVED, IF OUR HEART
CONDEMN US NOT, THEN HAVE WE CONFIDENCE TOWARD GOD.
(22) AND WHATSOEVER WE ASK, WE RECEIVE OF HIM,
BECAUSE WE KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, AND DO THOSE
THINGS THAT ARE PLEASING IN HIS SIGHT.

DOESN'T THIS SAY THAT IF WE HAVE AN UN
CONDEMNED HEART, WE CAN ASK WHAT EVER WE WISH, AND
WE WILL RECEIVE OF HIM.? HOW DOES ANYONE HAVE AN UN
CONDEMNED HEART? WELL, WHAT IS IT THAT CONDEMN
THE HEART OF ANY BORN AGAIN BELIEVER BUT UNCONFESED
SIN? IF WE HAVE STOLEN, WE NEED TO CONFESS IT TO GOD,
AND PAY BACK THAT WHICH WE HAVE STOLEN. IF WE HAVE
AN IMMORAL RELATIONSHIP, WE NEED TO QUIT IT, AND
THEN CONFESS IT TO OUR ALMIGHTY ALL KNOWING AND
FORGIVING GOD, AND TOTALLY FORSAKE THAT RELATIONSHIP.
AND WHATSOEVER RISES UP TO CONDEMN US WHEN WE
GO TO PRAYER NEEDS TO BE CLEARED UP. ALL SIN
CONFESED, ALL REPARATIONS MADE, ALL CLEAR BEFORE GOD.
THEN WE CAN PRAY FOR REVIVAL, ASKING FOR IT TO BEGIN
WITH US.

SO YOU SEE HOW THESE LAWS WORK. LET US
CONSIDER THE 3RD LAW, THE LAW OF SOWING AND REAPING.
THIS LAW IS FOUND IN GALATIANS 6:7-8 (7) BE NOT
DECEIVED: GOD IS NOT MOCKED: FOR WHATSOEVER A MAN

SOWETH, THAT SHALL HE ALSO REAP. (8) FOR HE THAT
SOWETH TO HIS FLESH SHALL OF THE FLESH REAP
CORRUPTION: BUT HE THAT SOWETH TO THE SPIRIT SHALL OF
THE SPIRIT REAP LIFE EVERLASTING. (9) AND LET US NOT BE
WEARY IN WELL DOING: FOR IN DUE SEASON WE SHALL
REAP, IF WE FAINT NOT.

THIS TAKES A LITTLE THINKING ON OUR PART. WHAT
SEEDS ARE YOU NOW SOWING IN YOUR LIFE? BE SURE TO
KNOW THAT YOU WILL BE REAPING THOSE SEEDS, - LATER AS
WE KNOW. HERE IS THE FACTS S ABOUT SOWING AND
REAPING. (1) YOU ALWAYS GET BACK WHAT YOU PLANT. (2)
YOU SHOULD AND MOSTLY DO GET BACK MORE THAN YOU
PLANT. (3) GETTING RESULTS FROM SOWING TAKES TIME.
BUT WE CAN SOW THE SEEDS OF PERSONAL REVIVAL.
AND YOU MIGHT ASK, WHAT ARE THE SEEDS OF REVIVAL?
GLAD YOU ASKED. TO REPEAT THOSE TRUE MARKS OF
REVIVAL:

TRUE REVIVAL IS MARKED BY (1) A REDISCOVERY OF THE
WORD OF GOD, (2) A RESTORED SENSE OF THE FEAR OF GOD,
(3) A RETURN TO GOD THROUGH CONFSSION AND
REPENTANCE, (4) A RENEWED SPIRITUAL COMMITMENT AS
GOD'S PEOPLE, AND,(5) FINALLY, A REFORMATION OF TRUE
PIETY.

SO I BELIEVE IF I TRULY BELIEVE MY BIBLE, AND IF I
SOW THE SEED OF FEARING GOD, AND I TRULY CONFESS ALL
SIN AND IF I COMMIT MYSELF TO HIM EVERY DAY, AND IF I
LEAD A HOLY LIFE, THESE ARE TRUE SEEDS OF REVIVAL. BUT
IT MAY TAKE TIME BETWEEN SOWING AND REAPING.

AND NOW, THE FOURTH OF THESE PRECEPTS THAT I
CALL A LAW IS THE LAW OF ABIDING (JN 15:7) AND THAT IS
ABIDING IN CHRIST. THIS IS SPOKEN BY THE LORD JESUS,
SO IT SEEMS TO BE A FIRM PROMISE. YOU ASK WHAT DOES

IT MEAN TO ABIDE IN CHRIST? ONE DEFINITION IS ABIDING IN CHRIST MEANS CHOOSING TO LIVE IN HIM, WALK IN HIS WAYS, HEED HIS WORD, AND REFLECT HIS LOVE. ANY BELIEVER WHO IS ABIDING IN CHRIST, ALL SINS CONFESSED AND WALKING IN THE SPIRIT HAS THE RIGHT TO PRAY AND ASK GOD TO SEND REVIVAL, BEGINNING WITH THEMSELVES. THAT IS WHAT THE SCRIPTURE SAYS.

FINALLY THERE IS THIS LAST OF WHAT I CALL LAWS. BE CLEAR THAT CALLING THEM LAWS IS MY DEFINITION, THAT THEY ARE NOT CALLED LAWS IN SCRIPTURE. I JUST CALL THEM LAWS BECAUSE THEY SEEM TO BE PROMISES FOR US FROM GOD THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT. THIS ONE IS THE LAW OF PERSEVERING IN PRAYER (LUKE 18:1-5). (1) AND HE SPAKE A PARABLE UNTO THEM TO THIS END, THAT MEN OUGHT ALWAYS TO PRAY, AND NOT TO FAINT: (2) SAYING, THERE WAS IN A CITY A JUDGE, WHICH FEARED NOT GOD, NEITHER REGARDED MAN: (3) AND THERE WAS A WIDOW IN THAT CITY: AND SHE CAME UNTO HIM, SAYING, AVENGE ME OF MINE ADVERSARY. (4) AND HE WOULD NOT FOR A WHILE: BUT AFTERWARD HE SAID WITHIN HIMSELF, THOUGH I FEAR NOT GOD, NOR REGARD MAN: (5) YET BECAUSE THIS WIDOW TROUBLETH ME, I WILL AVENGE HER, LEST BY HER CONTINUAL COMING SHE WEARY ME. (6) AND THE LORD SAID, HEAR WHAT THE UNJUST JUDGE SAITH. (7) AND SHALL NOT GOD AVENGE HIS OWN ELECT, WHICH CRY DAY AND NIGHT UNTO HIM, THOUGH HE BEAR LONG WITH THEM?

(8) I TELL YOU THAT HE WILL AVENGE THEM SPEEDILY. NEVERTHELESS WHEN THE SON OF MAN COMETH, SHALL HE FIND FAITH ON THE EARTH?

NOTICE THE BEGINNING VERSE OF THIS CHAPTER. JESUS SPOKE THIS PARABLE TO THEM THAT MEN OUGHT ALWAYS TO PRAY AND NOT TO FAINT.. ALWAYS PRAY. NEVER

GIVE UP UNTIL THE ANSWER COMES. THE SCRIPTURE GIVES US THE LAW. HEAR THE UNJUST JUDGE. GOD WILL AVENGE HIS OWN ELECT WHICH CRY TO HIM DAY AND NIGHT. IN OTHER WORDS, KEEP ON PRAYING UNTIL YOU GET THE ANSWER AND THE ANSWER WILL COME

THERE ARE A GREAT MANY REASONS WHY WE SHOULD KEEP PRAYING THAT REVIVAL WILL COME TO US. HERE ARE A FEW OF THEM.

1. WE SHOULD PERSEVERE IN PRAYER, BECAUSE THERE IS A GREAT NEED FOR REVIVAL.
2. WE SHOULD PERSEVERE BECAUSE THE GOAL (REVIVAL) THAT WE SEEK DESERVES LONG PRAYING UNTIL THE ANSWER COMES.
3. WE SHOULD PERSEVERE BECAUSE THE BIBLE WE SHARE REQUIRES US TO KEEP PRAYING (1 THESS 5:17 17PRAY WITHOUT CEASING. (18) IN EVERY THING GIVE THANKS: FOR THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS CONCERNING YOU. 19QUENCH NOT THE SPIRIT. 20DESPISE NOT PROPHECIES. AND ALSO 1 TIM 2:8 I DESIRE THEREFORE THAT THE MEN PRAY EVERYWHERE, LIFTING UP HOLY HANDS WITHOUT WRATH AND DOUBTING.
4. THE FACT THAT WE ASK, MEANS THAT WE NEED TO CONTINUE TO PRAY, WHICH IS PERSEVERING IN PRAYER.

III. THE NEED FOR PERSEVERING IN PRAYER.

MUCH COULD BE WRITTEN FOR THIS TOPIC. PERSEVERING IN PRAYER IS NEEDED WHEN GOD SEEMS DISTANT, AND THE CHURCH SEEM FRUITLESS, NEWLY SAVED PEOPLE ARE ABSENT - THEN WE NEED TO PERSEVERE IN PRAYER. EPHESIANS 6:17-20 SAYS IT LIKE THIS:

(17) AND TAKE THE HELMET OF SALVATION, AND THE SWORD

OF THE SPIRIT, WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD: (18) PRAYING ALWAYS WITH ALL PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION IN THE SPIRIT, AND WATCHING THEREUNTO WITH ALL PERSEVERANCE AND SUPPLICATION FOR ALL SAINTS; (19) AND FOR ME, THAT UTTERANCE MAY BE GIVEN UNTO ME, THAT I MAY OPEN MY MOUTH BOLDLY, TO MAKE KNOWN THE MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL, (20) FOR WHICH I AM AN AMBASSADOR IN BONDS: THAT THEREIN I MAY SPEAK BOLDLY, AS I OUGHT TO SPEAK.

IT GOES ALMOST WITHOUT SAYING, THAT IF THE APOSTLE PAUL FELT THE NEED FOR THE CHURCH TO PERSEVERE IN PRAYER FOR HIM, HOW MUCH MORE IN OUR DAY OF LAKADAZICLE BELIEVING IN CHURCHES SHOULD WE PERSEVERE.

PERSEVERING BY FAITH MEANS WAITING AND CONTINUING IN PRAYER UNTIL THE ANSWER COMES.

IV. HOW TO PERSEVERE IN PRAYER FOR REVIVAL

FIRST KNOW THAT I AM NOT AN ICON OF PERSEVERING IN PRAYER FOR REVIVAL. THESE SUGGESTIONS GO TO ME AS WELL AS GOING FORTH IN THIS SERMON. NEVERTHELESS, HERE ARE A FEW SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW TO PERSEVERE IN PRAYER FOR REVIVAL IF IT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU AS I THINK IT MIGHT BE FOR OUR CHURCH.

1. CONSIDER THE COST OF NOT PERSEVERING IN PRAYER FOR REVIVAL. COST TO YOU PERSONALLY, AND COST TO THIS CHURCH SPECIFICALLY. WE AT OUR CHURCH WILL EITHER GET SERIOUS ABOUT OUR SPIRITUAL STATE, OR WE JUST MIGHT BE SIGNING THE EVENTUAL END OF OUR CHURCH. I KNOW THAT IT SEEMS A HORRIBLE THING TO SAY ABOUT OUR CHURCH. WE MUST REPRODUCE OR PERISH. OR RESIGN OURSELVES TO JUST LIMP ALONG AS A MEDIOCRE LUKEWARM CHURCH THAT DOESN'T WANT TO EXERT ANY EFFORT TO BE

BETTER THAN WE ARE.

2. ENDEAVOR TO HAVE AN UNCONDEMNED HEART WHEN YOU PRAY, SO THAT YOUR PRAYERS WILL HAVE A BASIS IN TRUE AND LIVING FAITH IN THE PROMISES OF GOD.

3. SOW SEEDS OF REVIVAL IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. COMMIT TO OBEDIENCE TO THE WORD OF GOD, THE HOLY SCRIPTURES. RETURN TO A GODLY FEAR OF THE TRINE GOD,

4. EXAMINE YOUR OWN LIFE. TRULY CONFESS ALL SIN, ASKING THE FATHER IN HEAVEN TO REVEAL TO YOU EVEN SECRET FAULTS. TRULY REPENT OF SINS THAT WOULD HINDER YOU, AND BY THAT HINDER THE REVIVAL WE SEEK.

5. REMEMBER THAT IF YOU FEEL AWAY FROM GOD, HE IS NOT THE ONE WHO HAS MOVED. DRAW NIGH TO HIM, AND DETERMINE TO LIVE A LIFE OF TRUE HOLINESS.

NOTHING BRINGS PEOPLE TO KNOW THAT THERE IS A GOD IN HEAVEN MORE THAT A LIFE OF TRUE HOLINESS IN LIVING. GOD BLESSES THOSE WHO SEPARATE THEMSELVES FROM THE WORLD AND ALL THAT IS IN THE WORLD. AFTER ALL, WE ARE TAUGHT IN 1 JOHN 2:15 - 17 (15) LOVE NOT THE WORLD, NEITHER THE THINGS THAT ARE IN THE WORLD. IF ANY MAN LOVE THE WORLD, THE LOVE OF THE FATHER IS NOT IN HIM. (16) FOR ALL THAT IS IN THE WORLD, THE LUST OF THE FLESH, AND THE LUST OF THE EYES, AND THE PRIDE OF LIFE, IS NOT OF THE FATHER, BUT IS OF THE WORLD. (17) AND THE WORLD PASSETH AWAY, AND THE LUST THEREOF: BUT HE THAT DOETH THE WILL OF GOD ABIDETH FOR EVER.

THERE IS SO MUCH OF THE WORLD IN EVEN THE BEST CHURCHES IN AMERICA, BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN SO CLEVERLY DISGUISED BY SATAN AND HIS MINIONS. SO THAT WHEN A BELIEVER PURPOSES IS HIS/HER HEART TO LIVE GODLY IN CHRIST JESUS, THEY ARE PERSECUTED, JUST AS THE BIBLE SAYS IN 2 TIMOTHY 3:12: "YEA, AND ALL THAT WILL LIVE GODLY IN CHRIST JESUS SHALL SUFFER PERSECUTION."

TO GOD, AND IT MAY MEAN PUTTING YOURSELF AT RISK.
JOIN THE CHURCH, OR SOBEY GOD AND BE BAPTIZED FOR YOUR
NEW FOUND FAITH AS A TRUE BELIEVER. GOD KNOWS YOUR
NEED, AND YOU KNOW IT. SO PRAY RIGHT NOW WITH ME.
IT IS JUST A MATTER OF DECIDING TO FOLLOW THE LORD
FULLY. YOU COULD TAKE TIME, AND COUNT THE COST. IT
MAY BE THE HARDEST THING YOU WILL DO, BECAUSE IT
MEANS GIVING UP WHATEVER YOU HAVE HELD IN TIGHTLY
CLENCHED HAND. WONT YOU OBEY GOD TONIGHT?
LET'S BOW IN PRAYER.

WHO IS NOT ASHAMED TO SAY
I BELONG TO JESUS CHRIST

AS THIS CALL CAME RINGING THRU THE CENTURIES
THE FACES CHANGE, BUT THE FAITH REMAINED
NOW THESE HEROES WATCH US FROM THE HEAVENLIES
OUR TIME HAS COME, WILL WE STAND OR RUN
WHO IS ON THE LORD'S SIDE, WHO WILL COUNT THE COST
WHO WILL LAY HIS LIFE DOWN
GIVING ALL TO REACH THE LOST

WHO IS NOT ASHAMED TO SAY
I BELONG TO JESUS CHRIST?

WHO WILL SEEK THE LORD FOR A REVIVAL HERE AT OUR
CHURCH? NOT A PHONY EMOTIONAL WAVE, BUT A TRUE GOD
GIVEN IN ANSWER TO PRAYER FOR REVIVAL, PERSEVERING
PRAYER. FOR REVIVAL.

ONCE AGAIN THE SIGNS OF TRUE REVIVAL AS I QUOTED
EARLIER:

TRUE REVIVAL IS MARKED BY (1) A REDISCOVERY OF
THE WORD OF GOD, (2) A RESTORED SENSE OF THE FEAR OF
GOD, (3) A RETURN TO GOD THROUGH CONFESSION AND
REPENTANCE, (4) A RENEWED SPIRITUAL COMMITMENT AS
GOD'S PEOPLE, AND,(5) FINALLY, A REFORMATION OF TRUE
PIETY

THAT IS MY PRAYER TONIGHT. CAN IT ALSO BE YOUR
PRAYER TONIGHT, THERE MAY BE SOME NEEDS IN HEARTS.
PERHAPS YOU MIGHT WANT TO TALK TO A COUNSELOR. IT
MAY BE THAT YOU HAVE NOT BEEN SAVED, AND YOU REALIZE
YOUR NEED TO BE SAVED. YOU COULD COME FORWARD
DURING THE CLOSING HYMN, AND SOMEONE WILL HELP YOU
TO KNOW THE TRUE SALVATION IN CHRIST.

YOU MAY WANT TO BEGIN A LIFE OF TRUE OBEDIENCE

THE COST OF PERSEVERING IN PRAYER FOR REVIVAL IS TRULY HIGH. IS IT WORTH IT? WHAT WOULD REVIVAL MEAN TO OUR CHURCH? IN TRUE REVIVALS IN OUR TIME AND OTHER TIMES, MANY ARE BROUGHT TO SALVATION, MANY OF LUKEWARM CHURCHED PEOPLE ARE TURNED TO THE GOD THEY SCARCELY KNOW. THE TRIUNE GOD IS TRULY GLORIFIED. THE COMMUNITY IS BENEFITTED IN WHICH THE CHURCH IS FOUND, AS PEOPLE WHO REPENT OF SIN BEGIN TO MAKE RESTITUTION FOR THEIR WRONG DOINGS.

THE COST OF NO REVIVAL IS ALSO HIGH. MANY WHO ARE ORDAINED TO ETERNAL LIFE FIND SOME OTHER WAY TO SALVATION THAN BY THE WITNESS OF OUR CHURCH. GOD DESIRES TO BLESS THOSE WHO SEEK HIM, NOT THOSE WHO COMFORTABLY JUST KEEP THE STATUS QUO.

SO THE CHOICE IS YOURS, AS IT IS ALSO MINE. WILL YOU COVENANT WITH THE GOD OF ETERNAL SOULS TO PRAY FOR REVIVAL, AND TAKE THE STEPS THAT COULD BRING ANSWERS TO PERSEVERING PRAYER. LIKE OUR CHOIR HAS SUNG IN THE PAST YEAR, WHO IS ON THE LORD'S SIDE. IT IS A SONG FROM PENNY HILL PUBLISHING. I CLOSE BY QUOTING THE LYRICS:

THIS FAITH THAT YOU AND I EMBRACE TODAY,
HAD ITS DAWNING WHEN . . . ELEVEN MEN
WERE NOT AFRAID TO GIVE THEIR LIVES AWAY
BUT GAVE THEIR ALL

WHEN THEY HEARD THIS CALL . . .
WHO IS ON THE LORD'S SIDE
WHO WILL COUNT THE COST
WHO WILL LAY HIS LIFE DOWN,
GIVING ALL TO REACH THE LOST.

WHO IS ON THE LORD'S SIDE?
STAND AND FIGHT THE FIGHT