

Repent = Stand for God = Revival
King Josiah

Revival is for the Church! Not the World
The World needs to be saved!

Revival is when the body of Christ returns to its first love, and returns into that genuine relationship with the Lord!

It then becomes this deep emotional and real need for a relationship with Jesus!

That causes each and every one of us to operate in a way where we just can't contain the treasure that transformed our life. KNOWING JESUS CHRIST!

As a result we are brought to this place of true repentance, where we come broken before the throne of Jesus, asking him to revive the very core of our Life!

This message reminds me of when I had first given my life to God, here in this room I was 19, and the months that passed were amazing. There was this one Saturday night, where we had a Young adult worship night. And we sang this song called "Let revival Come" and man oh man, that was the moment that I had begun to desire a revival! Not only in my life but in everyone's life around me!

Psalm 85:6-7 (NLT): says this

6 Won't you revive us again,
so your people can rejoice in you?
7 Show us your unfailing love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

Let's desire this psalm in our heart this morning, and prepare for God to move!

Let's Pray

Today we are going to be using the story of King Josiah, to see how a king stands in the gap to be used by God to bring revival to the people of Israel, in 2 Chronicles chapter 34- 35

We have a big section of scripture to go through this morning, so we will read certain sections and I will paraphrase others sections!

Let's read

2 Chronicles 34:1–2(NLT):

1 Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. 2 He did what was pleasing in the Lord's sight and followed the example of his ancestor David. He did not turn away from doing what was right.

- King Josiah becomes the next king of Judah as an 8 year old boy. His father had just been murdered, so the people made him king.
- Unlike his father Amons rain, King Josiah did what was pleasing in the sight of the Lord!
 - + The first this is said since the time King Hezekiah, Josiah's great grandfather was in power.
- At this time the Israelites had gone so far away from God, that the judgment of the Lord was inevitable. However we will see how Josiah responds in standing for God when he realizes how far he and his people had fallen from God.

Let's keep reading

2 Chronicles 34: 3

3 During the eighth year of his reign (Age 16 now), while he was still young, Josiah began to seek the God of his ancestor David. Then in the twelfth year (Age 20 now) he began to purify Judah and Jerusalem, destroying all the pagan shrines, the Asherah poles, and the carved idols and cast images.

- For the next 6 years King Josiah continued to seek after God.
- He continues to purify and purge all the pagan worship in the kingdom of God.
- From **2 Chronicles 34: 4-7** the Bible describes how King Josiah takes care of business
 - + He ordered the altars of Baal to be demolished and broken down
 - + He makes sure that Asherah poles, carved idols, and the cast images are smashed and scattered
 - + He even burns the bones of pagan priest on their own alters

- In doing all this while seeking God, he is used by God to purify Judah and the temple of the Lord. Because, Israel has always had the tendency to fall into pagan religion, rather than a real relationship with God.

What an awesome Zealous heart Joisah had For God as a young man. To lead his people back to God. To stand for God

Then in **2 Chronicles 34: 8-11**

- This Young King only being 26 years old gave the people of Jerusalem the opportunity to worship the one and true living God by
 - + Placing People in power, to ensure that the High priest Hilkiyah had what he needed to restore the temple of the Lord.
- King Josiah stands for God and is used by God to begin the restoration of the extraordinary temple that King Solomon had built. The temple of the Lord that the earlier Kings of Judah had allowed to fall into ruin.

In the coming verses from **2 Chronicles 34: 12-17**

As the temple is being faithfully restored, Hilkiyah the high priest finds the Book of the Law of Moses, gives it to Shaphan the secretary of king Josiah. And it's then brought before this young King Josiah to examine.

Let's pick up on the story in

2 Chronicles 34:18–21 (NLT):

18 Shaphan also told the king, "Hilkiyah the priest has given me a scroll." So Shaphan read it to the king.

19 When the king heard what was written in the Law, he tore his clothes in despair. 20 Then he gave these orders to Hilkiyah, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Acbor son of Micaiah, Shaphan the court secretary, and Asaiah the king's personal adviser: 21 "Go to the Temple and speak to the Lord for me and for all the remnant of Israel and Judah. Inquire about the words written in the scroll that has been found. For the Lord's great anger has been poured out on us because our ancestors have not obeyed the word of the Lord. We have not been doing everything this scroll says we must do."

- This is a monumental point in king Josiah's Reign,
- This response in repentance is a critical part of what brings revival to the Israelites.

And Repentance Is a critical Part of what brings revival in our life today

Repentance starts with a conviction of the sin in our life!

Real Repentance is when a person turns away from that sin
And turns to living God

On wednesday nights the youth ministry has been going through the book of Acts, and we just recently hit the topic of how Paul speaks on having a clear conscience.

- So we split into two big groups one girls and one boys, and spoke on what it meant to have a clear conscience.

And at the end of the night with the boys we prayed out, but we left a moment for anyone to say out loud "forgive me Lord" or "im sorry Lord"

And it was really awesome seeing each of the boys just one by one ask out loud for God to forgive them as they felt convinced for sins they had fallen into!

+ [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

But back to king Joisah

- He tore His clothes in despair, repenting to the God we serve here this morning.
- Recognizing that he and his people have been sinning against the Lord for generations.

He Humbled himself before God and repented on behalf of the people of Judah.

But let's pause here!!!!

What is our response

Just like King Josiah responded with deep repentance before God, we are called to do the same. When we realize we each personally have sinned against God.

CHURCH.....revival does not first take place in the White House, in our governor's office, nor in our children's school board system.

But it takes place here, with you and me, all of us.

- what are we allowing to keep us from being revived by God,
 - + Religion, that makes us act in a way that isn't even biblical?
 - + Pride, that doesn't allow us to even humble ourselves before our spouses? Yet alone God.
 - + Selfishness, that makes us only think of me, myself, and I?

Church I'm not talking down to you, I'm here in this with you,
Our world is broken, our country plunges further into sin.

As a nation we have

- Aborted: 63,459,781 babies
- Homosexuality and transgenderism is pushed further and further into our school system
- Every second over 3000 dollars is spent on pornography
 - + Pornography Makes over 14 Billion dollars per year
- Not to mention marijuana is legal now

Church I say this not to attack anyone in the room but to connect that the state of sin the kingdom of Judah is in, is similar to that of America.

But when we in this room myself included Repent of anything that hinders or breaks our relationship with Jesus. And desire a deep spiritual need for a relationship with Jesus...

Then we see revival!

Then We see restoration!

Then We see God move!

Guys we have Got to hear what Jesus says to the church of Ephesus in Revelation 2:4-5

In Revelation 2:4–5 (ESV): it says this

4 But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.

- This is written to the church of Ephesus, a good and functioning church. But a warning to every believer who has abandoned their first love. Which is having a genuine relationship with Jesus

Have we abandoned our first love!? And replaced it with distractions of this world?

Revival can take place at any time that the people of God return to that first love.

Continuing the story

In 2 Chronicles 34: 22-32

King Josiah receives a report from the Lord, that the Israelites will still face the disaster from the judgment of God, But the Lord says that King Josiah would not see that day because of his repentful and humbled heart before God.

Read with me, as Joisah continues to seek God in

2 Chronicles 34:33

(NLT): 33 So Josiah removed all detestable idols from the entire land of Israel and required everyone to worship the Lord their God. And throughout the rest of his lifetime, they did not turn away from the Lord, the God of their ancestors.

Look I don't Know How inevitable God's judgment is on our nation but i do know that during the reign of king Joisah, the Israelites lived focused on God and they saw a great revival

- It resulted from Josiah taking action in standing against sin by standing for God.
- We see King Josiah repent before God, and direct his people to worship the one and true Living God.

Which will result in one of the most amazing Passover Revivals!

- Passover is a picture of Jesus Christ being sacrificed for the sin of the World
- Jesus Christ was the Ultimate passover lamb that was slain for our Personal Sin

Let's read in

2 Chronicles Chapter 35:1

1 Then Josiah announced that the Passover of the Lord would be celebrated in Jerusalem, and so the Passover lamb was slaughtered on the fourteenth day of the first month.

- In King Josiah's repentance and cleansing of the temple of the Lord, he sets the foundation for the Israelites to celebrate Passover again.
- This was a great revival, where there were over 44,000 sheeps, goats, and cows sacrificed to God all in one day!
- Every animal sacrifice was an act of worship.
- And so there were over 44,000 acts of worship to God all in one day!

Let's keep reading on the account of this awesome Passover Revival!

2 Chronicles 35:16–19 (NLT): 16 The entire ceremony for the Lord's Passover was completed that day. All the burnt offerings were sacrificed on the altar of the Lord, as King Josiah had commanded. 17 All the Israelites present in Jerusalem celebrated Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread for seven days. 18 Never since the time of the prophet Samuel had there been such a Passover. None of the kings of Israel had ever kept a Passover as Josiah did, involving all the priests and Levites, all the people of Jerusalem, and people from all over Judah and Israel. 19 This Passover was celebrated in the eighteenth year of Josiah's reign.

- It had been some 400 years since the time of King Solomon!
- All the people were united in this incredible Revival
- 6 years ago these same people were worshiping Baal and all these other false gods, and all these wacky things.
- And now they were rejoicing in Revival in the one and true living God. The King of kings the lord of Lord.

What a revival!

I'll close with this, the same verses I started with

Psalm 85:6–7 (NLT): says this

6 Won't you revive us again,
so your people can rejoice in you?
7 Show us your unfailing love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

God is calling you into a personal repance,
God is calling you to Humble yourself before his Throne!



So that he can revive you or make you alive for the first time in your life!

Rejoice in Him, experience his unfailing love as you are saved by knowing the beautiful name of Jesus Personally!

Repent before God.....Stand for God.....see Revival Take place

