

## SERMON: UNITY THAT BIRTHS REVIVAL

9-25-22

### OPENER:

*2 Chronicles 7:14* is a great passage with a general principle to help us define revival.....

*2 Chronicles 7:14 (NLT)* Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land.

### WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS/ EARMARKS OF TRUE REVIVAL?

- 1) HUMBLENESS
- 2) REPENTANCE
- 3) PRAYER
- 4) AN EARNEST SEEKING OF GOD'S PRESENCE
- And....5) UNITY

IF YOU SEE THESE THINGS PRESENT THEN REVIVAL IS HAPPENING.

*Psalms 133:1-3 (NIV)* How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! <sup>2</sup> It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe. <sup>3</sup> It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

### (EXPLAIN SCRIPTURE)

#### ILLUSTRATION:

Have you ever gone on a road trip with your family? Road trips can be really, really good; or they can be really, really bad. Our family road trips. Jared overdoing.... Song "Gone too far" ....Hazel is the same way... once she is in the car and she has a captured audience....she never stops talking... never.

Now imagine instead of just your family if you packed in all your relatives and neighbors, too. Anyone want to sign up for that trip?

Well, that's similar to what was happening with the annual feasts in Jerusalem. The people would travel to Jerusalem for the feasts with their neighbors, family and relatives. And as they drew closer to Jerusalem more and more people would come together, people from different regions and different tribes, but all coming together for one common purpose – to worship the Lord at Jerusalem.

And this song of ascents was written for the people traveling to Jerusalem, as they ascended to the mountain of God, where the tabernacle was, where the ark of the covenant was and the presence of God dwelt. They would sing.....  
*"How good and how pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity. It is like the precious oil poured on Aaron's beard, down the collar of his robe. It is as if he dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion....."*

***“How good and pleasant”*** I love the way that unity is described here! If something is pleasant it is: enjoyable, satisfying, refreshing, peaceful, sweet

There are few things as precious in this world as believers living together in unity. One of the marks of a great church is sweet fellowship and unity.

**ANOINTING OIL .....** *“Unity is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron’s beard, down on the collar of his robe”.....*

Aaron was anointed as high priest. The high priest was set apart to enter into the holy of holies before the Lord. He would offer up sacrifices to the Lord for the people. He would worship the Lord with incense, sacrifices, and prayers for the people.

When he was anointed a flask was raised over his head and the anointing oil, which was a special blend of oil, and perfumes; used for ceremonial anointing, was poured out upon him.

**SO WE HAVE A PICTURE OF THE ANOINTING, THE PRESENCE OF GOD BEING POURED OUT.**

**DEW ....** *“Unity is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion.....”*

Mount Hermon is located in the northern part of Israel extending also along the border of Lebanon and Syria. It is the highest mountain in Israel with an altitude of over 9,000 feet above sea level. It is known for its cool nights and heavy dew. In the winter it is covered with snow, and the area surrounding Hermon stays lush and green all summer long.

Mount Zion is located in the southern part of Israel. It is a much smaller mountain with an altitude of only 2400 feet above sea level. Unlike Hermon there is very little dew, rain or any moisture at all in Jerusalem during the summer months.

And so we have two very different mountains here: Hermon to the north, and Zion to the south; Mount Hermon cool and refreshing, Mount Zion hot and dry. What an amazing thing it would be if the dew of Mount Hermon were to fall on Mount Zion.

**SO WE HAVE A PICTURE OF COOL, REFRESHING DEW FALLING IN A DRY, DESERT PLACE. THE COOL REFRESHING PRESENCE OF GOD FALLS WHEN HIS PEOPLE ARE UNITED.**

## **1. UNITY IS OUR PART - THE COMING OF THE SPIRIT IS GOD’S PART**

**THE COMING TOGETHER OF UNITY IS MAN’S PART.  
THE OIL, THE DEW, THE BLESSING IS GOD’S PART.**

**UNITY BRINGS THE ANOINTING.  
UNITY PRECEDES THE BLESSING OF GOD.**

**2. THE SPIRIT DOESN'T COME TO MAKE US UNITED - THE SPIRIT COMES BECAUSE WE ARE UNITED**

*Acts 2 :1-4 (NKJV) When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. <sup>4</sup> And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

**Accord defined (Greek): of one persuasion, of one passion, having the same desire, with the same mind, with one mind, with one purpose, with one impulse, one emotion, all together, unanimously, with unanimous consent.**

**(Explain Acts Chapter 2 setting)**

**They had traveled; some long distances, with children, they stopped their work, pressed pause on their agendas to obey the Lord, not knowing what exactly was going to happen they chose to obey. They were staying together, many people in an upper room. It was probably crowded, mats on the floor to sleep, no privacy. It was inconvenient, uncomfortable. How long did they have to wait? (Pentecost was a 3 day festival)**

**BUT THEY HAD COME TOGETHER TO WAIT FOR THE PROMISE UNTIL POWER FROM ON HIGH WAS SENT.**

**THEY WERE OF ONE MIND, ONE PURPOSE, ONE DESIRE, ONE PERSUASION, ONE PASSION AND ONE DESIRE.**

**UNITY IS NECESSARY FOR THE OUTPOURING OF GOD'S SPIRIT.**

**IF WE WANT A SPIRITUAL VISITATION FROM GOD WE MUST BE UNITED.**

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**It is like the 120 volts of power that is connected from the electric pole to your house. If that line is disconnected or it is broken you can turn on the light switch in your house and nothing will happen. You can turn on the oven to cook your pizza and nothing will happen. You can turn on the Nespresso machine and you won't get a hot latte. Because you have broken wiring. You have the power ready to leap in and do its work. But because you have broken wiring, you have no power.**

**IT IS THE SAME WITH UNITY.**

**IF OUR UNITY IS BROKEN - IT BREAKS THE FLOW OF THE POWER OF GOD TO US.**

**THE POWER IS READY, AVAILABLE, BUT WE RELEASE IT THROUGH UNITY.**

### **3. WHAT IS THE UNITY THAT BIRTHS REVIVAL?**

#### **UNITY THAT BIRTHS REVIVAL IS NOT....**

- 1. Just being in the same place together. (versions of Acts 2)**
- 2. It does not mean the oneness of apathy.**

**THERE IS NOTHING MORE UNITED THAN A CEMETERY.  
SOME CHURCHES ARE ONLY A GATHERING OF DEAD MEN.**

- 3. True spiritual unity is not just getting along.**

**UNITY FOR THE SAKE OF UNITY WITHOUT SEPARATING OURSELVES FROM  
FALSEHOOD IS NOT REVIVAL.**

- 4.. Unity is not just a special group united.  
*Joel 2: 28-29 (NLT) Then, after doing all those things,  
I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.  
Your old men will dream dreams,  
and your young men will see visions.  
<sup>29</sup> *In those days I will pour out my Spirit  
even on servants – men and women alike.****

**UNITY IS COLLECTIVE - NOT SEGREGATIVE.**

**REVIVAL WILL NOT BE BIRTHED BY JUST ONE GROUP - ONE GENERATION -  
ONE CHURCH - ONE GENDER - ONE DENOMINATION - OR ONE AFFILIATION.**

**REVIVAL WILL NOT FALL UNTIL WE SET ASIDE OUR PRIDE AND OUR PRIDE IN  
THOSE WHO ARE LIKE US.**

**UNTIL WE CAN UNITE TOGETHER WITH BROTHERS AND SISTERS THAT ARE  
DIFFERENT FROM OURSELVES - WE WON'T SEE REVIVAL.**

**UNTIL THE YOUNG AND THE OLD, THE RICH AND THE POOR COME TOGETHER,  
WE WON'T SEE REVIVAL.**

**UNTIL THOSE WHO HAVE LIVED IN THE HOUSE OF GOD FOR A  
LONG TIME WELCOME THOSE WHO HAVE JUST ENTERED IN WE WON'T SEE  
REVIVAL.**

**REVIVAL IS HEAVEN COMING DOWN AND THERE IS NO SEGREGATION IN  
HEAVEN.**

#### **WHAT IS UNITY THAT BIRTHS REVIVAL?**

- 1. There must be a oneness in a desire to glorify God alone.**

2. There must be a united passion for holiness before the Lord.  
We must be absorbed and focused on what the Lord desires of us.
3. There is a setting aside of personal agendas and selfishness by each of us.  
We come together to serve one another. We do ministry for the good of all.
4. There is an ongoing work to walk in love and forgiveness with each other.

*Philippians 2:1-11 Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? <sup>2</sup> Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose.*

*<sup>3</sup> Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.*

*<sup>5</sup> You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.*

*<sup>6</sup> Though he was God,  
he did not think of equality with God  
as something to cling to.*

*<sup>7</sup> Instead, he gave up his divine privileges;  
he took the humble position of a slave  
and was born as a human being.*

*When he appeared in human form,  
<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself in obedience to God  
and died a criminal's death on a cross.*

*<sup>9</sup> Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor  
and gave him the name above all other names,*

*<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*

*<sup>11</sup> and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.*

**UNITY IS A WORK. IT IS NOT A FEELING.  
UNITY IS A COMMAND OF THE LORD.  
IT IS A CHOICE YOU MAKE TO BE IN UNITY.  
IT IS OUR PART - AND GOD DOES HIS PART.**

**UNITY CAN BE A LABOR.  
IT TAKES EFFORT, SACRIFICE, HUMBLeness AND LOVE.**

**CLOSING:**

1. Are you disunited with anyone in this body?

2. Do you hold offense or resentment against another brother or sister?
3. Are you angry with someone else's actions in this community of believers?
4. Are you in disagreement with another brother or sister and it has caused a breaking of your fellowship?
5. How can you remedy your disunity?
6. Can you humble yourself and set aside your agenda and your anger for the sake of unity?
7. Can you ask for forgiveness for causing disunity?
8. Have your negative words and conversations caused questions to be cast on another brother or sister in this house?
9. Have you complained about the leaders or another brother or sister in this house?
10. What you describe our church as one mind and one heart?
11. Would you describe TLC according the the passage in Psalm: 133?