

# AUTHENTIC REVIVAL – PART 1

WHAT DOES REVIVAL AND SPIRITUAL AWAKENING  
LOOK LIKE?

RIVER OF LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH

MARCH 5, 2023

# What are the Marks of True Revival?

## ➤ First, let's define the terms

- **Revival** – means to bring back to life
  - Revival refers to the Church
  - It is when God awakens the Church (In OT – Israel) to His power and purpose
  - **2 Chronicles 7:14** “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. – NLT 2
- **Spiritual Awakening** – When the power of God is released through His people to call the larger society to repentance, salvation, restoration, and transformation
- Like we say in the ROL Vision Statement
  - **RECONCILING** people to God
  - **RESTORING** identity in Jesus Christ
  - **EQUIPPING** disciples to transform the family, the church, the marketplace, and the world

# Revival & Spiritual Awakening in the Old Testament

## ➤ Eight Major Revivals recorded in the Old Testament

1. Jacob's Household (Genesis 35:1-15)
2. King Asa (2 Chronicles 15:1-15)
3. Jehoshaphat (2 Kings 11; 12; 2 Chronicles 23, 24)
4. Hezekiah (2 Kings 18:4-7; 2 Chronicles 29:31)
5. Josiah (2 Kings 22,23; 2 Chronicles 34, 35)
6. Revival after the exile under Zerubbabel, Haggai, Zechariah (Ezra 5, 6)
7. Revival under Nehemiah & Ezra (Nehemiah 9:9, 12:44-47)
8. One with Jonah in Nineveh (Book of Jonah)

# What are the Marks of True Revival?

- Eight Marks of those Revivals in the Old Testament (Inspired by Dr. Wilbur Smith)
  1. They occurred in a day of deep moral darkness and national depression
  2. There was often one person or leader who was a catalyst
  3. Each rested on the Word of God or saw understanding of the Word of God restored
  4. Restored Worship to YHWH the true God (restored sacrifices to God)
  5. Involved the destruction of idols and removal of false gods
  6. True repentance – A turning away from sin
  7. Restoration of joy, gladness and security in God
  8. Each OT Revival was followed by economic abundance and flourishing

# Revival of King Josiah @ 620 BC

**2 Kings 23:1** Then the king summoned all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. **2** And the king went up to the Temple of the LORD with all the people of Judah and Jerusalem, along with the priests and the prophets—all the people from the least to the greatest. There the king read to them the entire Book of the Covenant that had been found in the LORD's Temple. **3** The king took his place of authority beside the pillar and renewed the covenant in the LORD's presence. He pledged to obey the LORD by keeping all his commands, laws, and decrees with all his heart and soul. In this way, he confirmed all the terms of the covenant that were written in the scroll, and all the people pledged themselves to the covenant.

**4** Then the king instructed Hilkiah the high priest and the priests of the second rank and the Temple gatekeepers to remove from the LORD's Temple all the articles that were used to worship Baal, Asherah, and all the powers of the heavens. The king had all these things burned outside Jerusalem on the terraces of the Kidron Valley, and he carried the ashes away to Bethel. – NLT 2

# Revival of King Josiah @ 620 BC

**5** He did away with the idolatrous priests, who had been appointed by the previous kings of Judah, for they had offered sacrifices at the pagan shrines throughout Judah and even in the vicinity of Jerusalem. They had also offered sacrifices to Baal, and to the sun, the moon, the constellations, and to all the powers of the heavens. **6** The king removed the Asherah pole from the LORD's Temple and took it outside Jerusalem to the Kidron Valley, where he burned it. Then he ground the ashes of the pole to dust and threw the dust over the graves of the people. **7** He also tore down the living quarters of the male and female shrine prostitutes that were inside the Temple of the LORD, where the women wove coverings for the Asherah pole. . .

**10** Then the king defiled the altar of Topheth in the valley of Ben-Hinnom, so no one could ever again use it to sacrifice a son or daughter in the fire as an offering to Molech. **11** He removed from the entrance of the LORD's Temple the horse statues that the former kings of Judah had dedicated to the sun. They were near the quarters of Nathan-melech the eunuch, an officer of the court. The king also burned the chariots dedicated to the sun. – NLT 2

# Revival of King Josiah @ 620 BC

**2 Kings 23:15** The king also tore down the altar at Bethel—the pagan shrine that Jeroboam son of Nebat had made when he caused Israel to sin. He burned down the shrine and ground it to dust, and he burned the Asherah pole. **16** Then Josiah turned around and noticed several tombs in the side of the hill. He ordered that the bones be brought out, and he burned them on the altar at Bethel to desecrate it. (This happened just as the LORD had promised through the man of God when Jeroboam stood beside the altar at the festival.)

Then Josiah turned and looked up at the tomb of the man of God who had predicted these things. **17** “What is that monument over there?” Josiah asked.

And the people of the town told him, “It is the tomb of the man of God who came from Judah and predicted the very things that you have just done to the altar at Bethel!”

**18** Josiah replied, “Leave it alone. Don’t disturb his bones.” So they did not burn his bones or those of the old prophet from Samaria. – NLT 2

# Revival of King Josiah @

**2 Kings 23:21** King Josiah then issued this order to all the people: “You must celebrate the Passover to the LORD your God, as required in this Book of the Covenant.” **22** There had not been a Passover celebration like that since the time when the judges ruled in Israel, nor throughout all the years of the kings of Israel and Judah. **23** But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah’s reign, this Passover was celebrated to the LORD in Jerusalem.

**24** Josiah also got rid of the mediums and psychics, the household gods, the idols, and every other kind of detestable practice, both in Jerusalem and throughout the land of Judah. He did this in obedience to the laws written in the scroll that Hilkiah the priest had found in the LORD’s Temple. **25** Never before had there been a king like Josiah, who turned to the LORD with all his heart and soul and strength, obeying all the laws of Moses. And there has never been a king like him since. – NLT 2



# New Testament Revivals

- Jerusalem
  - Holy Spirit Falls in Acts 2 & 4
- Samaria – Philip
  - Acts 8 - Signs and wonders
- Phillipi
  - Acts 16 - Paul & Silas Jaibreak leading to new house church
- Ephesus
  - Acts 19 - Deliverance, leading to repentance, destroying idols & breaking occult power
  - Awakening that spread to all seven churches in Revelation 1-3
- Since Bible times there have been moves of God in various places and at various times
- In the last 600 years, there has been a progressive series of revivals and awakening that have restored the Church

# Revival & Spiritual Awakening in the last 600 years

➤ Last 600 years a series of revivals, awakenings, and Restoration of the True Church

## 1. Protestant Reformation (1400-1750)

- 1380 John Wycliffe translates the Bible from Latin to Middle English and it is made available to the public in 1382
- 1369-1415 Jan Hus, Czech Priest inspired by Wycliffe speaks against corruption in Catholic Church, indulgences, salvation by faith and not works. He is martyred in 1415
- 1455- Johann Gutenberg prints the first Bible
- Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, Knox

## 2. The First Great Awakening

### Count Nicholas Zinzendorf (1700-1755) & The Moravians

- Society of the Grain of a Mustard Seed – A small prayer group at University of Paris
- He gave his ancestral estate lands to the Moravian Church – Herrnhut
- The 100 year 24/7 prayer meeting led to missions movement – Read ***Christianity Today*** Article
- Moravian Mission Movement
  - Impact on Wesleys in Georgia
  - Sold into slavery to reach slaves
- First Missionaries in Ohio
  - The Moravians saw a revival beginning in 1722 . . . They quickly assumed the role of evangelists, seeking first in Europe and then in the New World, to assist people, including American Indians, in attaining salvation. Chief among the missionaries to the American Indians were David Zeisberger and John Heckewelder, both of whom helped to found communities, such as Schoenbrunn and Gnadenhutten, in eastern Ohio during the 1770s. During the American Revolution, the Moravians faced pressure from both the British and the Americans because they tried to remain neutral. Moravian beliefs led them to practice pacifism.

## 2. The First Great Awakening

- The Wesley brothers, John & Charles encountered the Moravians on board ship bound for Savannah, GA and were powerfully impacted
  - Typical – fire begets fire
  - God creating divine appointments
- The Wesleys – A few high points
  - Holy Club at Oxford University – beginning of University Fellowship Ministries
  - At first worked within Anglican Communion
  - Later formed the Methodist Movement
  - Cottage Prayer Meetings - Re-imagining the Church in homes and busting the idea that you needed to meet on CHURCH CONSECRATED GROUND
  - Holiness – All of life holy not just the Church Building
  - Movement to care for orphans & the poor

## 2. The First Great Awakening

- Rev. George Whitfield a Methodist – Arrived in USA 1739
  - Started preaching at age 21
  - Out of a rough pagan background
  - God gave him a voice that could be heard y thousands
  - The mainline pastors and Bishops often opposed him because he stressed repentance and being born again
- Impact of first Great Awakening on the Forming of USA and God-given rights to man was very strong

### 3. Second Great Awakening

- After the revolution – America forgot the ways of God
  - Post-Revolution 1790's – Universities and Seminaries where the spiritual fire of First Awakening had gone out had become very antichristian
  - Doctrinal decay and abandoning the faith
    - People began to ask, “Did God really say?”
    - Read Page 103 of Revival
- Daniel Boone invites Barton Stone to Cane Ridge in 1801
  - Centered around Holy Communion & Experiencing God's Presence
  - Slave gallery was torn down – All nations together before God
  - Circuit Riders carried the anointing of God through the Mid-west
- Haystack Prayer Meeting at Williams College in 1806
  - *On a Saturday afternoon in August, 1806, five **Williams College** students, Congregationalists in background, gathered in a field to discuss the spiritual needs of those living in Asian countries. When a thunderstorm arose they took shelter in the lee of a haystack and continued to pray.*
  - *This gathering came to be called “The Haystack Prayer Meeting,” launching the modern mission movement.*

# Progressive Restoration of the Church – Each restoration builds upon the next

1. Early Reformation – The Bible is restored to the common people (Sola Scriptura)
2. Reformation – Salvation by grace through faith alone (Sola Gratia)
3. Count Zinzendorf/ 100 years prayer – Radical Prayer Movements leading to Transformation
4. First Great Awakening – Holiness, Fear of the Lord & Awesome Presence of God
5. Haystack Prayer – Birth of Modern Missions Movement/ Student Volunteer Missions Movement – Mobilized 30, 000 collegians The Gospel to all people in our generation
6. Pentecostal Awakening – Power of Holy Spirit Released in the Church/ Power to be witnesses, signs and wonders
7. Charismatic Movement – Restoration of Prophetic ministry to the Church
8. Jesus Movement – New Heart for Evangelism outside four walls of the Church
9. Apostolic Movement
10. Reformation of House Church Structures

- God has been restoring His Church for the final harvest in the last 600 years!
- What is our part to play?



**River of Life**

COMMUNITY CHURCH



# AUTHENTIC REVIVAL – PART 2

WHAT DOES REVIVAL AND SPIRITUAL AWAKENING  
LOOK LIKE?

RIVER OF LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH

APRIL 2, 2023

➤ There is a hunger for an authentic move of God in our land/ and worldwide!

➤ We need it!

- I want to see authentic revival!
- I also want to see a spiritual awakening that transforms our land!
- When it comes, how will we steward it?

➤ In our first installment we defined the terms

- Revival – means to bring back to life
  - Revival refers to the Church
  - Revival is often the spark that leads to a broader Spiritual Awakening
  - When God's people awaken – God is able to release in the larger culture His Power and purposes!
  - January 1 – Word from Janyse Heidy
  - ROL is indeed waking up!
- Spiritual Awakening – When the power of God is released through His people to call the larger society to repentance, salvation, restoration, and transformation

## ➤ Acts 2 – The “Last Days”

**1** On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. **2** Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. **3** Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. **4** And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

**5** At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. **6** When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.

**7** They were completely amazed. “How can this be?” they exclaimed. “These people are all from Galilee, **8** and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! **9** Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, **10** Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome **11** (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!” **12** They stood there amazed and perplexed. “What can this mean?” they asked each other. – NLT 2

## ➤ Acts 2 – The “Last Days”

**Acts 2:13** But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, “They’re just drunk, that’s all!”

**14** Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, “Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this.

**15** These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o’clock in the morning is much too early for that. **16** No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel:

**Acts 2:17** ‘In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams. **18** In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on my servants—men and women alike—and they will prophesy.

**19** And I will cause wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below—blood and fire and clouds of smoke. **20** The sun will become dark, and the moon will turn blood red before that great and glorious day of the LORD arrives.

**21** But everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.’ – NLT 2

- From this moment – The Holy Spirit was released to do His Work in and through the Church
- **ONE CHURCH** – Made of all nations, languages, etc./ The original template for revival <sup>4</sup>

# What are the Marks of True Revival?

- Eight Characteristics that marked those Revivals in the Old Testament - True in NT as well!
  1. They occurred in a TIME of deep moral darkness and national depression
  2. There was often one person or key leaders who were a catalyst
  3. Each saw understanding of the Word of God restored
  4. Restored Worship to YHWH the true God (restored sacrifices to God)
  5. Involved the destruction of idols and removal of false gods
  6. True repentance – A turning away from sin
  7. Restoration of joy, gladness and security in God
  8. Each OT Revival was followed by economic abundance and flourishing

# God's Restoration of the Church – Each Awakening builds upon the next

1. Early Reformation – (1350 – 1410) John Wycliffe, John Hus, T
  - The Bible is restored to the common people (Sola Scriptura)
  - Bibles printed in their own language
  - First time common people had the Word of God!
2. Reformation – Huldrych Zwingli, Martin Luther, John Calvin
  - Salvation by grace through faith alone (Sola Gratia)
  - Corrected the Catholic Church focus on works & selling indulgences
  - Reaction to corruption in the Catholic Church – Luther's 95 theses
3. Count Zinzendorf/ Radical Prayer Movements Early 1700's
  - "The Order of the Grain of Mustard Seed" while at school
  - Gave land and sanctuary to Moravian Refugees from what is now Czech Republic
  - Herrnhut was formed – the 100 years prayer meeting and missions movement
4. First Great Awakening – Jonathan Edwards, John & Charles Wesley
  - Holiness, Fear of the Lord & Awesome Presence of God

## 5. Second Great Awakening

### 5. Second Great Awakening 1800-1840 –

- After the revolution – America forgot the ways of God
- Post-Revolution 1790's – Universities and Seminaries where the spiritual fire of First Awakening had gone out had become very antichristian
- Doctrinal decay and abandoning the faith
  - People began to ask, “Did God really say?”
  - Christianity mocked on college campuses
  - A wave of doctrinal challenges to the truth
  - So much like the season we are in today
- Cane Ridge - Daniel Boone invites Barton Stone to Cane Ridge in 1801
  - Centered around Holy Communion & Experiencing God's Presence
  - Slave gallery was torn down – All nations together before God
  - Circuit Riders carried the anointing of God through the Mid-west & westward expansion
  - Francis Asbury, Jarena Lee, Black Harry Hosier

## 5. Second Great Awakening

- Haystack Prayer Meeting at Williams College in 1806
  - *On a Saturday afternoon in August, 1806, five **Williams College** students, Congregationalists in background, gathered in a field to discuss the spiritual needs of those living in Asian countries. When a thunderstorm arose they took shelter in the lee of a haystack and continued to pray.*
  - *This gathering came to be called “The Haystack Prayer Meeting,” launching the modern mission movement.*
- Student Volunteer Missions Movement followed years later – Mobilizes 30, 000 collegians
  - “The evangelization of the world in this generation.” That was the rallying cry of the collegiate men and women who were part of the greatest missions mobilization movement in world history. It is called the “Student Volunteer Movement” and 100 dedicated believers in July of 1886 in Northfield, Massachusetts provided the powerful impetus to launch over 20,000 long-term, cross-cultural missionaries from America into a myriad of unreached parts of our world over the next 40 years.
  - During this time one out of every 37 college students signed a declaration that they were willing and desirous to spend their lives taking the gospel to a foreign field. If that same ratio was applied to the American college students of today, we would have well over half a million signing up to be missionaries.



## ➤ 5. Second Great Awakening

### ➤ Charles Finney

- Finney's Conversion – Page 108-11 in Revival
  - Baptism of Love & Power
  - Manifestations of God's power in mass conviction & repentance
  - Mourners Bench & Camp Meetings
  - Restoration of the true Biblical Church

### ➤ Finney's Ohio Connection – He came to Oberlin College in 1835

- First as Campus Pastor at request of Harriet Beecher Stow & Lane Seminary Rebels - Left Lane Seminary in Cincinnati for Oberlin in 1835-1836 after they felt Lane would not take a stance for abolition of slavery. Most of seminary left
- **Finney** was appointed professor of theology at **Oberlin** College (1835), minister of the First Congregational Church at **Oberlin** (1837), and was named president of the college in 1852.
- Church active in public policy
- Evangelical Christians – Advocates to end slavery, take care of the poor, Protect women, children & oppressed workers
- Women included as activists and intercessors

## ➤ 5. Second Great Awakening

### ➤ Revival Of 1857 - ?

#### ➤ Jeremiah Lamphier – New York Business Men’s Prayer Mtg. began on September 23, 1857

- Many brought the fire of the 1857 Revival into the military camps during the Civil War
- Some historians say it continued right through the Civil War – 150,000 Confederate soldiers came to Christ
- Again – Revival came at one of the darkest hours in US history
- God used unlikely heroes
- It started with a small prayer meeting of six businessmen



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