

Sunday, January 22, 2023
PERSONAL REVIVAL
PART 2: THE PRESENCE OF HOPE

This morning, we will continue our study on personal revival. Last week, we spoke of what revival looks like and how it is released. Today, we jump forward into a necessary component of revival – hope.

I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you. /// Ephesians 1:18

Last week, we spoke about the necessity of “knowing in your knower”. Knowing the truth of God in your knower versus simply knowing facts in your head is a key to revival. The Bible tells us that we are called to hope.

elpís (from *elpō*, "to anticipate, welcome") – properly, expectation of what is sure (certain); *hope*.

This is different from worldly hope. Worldly hope desires something but may have no basis to believe what they hope for comes to pass. *Godly hope is an expectation of what is certain to happen because it is based in God's Word.* Godly hope is tied intricately to our relationship with God and our inheritance in Him which we will talk about next week.

To them (believers) God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. /// Colossians 1:27

Christ in you. Is Christ in you? Then, you have the confident assurance of glory. What glory do we have a confident assurance will occur?

1. The manifestation of God.
2. Worth

Isn't the manifestation of God a catalyst to revival? Doesn't a sense of worth bring peace? Aspect of personal revival is hope. Hope brings a manifestation of God and bestows a worth that doesn't change because it is not based in my "ups and downs" but in the intrinsic, inherent worth of the love of God. Hope destroys stress, doubt, pressure, and all other byproducts of belief in something other than God. Your calling is to hope. A unique aspect of personal revival is that it is not seasonal because it is based upon the life of God rather than circumstances.

You may remember in week 1 we read in Ephesians 1:18-21 that revival is a product of hope, our inheritance, and the resurrection power of Jesus? All these things are living realities – not just in the future but in today. Everyone say “living realities”. Revival doesn’t stop because these realities do not cease. They live now in the present kingdom and culminate in the reality of heaven. We never leave these realities – therefore we never need to have personal revival cease in our lives.

1 Peter 1:3-5 (NIV)

A living hope empowered by the resurrection of Jesus into an inheritance that cannot perish. Peter goes on to say that even the presence of trials enhances the revival experience. The hope we live in culminates in what is known in scripture as the Blessed Hope:

Titus 2:11-14 (NIV)

Hope is an element of revival. It opens the door to the flow of the Fruits of the Spirit. It opens the door to the movement of the Spirit. It opens the door to faith which is key to seeing the promises of God fulfilled. Hope is the log to revival’s fire.

But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. /// 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

Today’s Scriptures:

- Ephesians 1:18
- Colossians 1:27
- 1 Peter 1:3-5 (NIV)
- Titus 2:11-14 (NIV)
- 1 Corinthians 13:8-13