



“Revival & Spiritual Awakening”

2 Chronicles 7:14

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- 21 years ago...BSU students and staff praying for revival/spiritual awakening...Brian, Keith, Rusty, Angel, David, Frankie, Sam
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- ✓ USA Three Great Awakenings...1700's-1800's...renewed focus on evangelical Christianity
 - ✓ Perhaps last recorded international spiritual awakening → Welsh Revival...Wales, small country 3 million, borders England...1904-05
 - ✓ Why not more spiritual awakenings? God's blessings only....comfort...Candy Cotton
 - ✓ J. Edwin Orr, decades ago was a world-wide ambassador for revival and spiritual awakening said, “When true revival comes it is like judgement day.”
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General pattern happen during legitimate spiritual awakenings → see if they sound familiar...NT

1. **Conviction:** Holy Spirit convicts Christians of known and unknown sins.
 2. **Confession:** confess all known sin, receiving forgiveness through Jesus Christ
 3. **Repentance:** turn away and making lifestyle changes...stop sinning
 4. **Removal:** remove anything in our life that we are in doubt or feel unsure about...question mark behaviors
 5. **Obedience:** be ready to obey God and His Word instantly
 6. **Church Growth:** people start going to church more seriously
 7. **Witnessing:** publicly confess the Lord Jesus Christ
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→ Deliver this message from a **foundation of love, grace**...not rules just focus on external behavior...loving internal relationship

- **2 Chronicles chapters 6 & 7**...dedication of the Temple by King Solomon and all Israel
- **2 Chronicles 7: 1-5**, “When Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple.
²The priests **could not enter the temple** of the LORD because **the glory (presence) of the LORD** filled it. ³When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the LORD above the temple, **they knelt on the pavement** (small square blocks, hot) **with their faces to the ground**, and they worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying, “He is good; his love

endures forever.”⁴ Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the LORD.⁵ And King Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty-two thousand head of cattle and a hundred and twenty thousand sheep and goats. So the king and all the people dedicated the temple of God.”

2 Chronicles 7:11-13, ¹¹ When Solomon had finished the temple of the LORD and the royal palace, and had succeeded in carrying out all he had in mind to do in the temple of the LORD and in his own palace, ¹² the LORD appeared to him at night and said: “I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a temple for sacrifices. ¹³ **“When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain (no Spiritual movements), or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people,”**

→ God shut doors future of Israel and present day church Body of Christ...judgement, discipline, attention getters...many not even aware...comfortable

- **2 Chronicles 7:14,** “if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”
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1) **IF**...a choice is available

2) **MY PEOPLE WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME**

→ DISCIPLINE of believers

a) Church Leaders

b) Church

- ✓ Christian told me...context of going to bars and drinking, “don’t care if my witness isn’t all it should be...don’t care what people think if they see me drinking” → talk to your pastors?, “no, don’t need man tell me how to live”
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- 1 Corinthians 6: 19-20, “You are not your own; you were bought at a price.”
 - Hebrews 12:6, “the Lord disciplines those He loves” → tough love
 - 1 Corinthians 5:12, “what business is it of mine to **judge** those outside the church? Are you not to **judge** those inside?”
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- Same greek work found in Matthew 7:1-5, “Do not judge or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged”....many stop there

→ “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and **then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.**”

- ✓ Greek word “krino”...does not mean to condemn....not judge gavel down final decision guilty
 - ✓ means to divide, to separate, to decide, scrutinize...to examine closely
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- Confrontation...ignored principle...good and healthy
 - we not confront, we sin...James 4:17
 - Additional verses on confrontation: Matthew 18:15-17...Galatians 6:1
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3) WILL HUMBLE THEMSELVES

- Proverbs 8:13, “I hate pride and arrogance” → hate in Hebrew, an enemy of God
 - Self sufficiency...pride...arrogance → cover up insecurities and jealousy
 - My struggle as single man...see Christian men with wives, kids, get jealous
 - Control & Manipulation...ego...go beyond where God wants us in ministry
 - Question not struggle with pride....what FORM of pride...what LEVEL
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4) AND PRAY...set up prayer groups in homes, churches

5) AND SEEK MY FACE

- Love Jesus Christ above everyone and everything
- Luke 14:26, “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters, yes, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.”

- Make Jesus Christ Lord and God....full dedication
 - No more lukewarm Christian living...no question marks.
 - Life or death...willing martyrs...warriors/soldiers
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6) **AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS**

- ✓ TURN = Repent = soldier doing about face
 - ✓ WICKED = inferior quality...to spoil by breaking to pieces...to shatter → most valuable piece of glass art and smash on floor → **SIN**
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Beginning of New Testament...listen to initial messages from God's messengers:

- 1) John the Baptist 1st message, Matthew 3:2, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
 - 2) Jesus Christ 1st message began public ministry, Matthew 4:17, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
 - 3) Apostle Peter 1st message on Pentecost, Acts 2:38, "Repent..."
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- ✓ Acts 3:19, "**Repent**, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord"
 - Repent in Greek...to repent with regret accompanied by a true change of heart towards God.
 - ✓ Matthew 11:20, "Then Jesus began to denounce the cities in which most of his miracles had been performed, because they **did not repent**."
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- Kill wolf story...illustration of sin
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→ REPENT of all known sin

1) **Sins of commission**

- ✓ lust, pornography, gossip, emotional adultery

- ✓ Stop Question Marks – in America high percentage Christians bars and drink, not witness
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2) Sins of Omission

- ✓ Personal evangelism
 - ✓ Personal Discipleship
 - ✓ Personal Missions
 - ✓ Personal tithing to your church
 - ✓ Personal discovery and use of spiritual gifts
- **Recommit** every single area of your life to Jesus Christ...complete and total surrender to love and serve Jesus Christ as **YOUR** personal Savior, Lord and God.
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7) THEN...transition word

8) I WILL HEAR FROM HEAVEN, WILL FORGIVE THEIR SIN, AND WILL HEAL THEIR LAND

- ✓ History of revivals and spiritual awakenings had tremendous impacts on society in cities and nations
 - ✓ New joy and purpose in lives of Christians...churches grew, bars closed, mission movements, families restored, evangelism explodes...millions saved
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Revival & Spiritual Awakening only happen...**One way** → **THE CROSS**

- 1) **Matthew 26:67**, “then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped Him...”
- 2) **Matthew 27: 26**, “he had Jesus flogged”
- 3) **Matthew 27: 27-30**, “Then the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. ²⁸ They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹ and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. “Hail, king of the Jews!” they said. ³⁰ They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again.

- 4) **Matthew 27: 31a**, “After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him.”
 - 5) **Matthew 27: 31b**, “Then they led him away to crucify him.”
 - 6) **Matthew 28: 1-7**, “After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.² There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow.⁴ The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.⁵ The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.⁶ He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead...’”
 - 7) **Matthew 28: 16-20**, “Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”
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INVITATION

- 1) Salvation
- 2) Rededicate your life and ministry
- 3) Open Alter for prayer, confession