

In Search of Biblical Revival

The Need for Revival - Part 3

Sunday, January 30, 2011

Pastor Warner Smith

Message Truth:

The true reality of the spiritual condition of America remains hidden to most observers. Unfortunately, this includes pastors, church leaders, church members and individuals in our churches, also. We know that God's Spirit exists because He attended our spiritual births, we have felt His presence, and have known and continue to know His conviction. Each of us are like Isaac as he stood before the wells which his father Abraham had dug, knowing that beneath his feet there was water although he was unable to see it, hear it, smell it, touch it, or taste it. To quench our spiritual thirst we must follow Isaac's example and re-dig the wells of our ancestors. Before the digging can commence, however, we must first remove the dirt and garbage that our enemy has used to fill in and hide the water in these wells from us.

Message Text:

¹⁷ So Isaac moved away from there and encamped in the Valley of Gerar and settled there. ¹⁸ Isaac reopened the wells that had been dug in the time of his father Abraham, which the Philistines had stopped up after Abraham died, and he gave them the same names his father had given them. Genesis 26:17-18

Hindrances to Revival

● Spiritual Warfare

¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the **rulers**, against the **authorities**, against the **powers** of this dark world and against the **spiritual forces of evil** in the

heavenly realms.

Ephesians 6:12

● Unbelief

⁵⁷ And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household." ⁵⁸ And **he did not do many mighty works there, because of their unbelief.**

Matthew 13:57-58 (ESV)

Our unbelief limits what He chooses to do in our midst. We need revival!

● Doctrinal Impurity

We deny hell's existence

²⁸ "Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Matthew 10:28 (NASB)

We deny the exclusivity of Christ

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6

We deny the wrath of God

³⁶ Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him." John 3:36

● Dead Orthodoxy

We have grown content with the world and no longer hunger

and thirst for the things of God.

¹ Woe to you who are complacent (at ease) in Zion, . . .

⁶ You drink wine by the bowlful and use the finest lotions, but **you do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.** Amos 6:1a,6

- **Are we more interested in order than we are in NOT quenching or grieving His Spirit?**

In order to prevent dead orthodoxy, we must keep two great NT principles in balance.

⁴⁰ But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way. 1 Corinthians 14:40

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit; 1 Thessalonians 5:19 (NASB)

- **Do we fail to apply and obey the truth we know to our own individual practice of Christianity?**

⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. . .

⁷ always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth. 2 Timothy 3:5a,7

- **Do we have a true concern for the glory of God?**

¹² We pray this **so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you**, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thessalonians 1:12

¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, **so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.** ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. John 14:13–14

⁴¹ The apostles left the Sanhedrin, **rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.** Acts 5:41

- **Do we have a true concern for those that are outside?**

⁸ **This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit,** showing yourselves to be my disciples. John 15:8

¹² On hearing this, Jesus said, **"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.** ¹³ But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' **For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.**" Matthew 9:12–13

- **Spiritual I _____**
- **Faulty s_____ -examination**

³ "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. Matthew 7:3–5

- **We suffer from a failure to a____ truth to our own self!**

³ Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal;" Genesis 6:3a

- **The u_____ life is a great tool in Satan's hands.**

⁵ Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. Colossians 3:5 (NASB)

- **We can examine and never a_____**

Our self-examination must always end with thanksgiving and praise as we realize our sins are covered by His blood.