

PREPARATION FOR REVIVAL

Amos 3:3

Introduction: Usually friends are together because they agree and like to be with one another. When the Christian agrees with God there is a "oneness." The Christian agrees with God about His law, the penalties, atonement through Jesus, God is holy and all the bible has to say about God and His Son, Jesus. Thus Christians have power to walk with God. Adam had such a privilege but lost it.

- Great men of the Old Testament walked with God: Moses, Daniel, Ezekiel, David, Enoch, Elijah, etc. The Christian can have the same privilege as these great men.
- Unless the Church is walking with God, there will be no revival.
- The most important thing for a Church wanting revival is to walk with God.
- God will not walk with a Church unless it be in agreement with Him.
- If you want revival, then search your hearts and examine yourselves God's way.

I. DESIRE TO WALK WITH GOD

1. Some churches have what may be called "forced participation." Where there are "gimmicks", things promoted to generate interest in attending. This produces only empty meetings.
 - **Exodus 33:15.** Do not have "special prayer meetings" merely for the reason that it sounds "spiritual." Have them only because there is sincere desire and care.
 - Meetings without God are only boring services and bring weariness to those attending.
 - Meetings with out God always end in disappointment and there will be no conversions, no quickening, no anointed preaching.
 - **Psalms 127:1.** It is good to expend every effort but it will all end in failure unless God walks with the Church.
 - The world and Satan rejoice when revivals fail as well as disappointment among the church members. It was a meeting, not a genuine revival.
 - Sadly such meetings without God leave a church in worse condition than before and the church falls back into even more laziness for all activity is gone, all excitement gone and there has been no visible results from prayers, attendance, nobody was saved or lives rededicated.
 - Churches can have revival, they must have revival, God wants them to have revival... BUT, it must be God's way and only God's way. The church must walk with God.
2. Blessings always come when God is present.
 - When God is present: the Holy Spirit quickens - services are lively - doubts disappear - difficulties dissolve - enemies flee - power is there.
 - A church with God's presence in it is holy, happy, united, earnest and successful and good will be present.
 - Those outside the church will benefit as well. God's blessings always fall on many who are nearby such as families and other nearby churches.
 - If Christ were to come back would He be welcomed? Certainly not by the world, but what about you, this church? If there is love anywhere it should be in us and in our church.

II. IF GOD WALK WITH A CHURCH, IT MUST AGREE WITH HIM

1. The reason and end of our Christian existence is to live like Christ. There are many "professors" yet live like the world. They have no plans to serve God but have plans for life, for work, for things. They have forgotten who is owner of all and who things really belong to.
- Do we say as Paul, "*...for me to live is Christ...*" ?
2. What is God's attitude toward our winning souls? Jesus wept, are we in agreement with Him? Where are our tears? Does it matter? Are we indifferent? God will not walk with anyone who is not in agreement with Him.
3. What is God's way to revival? Preaching Jesus Christ! Not rituals, not rites, not famous speakers or singers. Sinners are converted by the Gospel, God's Word!
- Every member is to be a soul winner. Do you agree with that? Sadly not everyone is. Many are busy doing various things but seldom doing them at Church. None are kept home or miss work against their will, yet they are indifferent to God's causes and their need to be involved with Him in His work.
4. All glory must be given to God. Churches have often spoiled and ruined a revival by giving glory to the wrong person. It is not the preacher, nor singers, nor any special event or thing. All glory belongs to God. Nobody can save another. Nobody can forgive and restore another to God. Let's give only God all the glory and honor. Agreed?

III. LET US PUT AWAY ALL THINGS WHICH OFFEND GOD

1. In the Old Testament one reads where God required cleansing of His people before coming into His presence.
- Therefore let us remove pride, laziness, worldliness, covetousness, lust, anger and fall on our faces before God in repentance and seek forgiveness of all sins.
2. God will not walk with anyone who is full of sin and therefore unclean.

CONCLUSION:

1. Do you want to know God's presence?
2. Do you want to see God work?
3. Do you want a genuine God blessed revival?
4. Then everyone must walk with God. To walk with God one must agree with God on all things. Do you?
5. How badly do you want a genuine revival?