



AFM - Luton

2021 THE GREAT REVIVAL

Psalm 80:17-19



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THE GREAT REVIVAL: 2021

(Psalm 80:17-19 AMP)

“¹⁷ Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand, the son of man you have raised up for yourself. ¹⁸ Then we will not turn away from you; revive us, and we will call on your name. ¹⁹ Restore us, LORD God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.”

Definitions

REVIVAL: derived from Latin root words ‘re’ and ‘vivere’; together, interpreted as ‘to live again’, ‘to receive again a life which has almost expired’ or ‘to rekindle the flame which was nearly extinguished’.

- Revival can only be applied to a living soul, or to that which once lived.
- Revival is a blessing which can be enjoyed by those who have some degree of life.
- Although revival in its true essence belongs to God’s people, it always brings with it a blessing for those who have not given their lives to Christ.

By revival, we mean an across-the-board movement of the Holy Spirit as He touches hearts, changes minds, melts pride, and transforms sinners. In a revival, three things happen;

- The hearts of God’s people are broken in repentance and humility
- The Lord’s people come together in love and service.
- The Lord’s work of ministry, giving, witnessing and missions is propelled speedily.

A revival is a restoration to vigorous health. It relates to the living, not to the dead. Thus, spiritual revival is the **restoration of ailing Christians to vigorous spiritual health**. Revival is not just an emotional touch; it’s a complete take over!



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ATTRIBUTES

Day 1: 2 January 2021

HOLY SPIRIT

Definition: The third distinct office of God's triune nature, and His continued presence on this earth.

Scriptures: Titus 3:3-6; John 16:13; Romans 8:13; Ezekiel 37:14; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:1-41; Acts 4:31

The Holy Spirit illuminates the Word of God to His people and works to enable us to grasp and love the revelation that is there before us in the biblical text. In Christian theology, the study of the Holy Spirit is called pneumatology, derived from two Greek root words, *pneuma* meaning 'wind/spirit', and *logos* meaning 'word'. The Hebrew translation of *pneuma* is '*ruach*' which means the 'Spirit of God'. To speak of the Holy Spirit is to speak of God's active presence and power within day-to-day life on earth.

Revival can only be produced by the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, without Him, there is no revival. Through revival, the Holy Spirit awakens us to the truth of our identity in Christ. We are meant to dominate and be victorious in this world. We are supposed to be on fire for Jesus, destroying the work of the devil and winning souls. The Holy Spirit wants to bring a personal revival to all of us and empower us to live as carriers of His Spirit.

Prayer Points:

- Pray for a mighty move of the Holy Spirit in our time (John 14:13-14).
- Pray that our motives be pure as we ask God for renewal and refreshing. Our motivation should be for the increase of the kingdom of God and ultimately for God's glory (1 Corinthians 10:31).
- Let the flame of the Holy Spirit ablaze upon the alter of our hearts (Matthew 3:11)



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Day 2: 3 January 2021

REPENTANCE

Definition: A complete turnaround or change of direction in one's life from sin toward God, surrendering absolutely, unconditionally, and ultimately to God as Sovereign.

Scriptures: Isaiah 57:15; Psalm 51:10; 2 Chronicles 7:14; Acts 3:19-21; Hosea 5:15; Mark 1:15

There is a renewal and reformation that affects our intellect, our emotions, and every aspect of our lives. Without repentance, we remain locked into carnal ways of thinking and behaving. Renewing the mind is kick-started with repentance and it determines how much of heaven you experience in your life right now on earth! Just as Jesus said in John 3:3, that when our minds are renewed, we will see the Kingdom displayed and proven as He did in His earthly ministry.

Repentance always precedes revival; the bible says judgement begins at the house of God (1 Peter 4:17). We must judge ourselves and repent of anything displeasing before God. We should never be complacent about sin in our lives or about the work of God. Complacency, spiritual sloth, and laziness are a deadly poison that kills revival.

Prayer Points:

- Pray that God brings a deep conviction of sin, the fear of God and genuine repentance in us (2 Corinthians 7:10).
- Pray for penitent hearts (Psalm 51:10).



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Day 3: 4 January 2021

PRAYER

Definition: Communication with God in devotion, worship, praise and thanksgiving.

Scriptures: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; James 4:8; Jeremiah 33:3; Philippians 4:67; Mark 11:24; 1 John 5:14-15; Ephesians 6:18

The human spirit is at its highest point of activity when in prayer; this is because it is in direct communion with God. Prayer is a foundational element of a Christian lifestyle and consists of praise, thanksgiving, worship, adoration, entreaty, petition, supplication, and intercession.

Before we experience revival or a spiritual awakening, we must learn to pray persistently until victory comes. We must not only pray for our needs, but our hearts must burn with the desire to pray for others and minister to their needs. Prayer should dominate our lives. Remember how the Lord Jesus prayed during His earthly ministry, He did nothing without consulting His father, He did nothing on His own (John 5:19). Keep praying until something happens.

Prayer Points:

- Pray that our lives revolve around prayer (Colossians 4:2).
- Pray that the Holy Spirit directs our prayer life (Romans 8:26).

Day 4: 5 January 2021

THE WORD

Definition: The Good News of Jesus Christ embedded within Biblical scripture and manifested through one's revelation and awareness of God's Will.

Scriptures: Psalm 119:154; Matthew 4:4; John 7:38; Hebrews 1:3; Hebrews 4:12; Ezekiel 3:3; John 15:7; Proverbs 4:20-22; John 1:1-4

God's Word is the final authority, and it stands forever. It is the source of creative power and is a tried-and-true remedy for any difficulty. The word of God is of supreme importance to the spiritual wellbeing of every believer. We need to study, understand,



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and obey the word. It is alive and transforms lives daily; it is the food for the spirit and nourishes spiritual growth. As food and medicine is administered to the frail and ill, so must the Word be rightly divided to provide the essential benefit to those who need spiritual revival. The more Word one has in them, the more revelation they have regarding God's perfect will; this is because the Word is God and God is the Word!

True revival brings people back to the word of God. Revival means we seek conviction, transformation, and a deeper knowledge of God through His word. Take time to immerse in the great treasure that is God's word.

Prayer Points:

- Pray that the Lord may give us an appetite for the word (John 6:35).
- Pray that it may be our deep desire to know God's word and obey it (Psalm 119:11).

Day 5: 6 January 2021

HUNGER

Definition: A restlessness caused by lack of food, coupled with a desire to eat.

Scriptures: 1 Peter 2:2; Matthew 5:6; John 6:33-35; Psalm 42:1-2

It is easy to understand what spiritual hunger is when you consider what natural hunger is. Notice, there are two parts; the body sensing the deficit of food and then the body beginning to crave and desire food to alleviate the deficit.

Spiritual hunger operates in the same way. First, your spirit recognizes and senses a certain deficit in spiritual nutrition. Then your spirit desires and craves to feed on the food of the spirit (the Word). God has reserved the fullness of nutrition for those who are hungry and yearning in their spirit for more of Him.

We must have an appetite for the impossible; it is embedded within our spiritual DNA as Christians and is what keeps our spirits actively absorbing the Word. God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.

For revival to explode, we must be spiritually hungry for more of God. Spiritual hunger is a great motivator, it is key to an active prayer life. It brings revival and changes the spiritual climate for the church and community. Those hungry for God find Him and, with Him bring, spiritual transformation.



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Prayer Points:

- Pray that God bestows a spiritual hunger in us and draws us to fervent prayer (Luke 6:21).
- Pray that we cease to be satisfied with the status quo and witness the hand of God in all aspects of our lives (Philippians 2:13).

Day 6: 7 January 2021

COMMITMENT

Definition: Complete dedication and trust toward a cause.

Scriptures: Proverbs 16:3; Joshua 24:14; Romans 6:17; Titus 2:14; Psalm 61:8; Daniel 3:16-18

Commitment will cause you to stand alone on the premise of principles and values; connivance will have you go with the crowd and its desires. It is through commitment that one finds out what one really stands for.

When you decide to make a commitment to the Kingdom of God, it is highly likely to provoke a reaction; sometimes even amongst close peers and family, but that merely serves to test the authenticity and integrity of one's commitment.

Many Christians are crippled in their Christian lives because of half-hearted commitment and they do not experience the joy and peace intended for them. The problem is that their commitment has not been settled, they are not totally committed to God (Revelations 3:15).

To experience revival, we must be committed to what God has called us to do. We must be completely sold out to God, giving Him everything we are and everything we possess. Commitment means to love God with our whole being (Deuteronomy 6:5-7)

Prayer Points:

- Pray that God will raise men and women who will serve the church and community with their God given gifts (Matthew 9:37).
- Pray that God will raise young people who are committed to the work of God (2 Timothy 2:22).



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Day 7: 8 January 2021

PREACHING

Definition: An open and public proclamation of God's redemptive activity in and through Jesus Christ.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 1:18; 2 Timothy 4:2; Matthew 24:14; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 5:42

The primary message proclaimed with preaching is the glad tidings of salvation. Preaching is not the relaxed recital of morally neutral truths: it is God Himself breaking in and confronting man with a demand for decision. This sort of preaching is often met with opposition; as highlighted in 2 Corinthians 11:23-28, the apostle Paul lists his sufferings for the sake of the gospel.

Another feature of apostolic preaching was its transparency of message and motive. Powerful preaching is a hallmark of true revival; when we are revived, we are no longer afraid and will preach the word of God passionately and fearlessly!

Prayer Points:

- Pray that God uses us to challenge, convict, comfort, console and change people's lives (Colossians 3:23).
- Pray that God fills us with a passion to see people come to Christ as we preach the word (Romans 9:1-3).

Day 8: 9 January 2021

MIRACLES

Definition: An extraordinary event that is an exception to natural or scientific laws and is therefore attributed to a divine agency.

Scriptures: Matthew 19:26; Acts 19:11-12; Matthew 16:17-18; Ephesians 3:20

The working of miracles is directed to deepening man's understanding of God, and ultimately man's faith (Romans 10:17). It is God's way of speaking dramatically to those who have ears to hear and eyes to see! The miracle stories are intimately concerned with the faith of observers and participants of those miracles (Exodus 14:31).



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People have an inherent desire for the miraculous demonstration of God's power and glory because humanity was created in the image of a supernatural, miracle-working God. God Himself has provided an entrance into the supernatural through baptism in the Holy Spirit and by His Word.

Jesus is as much a miracle worker today as He ever was; He has not changed and works with us today as He worked with the early Church. Miracles take place during revival; they are also sign to unbelievers.

Prayer Points:

- We pray for the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in the working of miracles (Acts 2:43).
- Pray that we are used of God to undertake great exploits for the kingdom in the earth (John 14:12).

Day 9: 10 January 2021

HEALING

Definition: The process of making or becoming sound or healthy again.

Scriptures: Luke 6:19; Jeremiah 30:17; Matthew 9:35; Psalm 30:2; James 5:14-15

Divine healing is an accomplished fact, it is holistic and impacts on the emotional, physical, and spiritual aspects of our lives. The Lord Jesus made provision for it at calvary. Jesus took upon himself all sicknesses and diseases; yes, Jesus truly bore them. He was "stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted" with our diseases (Isaiah 53:4). Therefore, the enemy has no right to put on us what God Himself prohibited from our lives as Christians. As such, we must play our part to align our faith with this truth, and to boldly receive the healing He has already provided.

Healing is one of the attributes of a spiritual revival.

Prayer Points:

- Pray that the Lord brings emotional, Physical, and spiritual healing (Isaiah 53:4-5, Proverbs 4:20-22).
- Pray for one another for healing (James 5:16)



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Day 10: 11 January 2021

WORSHIP

Definition: One's intimate reverence & divine adoration, honour and thanksgiving of God.

Scriptures: Exodus 23:25; John 4:24; Jeremiah 29:12-13; Acts 2:46-47; Ephesians 5:18-19

The New Testament was written in Greek and the most common Greek word translated as worship is proskuneo meaning "to kiss the hand of a superior". Remember the woman who poured costly perfume on Jesus in Luke 7:36-50. True worship is intimate, therefore derives from a place of love and sacrifice.

Worship is what we were created for, it is not limited to singing, dancing, music and praying. Worship is a relationship and lifestyle between oneself and God.

True worship is transparent, without hiding anything; to worship in spirit and in truth means all is out laid plain. Thus, we worship God because of who He is to us as individuals. Revival will bring us to a place of worship.

Prayer Points:

- Pray that we worship God in Spirit and truth (Romans 12:1-2).
- Pray that we have the zeal for worship (Daniel 3:16-18).



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NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

Greetings and blessings on this New Year's Day!

A happy new year to you all joining us today. I am pleased to welcome you into the year 2021! May each of you experience the Lord in ways you have never experienced before in this new season. We are grateful to God for keeping us during the last 12 months; as we can all agree, it was not an easy journey. But the Lord has been faithful!

We are thankful to God that despite everything else, the Church continues to thrive. We appreciate our church board, our board of trustees (BOT), the entire leadership and the saints of God, for your incessant and tireless work, facilitating the smooth functioning of the church during the year 2020. May the Lord continually strengthen and uphold you in your continued servitude to him.

Difficulties

The year 2020 has been a very difficult season due to the COVID 19 pandemic, which has claimed so many lives of people worldwide. This pandemic has affected and destabilized people spiritually, physically, socially, psychologically, and emotionally and economically. Lockdown restrictions have affected our normal activities; more specifically, the church has not been able to meet physically as usual, resulting in our meetings happening online. In this way, the fellowship of the Church has been seriously and directly affected. However, we thank God the church is still standing!

During 2020, some of our members lost their loved ones in the UK and abroad, while other members were critically ill, recovered and some are still recovering. We thank God for His healing and watchful eye over our lives.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have not been able to meet physically but we have continued to meet online through the various platforms available. We had a regional and national conference which was successful amidst this challenging time.

Departments

All departments continued to have their scheduled meetings online using various platforms. We thank God that despite the lockdown, we still managed to fellowship. However, it is also evident that sometimes the attendance of virtual meetings can be inconsistent and discouraging to those leading the meetings. Despite the variations in the numbers of people attending meetings, we are pleased that the quality of worship was not affected; we continued to experience the presence of God in all our meetings. We pray that God enable us, to continue to devote ourselves to worship when we are called upon to do so.

Above all, we would like to thank God that in the midst of this pandemic, people have been spiritually uplifted and some of our members have acquired businesses and



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properties. Some members have been promoted at work; we thank God for all these positive developments.

Despite the inability to physically meet, we have witnessed that the love of God still prevails, and people have a genuine love for one another. We have proved to be a strong community of fellowship; we have been sharing with those who have been furloughed or those who have lost their employment. We thank you all for the love you demonstrated as you shared with those in need.

We thank God that the church has remained relevant and our faith has continued to be an anchor during this stormy season. We have continued to encourage each other and other members in our communities with the message of hope of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This year 2021, God has a lot in store for us; I will soon unveil the plan or trajectory we will be taking in 2021.

May God richly bless you!

Rev. Elia Mbizi
(Resident Pastor)