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PERSONAL SOUL REVIVAL – PERPETUAL REVIVAL

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True Revival Starts With Your Soul!

I'm talking about soul revival in this teaching... I believe in it... and know it is a complete essential for every believer's life. Believers should actually live in a perpetual state of revival all the time. (you heard that here first) The fact is that if we are seeking a revival, something has gone wrong either personally or corporately. The Bible declares that we can experience two different encounters with the Lord;

1.) Visitation

Lk. 19:44 ...because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.

2.) Habitation

Eph 2:22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

Lk. 17:21 Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

Everyone has been talking about the revival to come. I guess I personally have heard this predicted for over 20 years. We as Pentecostal – Charismatics, have been known to be wave riders. Whenever we hear of some new thing happening, whether real or not... we tend to run over to check it out... hoping to catch a new anointing that will revive our spiritual lives or hoping to catch this anointing and take it back to our church so that we can get a revival going. Jesus spoke directly and plainly to this, giving us the key to revival. That key is within our own self, where revival starts – “*within you.*”

Revival, here, “*within you*” being *set aflame* by the Love of the Lord which comes to us individually (as we set our affections upon Him), transpires to transform us as we together make up His body spreading that same spirit to others corporately.

Restored Fellowship With God

Gen. 3:8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day:

In the restoration of man coming back to Him, God desires to speak to us and impart His very heart daily.

Exod. 25:8 And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

Prophetically speaking, God's desires were to be as close as possible to His people.

1Corin. 6:19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

Through the new birth, now God's desires are fulfilled by indwelling us through the Holy Spirit.

The Image That The Lord Has Placed In Us

Gen. 1:26a-27 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

John. 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

As believers we are created in His image and likeness again through the new birth.

2 Corin. 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass (as in a mirror) the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Eph 4:23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind...

That image must come to be in the foremost of our thinking...staying in the front and center of our being... being built upon in our fellowship daily with the Lord.

From the start of our encounter with the living God in the new birth, we are given the image of who we are to be in Him. It is "In Him" that we live, move, and find our anointed fulfillment.

Acts 17:28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being

It is being "In Him" that we have the image of God restored to us... that unique picture of who we are, who we are to be and to become "In Him." All of us start with this image and are called to be continually gazing into the mirror and then going away from that mirror with that picture internally on the inside of us... doing it... which the Bible says we reap from doing His word... our DEEDS are blessed by God! However, some of us lose the original image or picture that the Lord placed on the inside of us. We are to renew that image... coming back to it... remembering our first encounters with the Lord and that intimacy that we experienced. We are to turn back to our "**First Love**."

Remember His First Love Toward You!

1John 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.

His Love Keeps and Sustains Us!

Rom. 2:4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Renew Yourself in His Embrace – Remember All His Unchanging Love for You!

1Jn. 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.

Jn. 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

1Jn. 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

*This love reveals who He is!

*This love changes and transforms us... because it is the revelation of who He really is!

*This love floods and overwhelms our heart... because we are in this world, in a desert and have not truly understood a love like this!

*This love surrounds and cares for us... it causes us to know that He loves us, is for us and is looking after our well being!

A Loving And Caring Good Shepherd

Rev. 2:4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

Matt. 24:12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

Jesus is to be our center focus of our love and worship.

How did we become so indifferent? How has our affection become eroded to be set upon another?

1Jn. 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

2Tim. 4:10 For Demas hath forsaken me (departure from the Lord), having loved this present world...

Religion and Love for This World

Matt. 4:9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

Leaving our first love... He didn't leave us...but He wants us to see *where we were* and *how far we are away from* that intimacy we had with Him at the first! What happened?... we now have had *that image replaced* of our love with Him *for something else*. We replaced it by religious substitution, so we may include the love for this world.

2Tim. 3:5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

Religion is *merely a form*... Religion in its *composition* or *construct* denies the very power of intimacy with the person of Jesus *through substitution*. The end of this verse *warns us* that relationships with the *Religious* cause our soul to be spiritually *desensitized, duped* and *dulled*, and that to embrace such a form *substitutes* true fellowship with Him.

Ps 57:7 My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.

Ps 108:1 O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory.

The heart that remains fixed is the true heart that focuses its love and worship upon Him. *Religion* causes this *fix* upon Him... the very connection... to be LOST!

We have believed a *lie* and accepted a *different image* of our walk with God than that which was given to us *at the start*. It's not Ok with Him... He is the intimate (and jealous) husband of His bride called the church.

It Is Jealous – His Love for Us That Is His Keeping Power On Our Behalf

2 Corin 11:2-3 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

This jealousy is divine... it is the keeping power of God at work... because the enemy is after our intimate fellowship, devotion of worship, and our time spent waiting upon and listening to the Lord.

James 4:5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?

The Lord's Spirit tends to stir us up when our relationship with the Lord is not what it is to be. The Holy Spirit is over our human spirit to cause us to align with and receive continual communion and intimacy with the Lord. One of the Names of God is Jehovah-Kanna (The Lord who is Jealous over you!)

Renewal in His Love - Revival of Our Soul

Rev. 2:5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

Rev. 2:5 ...You don't love me as at first! (lack of affection) How different now! Turn back to me again and be as you were and work as you did before... or else I will come and remove your candlestick from its place among the churches. (LB Paraphrased)

Many of us can remember our first encounter with the Lord, our response in receiving this (God kind of love - agape – unmerited) love. We fell in love with Jesus and spent time with Him as priority... this is what is called "**Thy First Love**" Rev.2:4.

Drawing Near To The Lord

Ps 24:3,4 Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

Jn. 3:20,21 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Ps 73:28 But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD...

Heb 10:22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

1Corin 11:28 But let a man examine himself... (The work of the Holy Spirit in the person's conscience)

Rom. 2:15 Which shew the work of the law (work of God) written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

Ps 38:9 Lord, all my desire is before thee; and my groaning is not hid from thee.

As we draw close to the Lord He draws close to us. His reward is with Him. Faith in our heart causes us to desire this closeness with our master. It is only a true heart that draws closer to Him, that opens up to the Lord intimately.

Think About These And Be Renewed In Your First Love Again...

Ps 42:1 As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.

Matt. 5:6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Eph 5:18 ...be filled with the Spirit

Ps 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God

Ps 62:1 Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation.

Ps. 4:4 Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah.

Ps 63:6 When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches.

Ps 119:32 I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart.

John 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

Ps. 131:1-3 LORD, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty: neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me. Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of his mother: my soul is even as a weaned child. Let Israel hope in the LORD from henceforth and for ever.

Isaiah 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Zec 2:13 Be silent, O all flesh, before the LORD: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.

Ps 91:14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

End

Discussion Prayer & Time

Living Waters Ministries 2008 - Minister R. Thomas Lambur