

Revival In Tears

1. Paradox of Revival

Learning to Lament and Repent – Lessons from Jeremiah

Jeremiah 20:10-14 (NIV84) I hear many whispering, "Terror on every side! Report him! Let's report him!" All my friends are waiting for me to slip, saying, "Perhaps he will be deceived; then we will prevail over him and take our revenge on him." ¹¹But the Lord is with me like a mighty warrior; so my persecutors will stumble and not prevail. They will fail and be thoroughly disgraced; their dishonor will never be forgotten. ¹²O Lord Almighty, you who examine the righteous and probe the heart and mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. ¹³Sing to the Lord! Give praise to the Lord! He rescues the life of the needy from the hands of the wicked. ¹⁴Cursed be the day I was born! May the day my mother bore me not be blessed!

Lamentations 3:19-26 (NIV84) I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. ²⁰I will remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. ²¹Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: ²²Because of the Lord 's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. ²³They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him." ²⁵The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; ²⁶it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Lamentations 2:19 (NIV84) Arise, cry out in the night, as the watches of the night begin; pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord. Lift up your hands to him for the lives of your children, who faint from hunger at the head of every street.

Joel 2:17 (NIV84) Let the priests, who minister before the Lord, weep between the temple porch and the altar. Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord. Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?' "

Lamentations 2:14 (NIV84) The visions of your prophets were false and worthless; they did not expose your sin to ward off your captivity. The oracles they gave you were false and misleading.

- ✓ **Lament** will most often lead us to **repent**.
- ✓ We are not "hardwired" to repent. (Adam, Cain)
- ✓ Lifestyle repentance comes as a result of revelation of WHO God is and WHO we AREN'T.

1 Timothy 1:15-16 (NIV84) Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life.

2. Person of Revival

Jeremiah 2:13 (NIV84) “My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

✓ At its essence, revival is a redefining and rediscovery of God Himself.

Psalms 16:11 (NIV84) You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

“To please God... to be a real ingredient in the divine happiness ... to be loved by God, not merely pitied, but delighted in as an artist delights in his work or a father in a son — it seems impossible, a weight or burden of glory which our thoughts can hardly sustain. But so it is.” C.S. Lewis

“God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.” John Piper

3. Promises of Revival

Psalms 126:1-6 (NIV84) When the Lord brought back the captives to Zion, we were like men who dreamed.

²Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.” ³The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. ⁴Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like streams in the Negev. ⁵Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. ⁶He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him.

4. Cost of Revival

Hebrews 5:7 (NIV84) During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

Revelation 21:4 (NIV84) He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

✓ Tears condition the soil for the rains of revival.

✓ Supernatural, unusual reaping lies ahead...from “seeds to sheaves”.

Joel 2:24-25 (NIV84) The threshing floors will be filled with grain; the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.

²⁵“I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten...

Psalms 30:5 (NIV84) For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.