

PREPARING FOR REVIVAL

1. The Example of King Hezekiah

(Members Notes)



Introduction

Revival! Many Christians are praying for revival, waiting for revival and talking about revival. Does it just happen, or do we have to prepare for it? We need to prepare if we truly want to see revival. We are going to look at several times in Israel's history when they experienced revival and see what we can learn from these stories, and how this applies to our lives.

Scripture Reading: 2 Chronicles 29:1-36

- ❖ What were the first things King Hezekiah did that prepared the way for revival in the nation?
2 Chronicles 29:3, 4-5
- ❖ How was the temple purified according to v15-17?
- ❖ In the New Testament we read that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit. What can we learn from King Hezekiah's example if we want to prepare ourselves for revival? What do we need to do?
- ❖ What had the people in King Hezekiah's time failed to do that caused judgement to come on the nation?
2 Chronicles 29:6-11. List the four things mentioned in verse 7.
- ❖ What significance does each one of these have in our lives? Discuss.

The first thing King Hezekiah did when he dedicated the temple to the Lord was offer sin offerings. We no longer need to do this as Jesus has offered himself as a sin offering on our behalf. However the King and the people then brought other sacrifices to the Lord.

- ❖ What were these sacrifices? 2 Chronicles 29:27, 31, 35
- ❖ We no longer need to bring animal sacrifices to the Lord, but what are we to bring instead?
Romans 12:1-2. What does this mean to you? Share.
- ❖ Not only did the people in Hezekiah's time offer sacrifices, they also worshipped by singing praise to the Lord. 2 Chronicles 29:27-30. How does praise and worship help us prepare for revival? Look at the following scriptures: Psalm 100:4-5, Psalm 22:3, James 4:8.

Conclusion

On that day, in the time of Hezekiah, worship at the temple was re-established. The Scriptures tell us that the King and all his people were filled with joy.

There are some important truths we can learn from this story that teach us how to prepare ourselves for revival. Just as King Hezekiah ordered that everything unclean should be removed from the temple, so we too as temples of the Holy Spirit are to remove anything unclean from our lives. How sad to read that the doors to the Holy Place had been closed, the lamps put out and they no longer burned incense or offered sacrifices. This speaks to us about spending time in the presence of the Lord. Are we being filled with the Holy Spirit each day? Are we spending time with the Lord or have we closed the door and no longer burn incense, which speaks of prayer? Let's set things right in our temple!

God longs to draw near to us, and he will, when we draw near to him. That is his promise!