True Revival

We are just going to look at one verse which will provoke three prayers and give us seven evidences of true, biblical, and historical revival.

Habakkuk 3:2 (NASB) – "Lord, I have heard the report about You *and* I fear. O Lord, revive_Your work in the midst of the years, In the midst of the years make it known; In wrath remember mercy."

Revival is an extraordinary work of God that produces extraordinary results.

"Revival is a sovereign work of God to awaken his people with fresh intensity to the truth and the glory of God. He awakens us to the ugliness of sin, the horror of hell, the preciousness of Christ's atoning work. He awakens us to the wonder of salvation by grace through faith, the urgency of holiness and witness, and the sweetness of worship with God's people."

John Piper, "What is Revival and Where to Find It"

Three prayers that we can pray for revival:

1) Awaken me to the REVIVAL HISTORY before me.

"Lord, I have heard of your fame... I stand in awe of your deeds, Lord." (Vs. 2a - NIV)

"God, I've heard what our ancestors say about you, and I'm stopped in my tracks, down on my knees." (Vs. 2a - MSG)

2) Awaken me to the SPIRITUAL EMERGENCY around me.

Jesus said, "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (Luke 18:19)

Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free." (Luke 4:18 NIV)

3) Awaken me to the ENDURING MERCY in front of me.

"God, I've heard what our ancestors say about you, and I'm stopped in my tracks, down on my knees. Do among us what you did among them. Work among us as you worked among them. "As you bring **judgment**, as surely you must, remember **mercy**." (**Habakkuk 3:2 in The Message**)

Seven evidences of true biblical and historical revival.

- 1. When revival comes God's word will be exalted and authoritative over man's experience and opinions.
- 2. There will be intense conviction of sin leading to repentance.
- 3. Humility and brokenness will be evident.
- 4. There will be deliberate acts of reconciliation and restitution
- 5. There will be a growing interest and intensity in prayer.
- 6. Joy will be pure and overflowing.
- 7. Evangelism and missions will flourish.