

MAY WE PLEASE HAVE A
Revival



*Reading: **Jonah 3: 1 - 10***

Introduction

- Interesting to note the number of hymns whose theme is revival.
- **'Revive Thy Work O Lord,'** by Albert Midlane.
- **'Floods Of Revival,'** by E.C. Boulton.
- **'Search Me O God,'** by Edwin Orr.
- Revival is something that God sovereignly does.
- When the Kingdom comes amongst us and manifests itself.
- When a people are saturated with God.
- Lukewarmness and apathy are replaced by zeal and zest.
- It is the spring that rescues the church from the grasp of winter.
- A tsunami of God's love is manifest and a passion for souls is exhibited.

1 Cities And Nations Need Revival

- [Isaiah 1] Notice how God likens the city of Jerusalem and nation of Judah to a body that is sick. [vs 2,4,5,6,7].
- Isaiah's vision of Judea (750BC) is his vision of our island nation in 2024.
- A nation, morally and spiritually on a life support machine.
- Abortion, domestic violence, sexual assaults, adultery, divorce, increase in STD's, knife crime, atheism, sexualism of our children by the state.

- The land is sick, the government is sick and even the church is sick.
- Only God can heal it. [2 Chronicles 7:14].

2 Ninevah was the capital of the Assyrian empire

- The Assyrians were heathen, pagan, wicked and viewed with suspicion by Israel.
- Jonah is instructed to go and preach to them but initially refuses.
- Eventually he does go and to his annoyance they repent and God spared them instead of judging them.
- Over 120,000 trusted in Yahweh/Jehovah.

3 Hallmarks Of Genuine/Authentic Revivals

NB. God uses the preaching of His Word. [2 Timothy 4:1]. God has put His power in His Word.

- **Example:** Jonathan Edwards in the '*Great Awakening*' in New England in 1741.

Example: Duncan Campbell in the Hebrides in the 1950's.

Example: W.P. Nicholson (Belfast) in the 1920's.

NB. There will always be conviction of sin and sorrow over it and repentance. A putting right what was previously wrong.

- Example: Welsh Revival in 1904. The pit ponies couldn't understand the redeemed talk of the converted miners. [Psalm 40:2/3], [James 3:11].
- Example: In 1920's Belfast, the converted shipyard workers return tones of stolen goods to the shipyard. Changed lives!

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