

REVIVAL

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Teaching Title: Shift

- I. A Cry for a Suddenly
 - a. The hour we live in demands that we are ready for a dramatic shift, a suddenly, for God to break in.
 - i. “And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.” (Acts 2:2, ESV)
 - ii. The suddenly happened because 120 people were desperate.
 1. A private prayer meeting resulted in a global movement!
 2. We aren’t waiting for God, he’s waiting for us!
 3. There is new wine ready to be poured out if we are serious.
 - iii. In that Upper Room, the wind was real. The fire was real. It’s not a fairy tale!
 - iv. We must see a supernatural invasion that stuns every one of us.
 - v. We must shift from predictable, natural Christianity into a hyper-spiritual, earth shaking, fire breathing daily encounter with the Holy Spirit.
- II. God of Thunder and Lightning
 - a. A church without the power of the Holy Spirit raging through it is at risk of having Ichabod posted above the door.
 - i. Ichabod = The glory has departed
 - b. We must cry for the shock and awe of the glory of God!
 - i. Sunday-go-to-meeting church won’t work.
 - c. “On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled. Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the LORD had descended on it in fire. The smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly. And as the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder.” (Exodus 19:16–19, ESV)
 - i. There are over 19,000 cities in the nation and not one of them is experiencing the biblical normalcy of revival.
 - ii. Where can we go and experience the thunder and lightning and trumpet blasts of God?
 - iii. It should be Nixa! It should be here! It should be now!
 - iv. The trumpet sound grew louder and louder and God answered him in thunder!
 - d. We must understand, mere “salvation” is not the goal.
 - i. We were called as supernaturally-infused warriors of the most high God.
 - ii. Signs, wonders, miracles, thunder and lightning and the piercing voice of God must become normal in the church again!
 - iii. Do we even understand the dramatic impact of salvation?
 1. When Jesus died there was an earthquake, a torn veil, opened graves and a supernatural invasion into the earth.

2. The harvest will come when they see the shaking hit those who confess to being saved! They are waiting for the open graves and earthquakes in the church!
3. “And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”” (Matthew 27:51–54, ESV)
4. The evidence of the power of God is not found in our logic or intellect. It’s in demonstrations of power.
5. “...and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.” (1 Corinthians 2:4–5, ESV)

III. Encounter

- a. Natural, human, logical insight will never result in revival or a massive harvest. Encounter is mandatory!
 - i. Those who are driven by hate today, murderous, aborting children, trafficking children, seduced by wickedness WILL NOT be convinced by human reasoning.
 - ii. If we want to see world-changers like Paul arise, they need to be convinced that God is all powerful.
- b. “But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”” (Acts 9:1–6, ESV)
 - i. In a moment Paul shifted from terrorist to apostle.
 - ii. Muslims are coming to Jesus because of supernatural dreams.
 - iii. I’ve experienced dramatic, other-worldly manifestations of Jesus that cannot be denied.
 - iv. It’s not plausible words of wisdom that has shaken and shifted my life, it was the demonstration of the Spirit and of the power of God!
- c. There are witches, warlocks, demoniacs and others who are waiting for the power of God to rage through us!
 - i. “And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he

broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones.” (Mark 5:2–5, ESV)

1. Can you imagine attempting to reason with this man? That wouldn’t have worked.
2. You can’t counsel demons out of people.
- ii. “The herdsmen fled and told it in the city and in the country. And people came to see what it was that had happened. And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. And those who had seen it described to them what had happened to the demon-possessed man and to the pigs. And they began to beg Jesus to depart from their region.” (Mark 5:14–17, ESV)
 1. If you want revival, you better be ready for the resistance.
 2. When supernatural power manifests, it will enrage the region.
 3. As there was in Acts 2, people will both marvel and mock.
- iii. “And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.” (Mark 5:20, ESV)
 1. He shifted from demoniac to evangelist in a moment.

IV. Prophecy

- a. These end times demand an exceedingly great army to arise, people baptized in supernatural power of almighty God!
 - i. “The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”” (Ezekiel 37:1–6, ESV)
 1. When we live in the Spirit we will hear God’s voice.
 2. When we hear God’s voice we can’t help but prophesy!
 - ii. “So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.” (Ezekiel 37:7–10, ESV)
 1. This where we are right now.

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2. We need an army to arise!
3. Prophets must come out of the caves!
4. Sleepers must awaken!
5. The breath of God must be prophesied into this region!
6. "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19, ESV)
 - a. Do you not perceive it?!
 - b. The shift will be disruptive, supernatural, public and shocking!
7. No more sitting on the sidelines!
8. No more low self-esteem!
9. No more delay!
10. No more doubt!
11. No more humanistic religion!
12. It's time for fire!

V. Revival History

a. What will it take?

i. Welsh Revival (1904-1905)

1. No preaching schedules
2. No altar calls
3. No choirs/worship
4. People prayed, repented and sang spontaneously
5. Services lasted 6-10 hours
6. 100,000 conversions
7. Entire towns transformed
8. Taverns shut down

ii. Azusa (1906-1909)

1. Speaking in tongues normalized
2. Emotional
3. Fanatical
4. Pentecostal
5. Millions impacted worldwide

iii. First Great Awakening (1730s-1740s)

1. Jonathan Edwards and George Whitfield
2. Shift from intellectual to experiential Christianity
3. People wept, cried out, trembled
4. Physical manifestations
5. Public repentance normalized
6. America spiritually reshaped

iv. Cane Ridge Revival (1801)

1. Shift from polite religion to raw, supernatural conviction
2. 20,000 people gathered
3. People fell, shook, cried out, repented publicly
4. Continuous worship for days
5. Troubled the religious elites

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6. Evangelism exploded across America
 7. “When the fire fell, dignity was the first casualty.”
 - v. Hebrides Revival (1949-1952)
 1. Prayer replaced programming
 2. Entire towns fell under the fear of God
 3. Leaders lost control of meeting flow
 4. Islands transformed
 5. Crime virtually eliminated
 6. Deep holiness culture formed
 - vi. The Jesus Movement (Late 1960s-1970s)
 1. Hippies saved en masse
 2. Radical conversions overnight
 3. Calvary Chapel and the Vineyard movement spread
 - vii. The Toronto Blessing (1994-1996)
 1. Shift from doctrine-dominated meetings to prolonged encounters
 2. Laughter, weeping, trembling
 3. Long altar times
 4. Deep intimacy with God
 5. Leaders deeply undone
 6. Global renewal movement
 7. Emphasis on presence-driven ministry
 - viii. Brownsville Revival (1995-2000)
 1. Calls to holiness
 2. Services lasted hours
 3. Millions impacted
 4. Global prayer movement ignited
- VI. Repentance
- a. God is shifting the church from gatherings to government, from platforms to prayer and from crowds to a consecrated, supernatural remnant.
 - i. God will respond to those who cry out day and night.
 - ii. Is this you?
 - b. Why isn't the supernatural fire of God manifesting in the majority of churches in America?
 - i. “And he did not do many mighty works there, because of their unbelief.” (Matthew 13:58, ESV)
 - c. We must be flexible.
 - i. Old wineskins are not flexible. They can't contain the new wine.
 - ii. “And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.” (Luke 5:37–38, ESV)
 - iii. We must repent for refusing to flex, to shift, to make room for the new wine of the Holy Spirit.
 - d. There are countless warnings in Scripture about this.
 - i. Five foolish virgins didn't have oil in their lamps.

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- ii. God warned that the Kingdom of God would be taken away from those who don't bear fruit.
- iii. In Revelation there is a warning to wake up before you die!
- iv. "“You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you.” (Acts 7:51, ESV)
- e. You may not be in sin, but you are at a time of shift, of transition.
 - i. Your danger isn't rebellion, but rather a refusal to move.
 - ii. Are you guarding yesterday's wine?
 - iii. Are you rejecting the fire?