University Heights Church of Christ 445 Columbia Ave., Lexington, KY 40508 (859) 255-6257 www.uheightschurch.com

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday

Bible Study: 9:45 AM Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:30 PM (This is immediately followed by a short worship period)

First Friday of Each Month

Singing: 7:30 PM

LEADERSHIP

Elders

David Collins John Thompson Troy Antle

Evangelist Adam Litmer

Deacons

Richard Brundige Matt Thompson Adam Litmer Bill Morelan Jim Parsons Pat Seabolt Adam Daniels Jamie Powell

Adam's Office Hours
Tuesday-Friday (8:30-4:00)

From The Mouth Of Jesus

The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

-Luke 9:22

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

John Thompson, Jared Potter and the Ray family, Declan Weatherholt, David Seabolt, Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Louis Harrod, Paul Atkisson, Greg and Vicky Litmer, Sheila Lawson, Keia Burton, Robert Brundige, Susie Burton, Valerie and Barry Boyd, Janett's mother and stepfather, Sandy Driver, Erlene Young, Larry Sells, Evelyn Damron, Jennifer Dunbar, Jean Gartland, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul Lyda, Pete Soro, The Smith family, our brethren in southern Philippines, our brethren in Zimbabwe

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A Continual Revival

John Thompson

Years ago, it was not at all uncommon for local and even national religious organizations to hold gospel meetings in tents. Such tent meetings or revivals were not only religious events, but huge social events as well. No doubt, we associate such revivals with efforts by various denominations to spread their false doctrines. Consequently, were there to be a tent revival held in our local area we would probably not attend. While we might quickly dismiss any true spiritual value of attending such an event, we ought to not be so quick to dismiss the concept of revival.

The word revival essentially means to bring back to life or consciousness, to resuscitate, and it has an extremely wide application. For example, it can be used in the sense of imparting new health, vigor, or spirit to something or someone. Something can be revived in the sense that it is restored to use or activity. Things that have gone out of vogue can be revived, that is, having their validity or effectiveness restored. Revival can even be applied to activities of the mind such as renewal in the mind or recalling things in the mind.

We need to understand that the concept of revival is an entirely biblical one. Consider three of the churches in Revelation, chapters two and three. The church at Ephesus was told, "But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first." The church at Sardis was told, "You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent." Finally, the church at Laodicea, had these words delivered to it: "I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot....For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see." Whatever problems these churches had, God's message to them was the same. If you continue as you are, without revival, without returning to spiritual consciousness, without gaining new health and vigor, without being restored to useful service and activity in the Lord's kingdom, then you are spiritually doomed.

King David well knew that spiritual revival was intimately connected to and dependent upon God Almighty. He wrote in Psalm 69:30-33, "I will praise the name of God with a song; I will

magnify him with thanksgiving. This will please the LORD more than an ox or a bull with horns and hoofs. When the humble see it they will be glad; you who seek God, let your hearts revive. For the Lord hears the needs and does not despise his own people who are prisoners."

Psalm 85 is about revival that leads to salvation. It shows that God's people are revived through faithfulness to Him and that revival leads to rejoicing. Look at verse 6. "Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?" Verses 10-13 are particularly meaningful in connecting revival and God's mercy. "Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other. Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky. Yes, the Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way."

Every day, the Christian has need of revival. The Lord's church needs revival on a continuing basis. "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:2)