

Preparing For Personal Revival

Part 2

Hosea 6:1-2

“Come let us return to the Lord. He has torn us to pieces but He will heal us; He has injured us but He will bind up our wounds. After two days He will revive us; on the third day He will restore us, so that we may live in His presence.”

I believe that we are living in a critical time for the church. We need to be preparing for personal revival in our lives individually and corporately.

First we need to pray a prayer that will confront us and bring us the end of ourselves. This prayer isn't for the faint at heart. It's a prayer of searching. Psalms 139:23-24 says “Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.”

If you want change in your life then you will pray that prayer because nothing else will do and once we have heard from God about the state of your heart you must be willing to obey and make the changes necessary to spark true lasting change!!!

Many times there are things in our lives that we simply have grown so accustomed to them being there that they are oblivious to us. Others can see it but we can't. It's kind of like the jewelry that you wear. If you have any gold jewelry most likely it's 10 or 14 carat gold. The lower the carats number the less gold it has. Unless you are a specialist when you look at your ring you don't think anything other than it's a ring. You don't see any of the impurities in it.

That gold ring that you have on isn't pure, it has other metals in it, and that's what makes it hard. Pure gold is soft and pliable.

Many of us may look OK from the outside, but our life is full of impurities that make our hearts hard. Impurities like hurt, bitterness, anger, resentment, strongholds, and these things all work together to make our hearts hard.

We need to let God remove those impurities so that our hearts will become soft again before God. That's what the psalmist prayer was all about. Look what David was saying, search my heart and my thoughts, and David goes on to tell God to not only show him what's wrong in his life but also to "Lead me in the way everlasting." What was David saying here? He was saying, "show me how to correct these areas in my life."

Now it's not likely that God will just dump everything on you at once. He knows what we can handle. More than likely The Lord will reveal it to you over a period of weeks and months.

IF you are not at a place of a willingness to repent for sin in your life, you'll never be able to experience personal revival and you are in danger of judgment in your life.

Next we need to renew our minds and rebuild your life through meditation and practical application of the Word of God. 2 Timothy 2:15 "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed but can rightly divide the Word of truth."

If the Word gave Jesus, who was setting the example on how we were to operate, the power to overcome a one on one encounter with Satan, then the Word will help you to stand against him too.

The next time Satan starts feeding you lies, start feeding him the Word of God! I guarantee you he will not stick around. Resisting the devil is more than just saying, get thee behind me Satan. Resisting is when no matter how much the devil hollers at you, you keep saying NO!!

The Word tells us to "Submit to God and resist the Devil."

Lastly, if you are preparing for personal revival you need to ask yourself this question. Is Christ truly the Lord of my life? Is all of my trust in Christ? 2 Corinthians 5:17 says "Therefore if any man is in Christ Jesus he is a new creation: the old things have passed away and behold all things have been made new."

If there has been no change in your life then you probably didn't mean it when asked for forgiveness of your sins. You might be asking yourself, how could you say that pastor? I say it by the authority of God's Word. Remember, "If any man

be in Christ the old creature is gone.” If you’re still acting like and living like you did before you asked Christ into your life, then the old creature is still around. If we are going to experience personal revival the repentance has to be part of it!!!