

What To Expect When Revival Comes

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[0:00] Welcome, and thank you for joining this message by David Entry at Carish Church. In this season of Great Awakening, may God pour out His Spirit through His Word, refreshing! Your heart and awakening you to His will.

Acts chapter 19 indulge me for us to read all of it. The Scriptures say, And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. He knew the Word of God and prevailed.

And the whole city was filled with confusion.

[5:15] And having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theater.

And when Paul would have entered unto the people, the disciples suffered him not. And certain of the chief of Asia, which were his friends, sent unto him, desiring him that he would not venture himself into the theater.

Some therefore cried one thing, and some another. For the assembly was confused, and more parts knew not. Wherefore, they were come together.

And they drew Alexander out of the multitude. The Jews putting him forward. And Alexander beckoned with the hand, and would have made his defense unto the people.

But when they knew that he was a Jew, all with one voice, about the space of two hours cried, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.

[6:21] Ephesians. And when the town clerk had appeased the people, he said, Ye men of Ephesus, what man is there that knoweth not how that the city of Ephesians is a worshipper of the great goddess Diana, and of the image which fell down from Jupiter?

Seeing then that these things cannot be spoken against, you ought to be quiet and to do nothing rashly. For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.

Wherefore, if Demetrius and the craftsmen which are with him have a matter against any man, the law is open, and there are disputes.

Let them implede one another. But if ye inquire anything concerning other matters, it shall be determined in a lawful assembly. For we are in danger of being called in question for these days uproar.

There be no cause whereby we may give an account of this cause. And when he had thus spoken, he dismissed the assembly.

[7:47] Here ends the reading of God's word. Father, we thank you for bringing us together. Give us open hearts and open ears so we can hear your word for a change in our lives and to the glory of your name.

In Jesus name. Amen. So, in our previous session, we saw how Paul gets to Ephesus and saw certain disciples, and they had not been baptized in the Holy Ghost.

And so, he gets them baptized in the Holy Ghost. And there were 12 men. Only 12. God doesn't need a crowd. Jesus just had 12 apostles and they turned the world upside down.

Send them out. In the same way, God needed 12 for the revival in Ephesus. Ephesus was going to see revival. And these guys were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Now, brothers and sisters, I want you to understand that this is actually the beginning of revival.

And, anytime the Holy Spirit comes to town, there are things you should expect. Number one, you should expect opposition.

[8:53] Now, when the revival came, what caused this, what we see as a revival, is two main things. And so, when the revival came, we saw the cause of the revival was actually the Holy Spirit, based on the teaching.

The sound teaching of the preacher. So, you can't separate these two from any revival. For any revival to happen, any great awakening to happen, there must be an uncompromising, clear, gospel-centered, Christ-exalting teaching.

It doesn't matter what the religious, pervading religious norm of the day is. Even if it's akin to Christianity and supposed godliness, it doesn't bring revival until a pure, gospel-centered, Christ-exalting teaching is put forward by the anointing or a teaching that has got oil on it.

A teaching that has the anointing of the Holy Spirit on it. When the Holy Ghost comes, revival begins. But the Holy Spirit will not come in the absence of teaching.

That's why Peter had to be sent from the house of Cornelius to go and speak about Christ. To go and give a gospel-saturated preaching. Then, the Holy Ghost came.

[10:17] In spite of the fact that a supernatural activity happened, a whole angel came from heaven and said, Cornelius, you are ripe, but send for someone who can preach.

So, you cannot have revival until the preaching of Christ is in the center of the activities. It's very important. Activities don't bring revival, but it's preaching that prays the way for the Holy Ghost. When the Holy Ghost comes, great awakening and revival. And now, so the cause of revival usually is pure, Christ-exalting, gospel-saturated preaching.

And when revival comes, or when the Holy Ghost comes, please, don't let us be deceived to think everybody will like it. When the Holy Spirit comes, there will be opposition. So, Paul went, verse 8 says that, he went into the synagogue and spoke boldly for three months.

Brothers and sisters, one service is not good enough. Hearing one preaching won't do it for you. Two preaching won't do it for you. In Romans chapter 10, verse 17, he said, Faith comes not by just hearing once, by hearing and hearing.

[11:26] He said, once have you spoken, twice have I heard. Psalm 62, verse 11. Once have you spoken, twice have I heard that power. God spoke it once, but we have to keep hearing and hearing.

Revival and the manifestation of God doesn't happen because somebody heard one preaching. Even though, as Charles Pershing put it, even though life and death, heaven and hell, forgiveness, deliverance, destinies, hang on the preaching and the hearing of one sermon.

One sermon can change a person's life for good. The preaching of and hearing of one sermon can determine heaven and hell, can determine forgiveness of sin, can determine change of destiny.

The point I'm making here is that Paul preached, he was in the synagogue for a space of three months. He was always going there, always going there. Synagogue, he wasn't going just to worship.

He was going, he tells us, spoke boldly. He was the speaker there. He went and was speaking and was speaking boldly for three months.

[12:37] And I like this, reasoning. He wasn't speaking nonsense. He was speaking full sense. Full sense that when you hear it, you either admit it's true or pretend you didn't understand it.

And rebel against it. Everybody that rebels against clean, clear, concise, understandable preaching is a condition of the heart.

So, Bible says reasoning and look at the next word, persuading. Acts chapter 28 verse 23. He spent a whole day with them.

So, when they had appointed him a day, many came to him at his lodging. To whom he explained and solemnly testified of the kingdom of God.

Persuading them concerning Jesus from both the law of Moses and the prophets from morning till evening. Long preaching is not a bad thing, no? Parting on.

[13:42] It takes a lot to come to terms with the terms of God.

It takes a lot and it takes time to come to terms with the terms of God. Oh, coming to church once, twice, one month, one year is not good enough for you to be abreast, at par or in sync with God's system of operation.

It takes a whole lifetime. So, once a week, church service is not helping you. It will do something, but it's not good. It's like three course meal.

You just did the one course. And it's something, it's not bad, it's better than none. It's like, take this tablet three times a day and you choose to do it once a day.

The more your heart is cold towards God, the more you think meetings where God's word is taught are not necessary. And the danger of aging, when you are growing and a lot of other things become so important for you.

[14:57] Gradually, we drift. The Bible says that, and the heart of Solomon began to depart. He didn't just depart at once. He began.

He began. Then he was going. Then he was going. Then he was going. He was going. Anybody who gets comfortable in missing meetings and doing it once, eventually missing a whole week will not be a problem.

Eventually missing two weeks. And as time goes on, a whole month. And then when you ask, what's going on? No, no, no. The fact that you are not seeing me in the meeting doesn't mean I'm not reading my Bible.

They begin to talk about works that they believe they are doing. They are good people. You don't have to be going to church to be a good person. Church is not everyday.

That's what they will claim. You don't have to. You don't have to. Because even I'm better than others. That's where your problem is. You are beginning to compare yourself to others instead of comparing yourself with Christ.

[16:01] And since when did others become your standard of Christianity? Since when did other people become the standard of my Christianity? So, for three months, he was persuading them.

And then we saw how in Acts 28, verse 3, morning to evening, he was explaining. Not like that. Explaining. Explaining. Explaining. I heard a great man of God say, don't stand up to preach if you haven't sat down to read.

You know, there is this. Years ago, somebody, a certain pastor asked his friend. His friend was preparing to go and teach. He asked his friend, ah, you always say you are preparing, but what is it that you prepare?

I don't get it. Ah, what is it that you are preparing? You are going to speak to God's people. You go and stand there and whatever comes to your mind, the Holy Spirit will you. I believe you were going to be a Christian, the Holy Spirit will you be a Christian, the Holy Spirit will you be a Christian, and when- Listen.

It's easy to lead prayer than to teach. Easier. Watch this, even the other one. It's easier to prophesy. Seven people.

[17:09] Seven people. Seven people. It does not require an intellectual engagement. Paul was reasoning with that. It does not require an intellectual engagement.

Paul was reasoning with them from morning to evening. Reasoning with them. In the synagogue, the Jews are giving to books.

If you are reasoning, you must have something to say. You don't stand in front of God's people on a Sunday or any day to preach because you have to say something. You stand because you have something to say.

And so persuading them. So you can tell that there's a major work of persuading. He said persuading them concerning, watch what he was preaching, the kingdom.

So watch this. Two main focus of their preaching, the early church. One is the kingdom. The second one is in the verse nine.

[18:16] But when some were hardened and did not believe, bespoke evil of the way. Everybody say the way. The way. The way. Not a path. That's why it's capitalized there.

The way. The way. So they preached on the kingdom and the way. One. Why the kingdom? Jesus Christ said repent for the kingdom of heaven. He said, he preached the kingdom. What we just saw in Acts chapter 28 verse 23, Paul was persuading them concerning the kingdom. Persuading them concerning, solemnly testifying of the kingdom of God. Jesus preached the kingdom. In Acts chapter 1 verse 3, look at this.

He says that, to whom he also presented himself alive, talking about Jesus presented himself alive, after his suffering, by many infallible proofs, undeniable proofs, being seen by them during the 40 days, speaking of the things pertaining.

[19:19] This is after resurrection. Paul preached the kingdom. We saw Philip in Samaria. He spoke about the kingdom. So when we say the kingdom of God, what was the main thing they were talking about now?

This is very important. God did not create us to rule ourselves by democracy. He didn't create us to dominate each other by dictatorship.

Human beings were created to be led, to have somebody who leads them, someone who is guiding them, who take on their soul. That is why every society you see human beings, there's a leader. Every community, there's somebody who is leading people. Before democracy and all these things came in, people were kings, were leading. And they said, I am the king. You take my orders, they follow.

And people, because God created us to be led by a sovereign king who himself, you can't have a kingdom without a king. So God himself is the one who is supposed to lead us, and he leads us, he guides us, he rules us by his word.

[20:32] And when you allow our good God to be the king over your life, he settles mess in your life. He sorts out until he becomes the king.

You try different, different things, and still you'll never be settled. Things will not be in place. The only time true peace can visit a person's life is when he's submitted to the king and the prince of peace, king of kings, and the Lord.

God wants to be, he created us for us to be subjects. That's why kingdom, a group of people who are subjects to a king.

Number two, they preached the way. They preached the way. Christianity in those days was called the way. Look at verse 23 of Acts, the same chapter, Acts chapter 19, said, about that time, there arose great commotion about the way.

Christianity in the book of Acts was called the way, more than Christianity. They were called people of the way. Paul was going, persecuting the people of the way. So, it's called the way.

[21:44] Why the way? Because it is the way of life and the way to life. The way to life. If you really want to enjoy life the way it should be, you can't do it outside of Christ.

He said, I am the way. So, Christianity is the way to life, and it's a way of life. It's not a religion. It's the way to life.

So, that is what they taught. They explained. They taught, and they spent time teaching the people. Now, so, verse 9 again says that, but when some were hardened and did not believe, can you imagine?

After reasoning with them. They said they were hardened. It was a choice. No, we won't accept this. It's not that they didn't understand, and it's not that they didn't know it was true, but they made up their mind. We won't accept it.

The other time, I don't know if I said it when I was teaching, about the deity of Christ. I just love to talk about the deity of Christ. It's a central message of Christianity. That's the gospel. God becoming man.

[22:53] Wow, it's so sweet. Now, I said something that, Jesus is God. When we preach the gospel and say Jesus is God, we are not looking for that statement is not looking for agreement.

It's not a religious statement. That statement that Jesus is God is not a religious statement. It's a political statement. That means it demands submission.

You have to obey. When we say Jesus is God, we are not asking, do you agree? He said, would you submit? You either submit or you rebel.

That's what it means. It's a very political statement. So when the early church preached about the deity of Christ and the godness of Christ, they were making claims and demanding submission.

That's what it is. You have to turn from your sins and say, Lord, forgive me, you are my boss. I will submit to you. That's what it means. It's a serious statement. And so, the early church preached this kind of message.

[24:00] And you see, when you preach this kind of message, people whose hearts are turned against God will rise against you. So, don't think when the Holy Ghost is moving, everything will be fine.

There will be opposition. There definitely will be opposition. Opposition that is born out of envy. Born out of hardness of hearts.

Rebellion. Born out of a rebellious heart. It will always happen. So, he said, but when some would not believe, when some were hardened and did not believe, they won't keep quiet.

But spoke evil of the way before the multitude. When there's evil in people's hearts against the gospel, they don't keep it private.

They will talk. They will talk. They will talk. They will go online. Online broadcast. Livestream. This is a bad church. This is a bad church.

[25:00] When people are hardened and evil is in their heart, they will speak before the multitudes. They spoke evil of the way before the multitude. When they did that, the guest, watch this, the guest to a time where you should leave people alone.

There are some work colleagues. There are some family members. There are some friends. You've been trying to talk to them about Christ. It gets to a time you can tell they are just gone far. They are not interested. Leave them alone.

They get to a time where it's enough. Run your life. Paul departed from them. Withdrew the ones who are serious. Separated them from them.

Said, guys, let's go. Leave these guys so they are not serious in life. They don't know where they are going. Departed from them. Redrew their disciples and this day has come again. Reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.

Some translations say disputing. There's a lot of engagement. Can you imagine? The Bible says that this continues for two years. Continued for three. This continued for two years every day.

[26:03] Every day. Obviously, Jewish community apart from Sabbath days. Six days a week. Some scholars believe it's from 11 till 4 because that's when their sun is hot.

Tyrannus' school is on break. It's a siesta time. Siesta, everybody. Paul was a tent maker. So he was a bivocational preacher. And that thing is very demanding.

And so, during the break when everybody closes, then he spoke to Tyrannus. Can I use your school? He said, oh yeah, okay, pay me this amount. Use. It's a windfall for me.

So, he will use the school. Theologians believe when that break and some believe it's from 11 till 3, 11 to 4 hours every day. Others also believe it was longer than that.

About 6 hours every day for 2 years. So, you are thinking about 6 hours for 1 week, 6 days, 36 hours every week for 2 years.

[27:03] So, that's, you are talking time is 1-0-4. 36 times 1-0-4 hours of teaching. Now, you can't do that if you are not reading. You can't do that if you are not studying.

You have to read. You have to feed. And so, I think the easiest way, I believe, I heard someone say that and I kind of, I'm also leaning more towards that. The easiest way to be able to teach people for that long, regular, every day, have something to say is to take it from Genesis.

Verse by verse. You can, that thing, you can do for 300 years. So, for 2 years, he was systematically reasoning with them, reasoning with them, reasoning with them, and the impact, the boomerang, the, the, the, the, the big impact, explosive impact.

Explosive, it's, best out, Bible says that, so that, all who dwelt in it, he wasn't going to them, at that time, all the people who lived in that territory, in Asia, everybody say Asia.

Asia. You know, Paul had some interesting experiences in Asia. In 2 Timothy, chapter 1, verse 15, this you know, that all those in Asia have turned away from me.

[28:26] Ministry is interesting, you know. In this way, this was his last book he wrote, 2 Timothy. He said, all those in Asia have turned against me. They backslided.

They've turned against me. People have impacted, I've helped, all those in Asia. Now, Asia has been a very tiny place. In Acts, chapter 20, verse 18, he says that, and when they had come to him, he said unto them, you know from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived

among you.

When he came to Asia, he actually came there, to Asia. And in 2 Corinthians, chapter 1, verse 8, he says that, for we do not want you to be ignorant brethren, of our troubles which came to us in Asia, that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we are even tired of living.

He said, kill me, I'm tired. Yeah, Asia, Asia. And that is where Paul never stayed too long in a place. He stayed long in Ephesus because it was a center of revival.

Ephesus is a very key city because it was a Boston city. It was a hub. Many people were traveling there for business and its location was in a very central location. Travelers were coming through for religious reasons and for commercial reasons and for leisure reasons because they had this huge temple of Diana there.

[29:51] Huge temple of goddess Diana. So people were traveling because Ephesus had one of the seven wonders of the world, of the ancient world. So people would travel to Ephesus for tourism, for business, and for religious reasons.

It's a very, and God knows why he wanted to capture Ephesus. Ephesus was a key place for the move of God. After Antioch, Ephesus.

So when Jesus wrote a letter from heaven to the churches in Asia, the first was Ephesus and he said, the church of Ephesus, you have left your first love.

You've left your first love because it was a very important city and for that matter, important church. So all those who lived in Asia had the word of God and Paul said, Paul went through a bit for that to happen.

So now, quickly, look at the next verse which I am sure you will like. and God wrote special miracles. Miracles are actually special.

[30:59] Or, another translation uses unusual miracles. Miracles are not usual. Miracles are definitely unusual. I want to just give you seven points what to expect when revival comes.

When revival comes, what to expect? Number one, unusual and supernatural occurrence. we see the verse 11. There were unusual activities.

Special miracles. Now, what do we mean by special miracles? You know, special miracles, unusual miracles, I've heard people say, I was asleep and then God showed me in the dream.

God showed me, some body showed me, there's a church here, what you are going through. That church is over there. Go there. And then I saw the pastor preaching in the dream. So, I entered the church and then it's the same pastor I saw in my dream.

I've never met him. I've never seen. These are very unusual things. Unusual occurrence. By the hand of Paul, miracles were happening, not just healings, but unusual things to the extent that Paul was a tent maker, don't forget, and that was a very hot climate.

[32:08] And so, those days, they used to have not handkerchiefs, but sweat cloth. Sweat cloth. So, as Paul was working and he sweats, he used the sweat cloth to clean it.

And then, people who know people were sick, Paul, you are doing things. People are sick. Let me just take your sweat cloth and apron, give it to you. And then they realized that they sent this thing and the demons and the sicknesses were living.

This is the only, he didn't have to lay his hands. He didn't have to go there. And they were living without his permission and without his knowledge. He wasn't there. Later, he was told that, Paul, when we send him, so others were coming.

The same thing happened to Peter. His shadow, in Acts chapter 5, his shadow was falling on the sick and they were getting healed. Go and try it. It don't mean God was using shadows.

But, a typical example is Mark chapter 5, where this lady came and he said, I know, verse 28, if I can touch, the woman with the issue of blood, he said, if I can touch his clothes, the hem, another translation, the hem of the tassels on his garment.

[33:25] That doesn't mean you have to cut it and be sending it around. Listen, Jesus turned to the woman in verse 34 of Mark chapter 5.

Jesus said, be of good cheer. Jesus said, daughter, your faith, your faith, not my garment. He didn't say, my garments have made you.

She touched the garment, but she believed in the career, so the expression, the exercising of her faith is what triggers the test.

It's the faith that gets the job done, not the relics. Yes. So you can take it, we send it, it doesn't mean it to, it's the faith.

Faith. It's the faith that gets the job done. So God was doing special miracles, so now, when there's revival, there's unusual manifestation on the hand of God. When revival comes, some of the things, some of the conversions, you can't explain, you are wondering, this person is born again?

[34:28] How? This is an avowed person. He is the chief of the fetish. He's the chief and he hates it. He's born again and what is surprising, they will come to church and the person is kneeling down.

He's crying. Because preaching doesn't convert people. It's the spirit of God that converts people. As I said one of the days, it is not a powerful preaching that makes the gospel work, but it is the gospel in our lousy, annoying preaching that makes the preaching work.

Nobody can preach anyone into Christ. It's the anointing of God on the gospel. I was explaining this on Friday that we have an anointing inside you and the anointing teaches you.

Anointing speaks. So, God wrote special miracles. When there's revival, there will be special supernatural activities. Isn't that interesting?

I might be tempted humanly speaking to think it's coincidence. You might be tempted that today, the first of February is the first day of our month of supernatural occurrence.

[35:43] First day of our month of supernatural occurrence. when there is revival, there will always be supernatural manifestation. Number two, let's read through.

It's interesting. It says that, that's verse, verse, are you ready for verse 13? It's kind of funny. It says that, then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits, the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, I adjoe you by Jesus whom Paul preached.

And there were seven sons of one Skiwai Jew, a chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, all I know, but who are you?

And the man in whom the evil spirit was lived on them and overcame them and prevailed against them so that they fled out of the house naked and wounded. You see, when there's supernatural activities, one of the things you see is that you notice that there will always be a satanic replication. Every time God is moving, Satan tries to form a replica. One, to give a bad name by virtue of the bad occurrence there to the good thing God is doing.

[37:04] So every time there's revival in a place, suddenly there will also be certain individuals who are not born again and they will also say they are pastors. All the world knows is these pastors.

And then the mainstream media and premier will blow it out that a pastor, a pastor, a priest, a priest, a priest.

Satan will always advance and push to people a replica. So, Paul was doing miracles and these guys also down, they didn't have mandate, but those times it was common for exorcists to be going around and you pay them and then they command devils to come out.

So the fact that someone has cast devil out of you doesn't mean he's working for God. doesn't mean he's working for God. How do you know who is working for God? According to John chapter 4, it says he who God sends speaks God's word.

That's one classic sign of someone who is working for God because when there is revival the gospel is in the center of all what is happening. So verse 19, permit me to go ahead of myself, verse 19 says so the word of God multiplied and viewed mightily and prevailed.

[38:18] It's about the word. Acts chapter 8, verse 15, when apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria has received the word, that's revival. It's the word.

It's the word. In Acts chapter 19, this is before we heard that God dispensary miracles by the hands of Paul. Didn't we see that, Bible says that in this all Asia heard the word.

So one of the signs of someone who is sent by God, take your time, listen to what they are saying. Give regard to the content of their preaching, not just the act of preaching.

The act of preaching is not important. Don't ask, does the pastor preach well so I can be in that church, so I can go there. Don't ask that kind of question. If you are mature, you ask, what does the

pastor preach?

What does the pastor preach? I taught a whole message on good preaching. What God classifies as good preaching, the title is now, that's good preaching.

[39:18] I think everybody should listen to that message. So there will always be a replication, awareness, revival, an imitation of the genuine, number one, to spite the original, number two, to deflect attention, distract people.

So somebody also made, in the days of the Old Testament, he made Solomon's son. He also made a temple, and he said, you don't have to travel to the high place, don't go there, it's too far.

Jeroboam, Jeroboam also made, he said, no, no, come here, come and also worship here, I've done some similar thing here. He said, this is similar, you don't have to go all the way here, this is also a temple.

Why do you have to travel all the way to Kensington, Central Island, what are you looking for? What are you, ah, there's a church behind it, it's a big building, yeah, the people are, they are old, but it doesn't matter, the pastor doesn't do evangelism, it doesn't matter, the pastor just, he doesn't preach, he advises, but it's the same God we are old, the same God, when you go there, you see them chanting and sacrificing animals for God, it's the same God, so there will always be replica to deflect or distract people who might be seeking God, they're, oh, okay, we can also settle here, this is also the same, it's not the same, it's not the same, so when revival comes, when revival comes, what are we to expect?

Number one, unusual occurrence, number two, satanic imitation, okay, number three, Bible says that, and fear fell on everybody, true fear of God, but I will stop here and I'll continue, and see, did somebody receive something?

[41:23] Let's give Jesus praise, hallelujah! we're so glad you joined us for this message by David Entry, we pray the word has inspired and strengthened you, you can connect with David Entry on Instagram, LinkedIn, and other social platforms, and you can listen to more messages on all major streaming platforms and the Karish Church app, remember to like, share, and spread the blessing.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Thank you.