

The New Testament Church
 Revival #4: Revival during Samuel's Life: There is Always Hope!
 Pastor Paul Jehle - January 16, 2022

I What is Revival and when does it Come?

- A. Revival means to come alive again – meaning we have grown cold and withered
- B. God uses dry hearts and a dark culture to produce desperation for hunger and thirst
 - 1. The revival of Enosh – first in the Bible – *calling on the name of the Lord*
 - 2. The revival of Jacob – *calling on God from a place of brokenness*
 - 3. The revival of Joseph – *God prepared him to preserve life and impact Egypt*

II The revival toward the end of Samuel's life – 1st Samuel 1-8

- A. Samuel is the “last of the Judges” – the 400 years of Israel's liberty – (1056-1004 BC)
 - 1. As the people decreased in self-government, the Judges became more corrupt (last 100 yrs)
 - 2. The final official Judge was Samson, the most powerful, but the most corrupt
 - 3. 17:6 – *in those days there was no King in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes*
- B. The birth/childhood of Samuel – **God moves – there is always hope** – a miracle – 1st Samuel 1-3
 - 1. Hannah prayed for a son, promising God she would give him back to the Lord (Eli the Priest)
 - 2. The sons of Eli were corrupt, didn't know the Lord – spiritually dead individual and family
 - 3. A prophet of God prophesies judgment on the house of Eli...
 - 4. 3:1 - *And the word of the Lord was rare in those days, there was no widespread revelation*
 - 5. Samuel at 13 **hears** God, is willing to serve Him; the **seed of revival** is an individual heart
- C. The Ark of God is captured, but is preserved in a home of Israel – 1st Samuel 4-6
 - 1. The Philistines defeat Israel though they hear a *shout* when the Ark arrives in the camp...
 - 2. Eli's sons die; Ark is captured; he falls backward; Phinehas's wife - *Ichabod* (glory departed)
 - 3. Philistines bring the Ark to Ashdod; house of Dagon – **God judges; they don't want the Ark!**
 - 4. Philistines send Ark with trespass offering; new cart with new cows – went to Israel!
 - 5. The people of Beth-Shemesh incurred the judgment of God by looking in the Ark (50k died)
- D. 1st Samuel 7 – the soil of revival
 - 1. The Ark is at Kirjath Jearim for 20 years, in the house of Abinadab (slaves) – with Eleazar!
 - 2. Samuel calls Israel and they gather at Mizpah, poured out water, **fasted** and **repented** of sin
 - 3. 7:10 - *the Lord thundered... and so confused them that they were overcome before Israel*
 - 4. Samuel erects a stone calling it Ebenezer (God helps); **Israel recovers all from the enemy**
- E. 1st Samuel 8 – now the warning, **the revival was only one generation in length!**
 - 1. Sons of Samuel were no better than the sons of Eli; *though he was godly, children were not*
 - 2. They demanded a King “like all the other nations”; revival without awakening or reformation
- F. God warned Israel of having a King – **rejecting His self-government is rejecting Him!**
 - 1. God, by His grace, set limits for the King - constitutional monarchy (Deut. 17:14-20) v. 10-11
 - a. The monarch (president) should be God's choice (we should vote for God's choice)
 - b. The leader should be a natural born citizen
 - c. No standing army in peacetime
 - d. Shall resist immorality (family and character)
 - e. Should resist materialism and government wealth
 - f. Must write out the law and study it in the fear of God
 - 2. Unjust wars and a "draft" may be the result - v. 11
 - 3. People will work for the government as if it's a business - v. 12-13
 - 4. An "income tax" might be instituted (10% equaling the tithe is tyranny) - v. 14-17
 - 5. You will want the government to do what you should be doing - v. 18-22
- G. **As the people of God go, so goes the Nation (revival without awakening and reformation)!**