

# **THE ESSENTIALS OF REVIVAL AND THE MOVING OF GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT**

## **Acts 2:1-4**

What is essential for a moving of God? What is necessary for the people of God to experience His mighty moving among them in a fresh, vibrant, dynamic and powerful way. The very first moving of God among His people that would be established as the church is found in Acts, and the same ingredients then and now, cause the Father to move in might, and power. But the question is, will we still abide by those ingredients?

### **1. THE PEOPLE OF GOD.**

While we tend to think of revival as “lost being saved”, in truth, the word “revive” means to “to return to life”. A lost person can't return to life, because he is dead in trespasses and in sin. Revival originates with the people of God, the saints of God. When God moved in a mighty way at Pentecost, he didn't start with the lost, but rather with those that were redeemed, His people.

It was the people of God that were together. It was the saints of God that were there in that upper room that we now know as the birth of the church, and the first great movement of God, among His people. Ours is not to set out on a plan to promote anything...but ours is to live a life of obedience to the Father. The people of God were gathered in that upper room. And that is how God begins revival...His way. He finds a people of God that is serious with Him, and in His timing He moves in His dynamic way. The truth is, we can never know what the Father wants to do in any given service, at any given hour. These saints of God never thought they would witness what they did...but it happened. They were serious with God, and they saw the mighty moving of God's Holy Spirit.

The Bible records that “they were all” present. What would the Father do from heaven, if He saw “all the body coming together”? What would the Father bring, if He saw the body of Christ “all” before Him as a people, praying. The evidence of Acts 2:1 is just that. “All” meaning “absolutely everyone” that was a child of God was present in that place. They were present because their faith and walk with the Father was a serious matter. They were present, because the Father had changed their nature.

### **2. THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN UNITY AND HARMONY.**

The Bible records in v.1, that they were “all” together in “one accord”. One of the greatest reasons that hinders revival in the land, among the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, is the reality of “disharmony” among brothers and sisters in Christ. When these saints met together in that upper room, they were “unanimously” with one mind. When the people of God allow the Father to create in them a harmony of obedience to Him as a priority and advancing His kingdom above anything else, He can and will do great and

mighty things among His people.

The unity and harmony they experienced was not their doing, but the doing of the Father. We cannot bring about unity and harmony in and of ourselves, it is the doing of God.

Their reasons for their unity were: 1) A desire to walk in obedience to the Father, 2) Seriousness about their Christians walk and character, 3) A willingness to be honest before the Father in prayer, 4) A heart of prayer before the Father. When the Father finds a church where His people are serious about these four matters, He can bring about His mighty moving.

### **3. THE MOVING OF GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT.**

The Bible records that as they were together something happened in their midst "suddenly" and unexpectedly. There was the precious, powerful and dynamic moving of God's Holy Spirit upon those present in that place. The Holy Spirit's presence was so real that Luke records it this way in v. 2, "there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon "each" of them.

When the people of God are together in unity, prayer, and walking in obedience, it is not uncommon for the Father through His Spirit to do something "suddenly and mightily". The people had gathered in unity, and prayer, and they were "unaware" of what took place until it took place in their midst. That is the way the Father works often times. How many meetings have each of us been in, and then at a time we were not expecting it, the Holy Spirit broke through in His power and might, and touched and brought a person back to Him in repentance. How many times have we witnessed something that only the Father can and will do?

The sad reality is, often times God's people gather together in haste, sit in haste, and listen to a sermon in haste, and wonder why He didn't move in a mighty way. The evidence of the first great moving of God's Spirit in Scripture involved... 1) all God's people, 2) all God's people being in unity 3) all God's people being in harmony, 4) all God's people praying. It was only then that the Holy Spirit moved in power and might.

When "the touch of God" and the moving of God's Spirit is not significant to the people of God, that grieves the Holy Spirit, and it hinders what the Father would like to do among His people.

In the Revelation, the last church mentioned is the church of Laodicea, it was a church of lukewarmness, refusing to count for God and bear witness to a lost and dying world...and the indictment from God to them was this "I will spew you out of my mouth." (Rev. 3:16)

The sobering fact is...it is totally possible to be the church of God and be beyond reviving. Only the Father knows how many churches He cannot visit for He will not be given a hearing, as people have desired to walk away from Him.

Yet, where there are a people of God given to obedience, unity, prayer, fellowship, dependence on the Holy Spirit, God will visit them with His power and mighty and do great things among them...and they will watch, witness and bring glory to God.

