

Chapter 2 - Revival in the New Testament

Jesus said, “He that believeth on Me, as the Scriptures have said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spoke He of the Spirit which they that believe on Him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet *given*; because that Jesus was not yet glorified) (John 7:38-39).

New Testament Revivals:

1. John the Baptist called the people to a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins and told them to bring forth fruits worthy of repentance, “Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matt 3:2). “I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I comes, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to unloose: He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire” (Luke 3:16).

2. Jesus was the promised Messiah, the Savior of the world and the anointed One. He quoted Isa 61:1, “The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, recovering of sight to the blind, and to set at liberty them that are oppressed..” (Luke 4:18). At His baptism He was filled with the Spirit and returned from 40 days in the wilderness in the power of the Spirit. He preached the kingdom of God with signs and wonders following confirming the message and thus proving He was the Promised One. He answered John’s inquiry, “The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he whosoever shall not be offended in Me” (Matt 11:5-6). Jesus led in revival.

3. The Holy Spirit fell on the Day of Pentecost and the people began to speak in tongues. Peter stood up to preach: “ ‘Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God has made this same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ..’ They said, ‘Men and brethren, what shall we do?’ Then Peter said unto them, ‘Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.’ ‘ (Acts 2:36-39) That day three thousand souls were added unto them (v 41).

4. “When Peter and John went up to the Temple at the hour of prayer, they were approached by a lame man for alms. Peter said, ‘Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus of Nazareth rise up and walk.’ And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the Temple, praising God. And all the people saw him walking and praising God” (Acts 3:6-9). As Jesus was preached, “Many which heard the word believed: and the number of the men was about five thousand” (Acts 4:4).

5. “[Evangelist] Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ..” with miracles following and multitudes with one accord heeded what he said and became followers of Jesus “and there was great joy in the city.” “They [Peter and John] laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Ghost” Acts 8:5-8, 17).

6. The Lord spoke in visions to a **devout centurion, Cornelius** to send for Peter and to Peter to go to him. Peter preached to him, his relatives and friends, “ ‘Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that fears Him and works righteousness, is accepted with Him. The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, (preaching peace by Jesus Christ: He is Lord of all:) that word ye know.. How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with Him. And we are witnesses of all things which He did.. whom they killed and hanged on a tree: Him God raised up the third day and showed Him openly.. even to us, who did eat and drink with Him after He rose from the dead. And He commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is He which was ordained of God to be the Judge of the quick and the dead. To Him give all the prophets witness, that through His name whoever believes in Him shall receive remission of sins.’ While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.. for they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God” (Acts 10:34-46).

7. Apostle Paul took the Gospel of salvation by “repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ” [to the known world] (Acts 20:21). He taught, “And now brethren, I commend you to God, and to the Word of His grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified” (v 32).

8. In Ephesus, after hearing and seeing the power of God working through the apostle Paul, “fear fell on the Jews and Greeks and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. And many that believed came, confessed and showed their deeds. Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together and burned them before all men.. So mightily grew the Word of God and prevailed” (Acts 19:17-20).

9. Paul in Rome, “received all that came in unto him, preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him” Acts 28:30-31).