

Recipe for Revival

Text: 1 Kings 18

Introduction: 1 Kings 18:1-2

1. Revival is a restoring or rejuvenating of life (cf. Genesis 45:27; Judges 15:19; 1 Kings 17:22).
2. Revival is needed in the struggles of life (Psalm 138:7; cf. Hebrews 12:12-13).
3. Revival is to be sought from the Lord (Psalm 85:6; Habakkuk 3:2).
4. Revival is possible by following the Lord...

I. Enemies Against Revival (1 Kings 18:1-21)

- A. Compromise (vs. 3-7)
 1. Obadiah feared the Lord.
 2. However, he tried to serve both the Lord and King Ahab.
 3. To be a friend of the world is to be an enemy of God (James 4:4).
- B. Corruption (vs. 17)
 1. King Ahab was corrupt – calling evil good and good evil.
 2. He and Jezebel were opposed to all that is godly (16:30-33).
 3. They troubled Israel and cared nothing for it (vs. 18).
- C. Complacency (vs. 20-21)
 1. The people were complacent.
 2. Worse, they were double-minded (cf. Matthew 6:24; 1 Corinthians 10:21; 2 Corinthians 6:14-16; James 1:8; 4:8).
 3. A fool says there is no God; a greater fool says there is a God but lives as though there is not.

II. Essential for Revival (1 Kings 18:30-34)

- A. Separation (vs. 30)
 1. Drawing near to Elijah required separation from the world.
 2. "Who is on the Lord's side?" (Exodus 32:36).
 3. There must be a separation from sin (2 Corinthians 6:17; James 1:27).
- B. Solidarity (vs. 31)
 1. The 12 stones symbolized unity among the 12 tribes of Israel.
 2. There can be no revival without unity among God's people (cf. John 17:21).
- C. Submission (vs. 33-34)
 1. Obedience to the commands of God is essential.
 2. Notice that they obeyed without argument.
 - a. "This seems foolish."
 - b. "We've never done it this way before."
 - c. "Water is precious and should not be wasted."
 - d. "Rather do it another way."
 3. Obedience is a part of true faith (James 2:20-24).

- III. Effects of Revival (1 Kings 18:30-40)
- A. Repair (vs. 30)
 - 1. The broken-down altar was restored.
 - 2. Their damaged relationship was healed (vs. 37).
 - B. Reverence (vs. 39)
 - 1. They showed humility and respect before God.
 - 2. They praised and honored the name of God.
 - C. Removal (vs. 40)
 - 1. They began making restitution for their sins.
 - 2. That which was out of place had to be removed.

Conclusion: 1 Kings 18:41-45

- 1. Revival leads to refreshment (cf. Acts 3:19).
- 2. The church needs revival!
- 3. The Christian needs revival!