

## REVIVE US AGAIN IV

### PRAYER

Scripture: Daniel 5:25, 27 & II Chron. 7:14

This morning is the last of a series of sermons on 'Revive Us Again.' God has shown us through this series that we are in need of a revival. He has shown us that we need a revival in our church and in our personal lives. God has brought us to the revelation, wisdom and knowledge that if God ever weighed us in His righteous scales, we would come up lacking. But, PTL, we serve a God who not only shows us the problem but He also provides us with a remedy. Our remedy is in our base Scripture in II Chron. 7:14. We have looked at this verse and examined it thoroughly and now we are on the last point that God says we need to do. We are on the last point that we need to do to restore fellowship with God when we have sinned.

The last point is, **"seek my face and turn from their wicked ways."** I would dare to say that all of us know what it means to turn from our wicked ways. It means that we need to repent. Repentance involves a 'turning.' You & I cannot say that we have repented and continue to go in the same direction we always have. So we know what that means, but I dare say that many of us do not know what it means to **"seek God's face."**

The first thing we need to do is to determine why God would use the analogy of a 'face.' Why? Because we knew that Scripture teaches us that God is a Spirit, and those who 'worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in truth.' So why God say 'seek my face.' Think about your face for a moment. Your face is a personal and intimate area. We normally don't want just anyone up in our face. Right? So when God uses the expression 'seek my face,' He is saying, **"I want you to get up close and personal with me."** He is saying that we have sinned and have broken fellowship with Him. Therefore, in order to be restored we have to return unto Him. For a perfect example of this **turn to Isa. 44:22**

**“I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins; return unto me; for I have redeemed thee.”** (comments – H.S.) Hallelujah.

What else does seeking God face mean?

It means to be Spirit-led and not emotion-led. So many times the reason that we fall into sin is because we allow our emotions to dictate the things that we do or don't do.

- People say hurtful and harmful things to one another in the ‘heat of the moment.’
- They make rash decisions based on emotions, i.e., their feelings were hurt or they were misunderstood.
- People get angry and their hormones start raging and they do things that they regret; they do things that will forever change the course of their lives. I posted on facebook this week, ‘Anger left unchecked is cause for alarm.’ Why is that?
- Because anger that has not been properly dealt with, can injured you physically as well as spiritually.
- Anger unchecked will lead to stress.
- Stress not dealt with can lead to depression.
- Depression can lead to illness, mental & physical.
- And illness can lead to death.

So are you starting to get an idea now as to why God says that we are not to be led by our emotions. God tells us in Scripture that “those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.” He does not say those who are led by their emotions are the children of God. Nine out of ten times, it was the emotional decisions that someone made that led them into sin and that caused them to break fellowship with God.

God's says that we are to ‘seek’ His face. What else does that mean? It means to seek God's guidance BEFORE we make a decision to do something rather than afterwards.

**Turn to Psalm 143:10 (NIV) “Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.”** This should be the prayer of each and every one of us. (comments – H.S.level ground – not up and down) One thing that this passage shows us is that we need a teachable spirit. There is no point in saying that you are seeking God’s face, when you are not willing to be taught. Remember the words in the book of James, *‘be doers of the Word and not hearers only.’* Seeking God’s face means that you are willing to *do* what God tells you to do, when and how God tells you to do it. Amen!

Seeking God face involves remembrance. Remember how God has blessed you and kept you in the past. Remembering how when you went through your private battles, that He brought you through. Remember how when you were in your night season, that His light of love shone even in the darkness. Remembering the love God has already lavished on you through the sacrificial death of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ. Amen & Amen!

God started this sermon off by saying that we need a revival. He said if we simply ***“humble ourselves and pray, seek His face and turn from our wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”*** (comments – H.S.) God wants to forgive our sin, restore our fellowship and bring healing to our life. He wants us to have the best of both worlds, not only in this world but in the world to come. The choice is yours. The ball is now in your court...

PRAYER

INVITATIONAL HYMN