



Psalm 85

9/27/20 PM

THE PRAYER OF THE PATRIOT

Introduction:

Superscription: "For the choir director. A Psalm of the sons of Korah."

I. THE PRECEDENT FOR REVIVAL (vs. 1-3)

A. Restoration (vs. 1)

"O LORD, You showed favor to Your land"

"You restored the captivity of Jacob"

B. Reconciliation (vs. 2-3)

"You forgave the iniquity of Your people"

"You covered all their sin. Selah."

"You withdrew all Your fury; You turned away from Your burning anger."

II. THE PRAYER FOR REVIVAL (vs. 4-7)

A. Renewal (vs. 4-5)

"restore us, O God of our salvation"

"cause Your indignation toward us to cease"

"Will You be angry with us forever?"

"Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?"

B. Revival (vs. 6-7)

"Will You not Yourself revive us again?"

"that Your people may rejoice in You"

"show us Your lovingkindness, O LORD"

"and grant us Your salvation"

"Historically revivals have followed three stages. First, under strong biblical preaching by people like Martin Luther, Jonathan Edwards...or George Whitefield, the members of the church, who beforehand thought they were Christians and that all was well with their souls, wake up to the fact that they are not Christians at all. In the American revivals under Edwards and his contemporary preachers, this was called the Great Awakening. Second, there is the revival itself, which means that those who had thought they were alive but were actually spiritually dead are revived. That is, they repent of their sin and become Christians. The third stage is when these churchgoing people who are now converted begin to live for Christ so openly and consistently, with noticeable changes of conduct, that the world outside takes notice and begins to press into the church to see what is happening. This is revival. We have had them in the past, but we have not had one in the United States for many years."
 – James Montgomery Boice

III. THE PROSPECTS OF REVIVAL (vs. 8-13)

A. Peace (vs. 8-10)

“I will hear what God the LORD will say”

“for He will speak peace to His people, to His godly ones”

“but let them not turn back to folly”

“surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him”

“that glory may dwell in our land”

“lovingkindness and truth have met together”

“righteousness and peace have kissed each other”

B. Productivity (vs. 11-12)

“truth springs from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven”

“Indeed, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its produce.”

C. Presence (vs. 13)

“righteousness will go before Him”

“and will make His footsteps into a way”

Conclusion:

- 1) It is good to remember that it is God who forgives sin and restores me when I sin.
- 2) It is necessary to repent and ask God to forgive my sin and revive me again.
- 3) It is important to pursue God's standard of righteousness if I hope to experience His peace.