Lesson 6: The Last Days Revival

Joel 2:23 NKJV - Be glad then, you children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God; for He has given you the former rain faithfully, and He will cause the rain to come down for you— the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

Joel 2:28-31 NKJV - ²⁸ "And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. ²⁹ And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. ³⁰ And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. ³¹ The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD."

Acts 4:31 NKJV - And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

I. Understanding the Last Days Revival

A. Definitions of Revival

- 1. The word "revival" is not found in the Bible, but the words "revive," "revived," and "reviving" are found 16 times in the King James Bible. These same words occur 30 times in the New American Standard Bible.
- 2. There are two Hebrew definitions and two Greek definitions of these words, essentially giving us the same truth concerning revival.
- Chayah to bring life; to recover; to repair; to restore; to bring wholeness
- Michyah to preserve life; to sustain life; to revive with sustenance
- Anazao to recover life; to live again
- Anathallo to flourish or to flourish again
 - 3. The English word "revival" is derived from two Latin words: "re" which means "again" and "vivo" which means "to live." The literal meaning is "to live again."
 - 4. Webster's Dictionary defines revival as "an act or instance of reviving; renewed attention to or interest in something, such as religion or God."

- 5. Various ministers of the Gospel have given their own definitions of "revival."
 - A visitation of God Arthur Wallis
 - God breaking into the unconsciousness of men in majesty and glory. Arthur Wallis
 - A special season of refreshing when many believers simultaneously experience deep, Holy Spirit conviction. Ron Boehme
 - A sovereign outpouring of the Holy Spirit in which Christians are turned to their first love for Christ. Bill Bright
 - The Holy Spirit is always moving, doing supernatural works in our lives on a daily basis. Revival is when He does extraordinary things in our lives that are considered special miracles – Steven Smith
- B. The Purpose of Revival

Isaiah 14:26:27 NKJV - ²⁶ This is the purpose that is purposed against the whole earth, and this is the hand that is stretched out over all the nations. ²⁷ For the LORD of hosts has purposed, and who will annul it? His hand is stretched out, and who will turn it back?

Acts 3:19 NKJV - Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.

- 1. The purposes of God are advanced when there are mighty outpourings of the Holy Spirit.
- 2. Revivals take place when there is a spiritual decline in God's people. Revival counters that decline.

Judges 2:7, 10-11 NKJV - ⁷ So the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the LORD which He had done for Israel.

¹⁰ When all that generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the LORD nor the work which He had done for Israel. ¹¹ Then the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served the Baals.

3. Revival outpourings create spiritual momentum to advance the purposes of God personally and corporately.

Isaiah 59:19 AMP - So they will fear the name of the LORD from the west and His glory from the rising of the sun. For He will come in like a narrow, rushing stream, which the breath of the LORD drives [overwhelming the enemy].

4. Revival produces widespread conviction among the lost and many souls are born into the Kingdom.

Isaiah 33:14 NKJV - The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness has seized the hypocrites:

"Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?"

Acts 2:43 NKJV - Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

- II. The Revival of the Last Days
 - A. The scripture declares that in the Last Days where would be an outpouring of the Holy Spirit referred to as the "Latter Rain."

Joel 2:23 NKJV - Be glad then, you children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God; For He has given you the former rain faithfully, and He will cause the rain to come down for you— the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

James 5:7-8 NKJV - ⁷ Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. ⁸ You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

- B. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2 is referred to as the "former rain."
- C. The "Latter Rain" outpouring is connected to the end of time, as Joel declared that the sun would be turned into darkness and the moon into blood.

Joel 2:31 NKJV - The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.

D. The Last Days Revival will be another Pentecost-type of outpouring that will usher in one last great harvest of souls into the Kingdom before Christ returns.

Revelation 14:15-16 NKJV - ¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." ¹⁶ So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.