

"Fresh Encounter" (Blackabys)
May 3, 2023

Chapter 13: The Role of Prayer in Revival

"Today many want to see revival come, but they are not prepared to cry out to God in prayer with the fervency and humility required." Blackaby

Five Key Roles of Prayer in Revival:

1. Praying as a Priority (1 Thes. 5:16-18 & Phil. 4:6-7)

"Satan laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray."
Arthur Wallis

"Talking to men for God is a great thing, but talking to God for men is greater still." E.M. Bounds

"...in every revival the consistent common denominator is fervent, faithful, persistent, righteous prayer."
Blackaby

Yet, prayer is often the most neglected spiritual discipline in the church. Prayer must be a priority corporately and individually.

A prayer life that reveals the need for revival: "When a professing Christian can pray, and yet acknowledge that he has no nearness to the throne, no touching of the scepter, no fellowship with God-calls him 'Father' without the sense of adoption-confesses sin in a general way, without any looking up to God through the cross-has no consciousness of possessing the ear and the heart of God, the evidence is undoubted of a decline in the state of religion in the soul." Octavius Winslow

2. Praying with a Burden (Esther 4:1-3, & 12-17)

"...if we do not have a burden for those in need of revival and we do not grieve over the fact that God's kingdom is not yet ruling in every heart, church, and nation, then we will inevitably become lax in our praying." Blackaby

"We say we want revival, but are we willing to pay the price?" Duncan Campbell

3. Praying in Righteousness (Isaiah 1:15 & James 5:16)

"If there is no revival of righteousness, there is no revival at all." Arthur Wallis

"Praying in righteousness also means you are so aligned with your Father's wishes that you place your life on the altar for God to use you. If you are unwilling to be a part of God's answer, then you are not yet praying according to His will." Blackaby

4. Praying in Faith (Hebrews 11:6)

"The Gospel has lost none of its power. It is we Christians who have lost our power with God... The work of God would flourish by us, if it flourished more richly in us." William Chambers Burns

5. Praying as One Body (Matt. 18:20)

"God has chosen especially to honor the prayers of like-minded people who pray in unity." Blackaby

Conclusion: Praying for Revival in Our Nation

"Many people wonder if God will ever judge America for its sins. The truth is, God is already judging America. No nation in history has been able to scorn God's standards and to blaspheme His name and not suffer the consequences. Our day is no different. To whom much has been given, much is expected. God's judgment on America is not yet final. But it will steadily increase until people either repent or perish." Blackaby