



**VOLUME: 23 / ISSUE: 2**

We continue our *revival* series in **Psalm 85:6**: *“Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?”* One of the demanding prerequisites for revival is *humility*. We are told, *“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land”* (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Revival is never the responsibility of the world; it is the sole responsibility of the Church. Because the unregenerate are lost, Christ is unable to grant them revival. Revival is the act of renewing life in those who have already been born again. Regrettably, many *“[have] left [their] first love”* (Revelation 2:4).

For something to be revived it must have first been made alive. All who believe in the finished work of Christ are redeemed and made spiritually alive. Revival is for the redeemed who have grown cold, tepid, indifferent, and are backslidden; thus the plea, *“if my people, which are called by my name”*. This speaks to those who professed Christ but now have dishonored and forsaken Him.

Humility comes by spending more time in the presence of Christ. In the natural, all men are not humble because they are born with a sinful nature and that sinful nature is willfully proud and opposes Christ.

Every person’s natural posture and state is to think more highly of themselves than they ought (see **Romans 12:3**). The word **humble** in the first paragraph in Hebrew means: *to bend the knee, to be subdued, and to be subject to a Holy God*.

**REVIVAL IN AMERICA  
2023-2024 – PART 2**

Leadership in America, both politically and spiritually, has become very proud, arrogant, and self-righteous. Who would have ever thought professing Christians would have brought such filth as sodomy and drag queens into the Church of the Living God?

After passing the “Respect for Marriage Act”, United States Senator Chuck Schumer immediately phoned his *daughter and her wife* who are purportedly expecting a baby next year. He wanted them to know the Senate had passed that evil legislation. How in God’s name can a woman be married to a wife and be expecting a child without a man involved? The two of them don’t have a child together; only the male donor and one of the women have a child. By the way, 12 Republicans sided with the Democrats to make that vile legislation possible.

America is self-destructing; racing to the pits of hell. I assure you, those who commit such evil acts are neither humble nor contrite. Scriptures warn of such arrogance: *“Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride (or arrogance), fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness”* (Ezekiel 16:49). If these people had any humility, they would never commit such perverse acts.

Jehovah knows the humble and willfully embraces them: *“He forgetteth not* (He remembers) *the cry of the humble”* (Psalm 9:12). One translation reads: *He never ignores the cries of those who are humble*.

Personally, I cannot afford for Christ to ignore or resist me in any way. The fact that God is omniscient – all-knowing – tells me He

**FEBRUARY 2023**

also knows all who are humble and who are not.

The apostle Paul spoke of, *“Serving (as a servant like Christ) the Lord with all humility (low degree) of mind, and with many tears, and temptations”* (Acts 20:19).

Receiving more from God requires willfully embracing humility. We are told, *“But He giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth (or opposes) the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble”* (James 4:6).

Jehovah is generous with His grace to the humble and contrite; however, Christ opposes and resists the proud and lofty. Christ not only withholds His grace but He willfully resists them. Everyone Jehovah opposes will surely suffer in the end.

I am stirred by the prophet Isaiah: *“But they rebelled (disobeyed), and vexed (grieved) his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy (adversary), and he fought (to consume as in destruction) against them”* (Isaiah 63:10).

The arrogant, proud, and puffed up will only know Christ as their adversary. However, Christ embraces the humble, granting them immeasurable grace. The unmitigated arrogance and pride flooding America and the modern church will snare this nation; wherein, without humility and repentance, Christ will be forced to become our adversary.

It is hard to imagine Christ as our adversary and being forced to fight against us. The more inebriated with pride and arrogance America and the modern church become the greater and more severe His judgment.

The apostle Paul gave the church

in Rome a very solemn warning: *“For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly (with sobriety), according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith” (Romans 12:3).*

I believe you would love to always live under the mighty hand of God: however, that is only possible through humility. Scripture encourages believers to *“Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time” (1 Peter 5:6).*

The reward for humility is that Christ will exalt us in due time. He resists or puts down the proud but lifts up and exalts the humble. The prideful, carnally minded will always misunderstand those who are humble, especially when God exalts the humble over those who are envious and jealous. When the prideful and arrogant witness God’s exaltation of the humble, the prideful become bitter and hurtful against those whom Christ has exalted.

When Jehovah finally exalted Joseph throughout all of Egypt, there were those who thought Joseph was undeserving of such exaltation. I think of those in prison with Joseph and also those who were commanded to go and get Joseph from the dungeon and bring him to Pharaoh. Think on this: moments before Joseph was ordained to sit at Pharaoh’s right hand, some only saw Joseph as no more than a worthless, smelly, stinking, dirty Jewish-Hebrew prisoner! Thus we read, *“Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon (a pit hole or cistern): and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh” (Genesis 41:14).* Another translation reads: *they brought Joseph out of the pit speedily and made him run hastily to Pharaoh’s courts.* Joseph had

to be clean-shaven because wearing a beard was a disgrace in Egypt: and his raiment needed to be changed.

There would be three changes of Joseph’s raiment while on his pilgrimage to become Prime Minister of Egypt:

- 1) His first change was when his brothers took his “coat of many colors” and feigned his death by putting the blood of a goat on that coat and presenting it to Jacob.
- 2) The second change of raiment was when Joseph fled from Potiphar’s wife and left his raiment in her vile adulterous hands.
- 3) The third change represents perfect, divine completion of all Joseph had gone through so he might be highly exalted by the mighty hand of Elohim!

I’ve often said if you’re ever riding down a country road and see a turtle sitting on a fence post, know he did not get there by himself; somebody put him up there. Too often when God exalts someone, those who are jealous see the exalted one as unworthy and prideful! However, it is the outsiders who do not understand how the exalted ones have first suffered before they were ever exalted and lifted up.

The psalmist David faced jealousy and envy before he engaged Goliath: *“And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab’s anger (jealousy) was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness (deceitfulness) of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle” (1 Samuel 17:28).* David’s oldest brother attacked him and accused him of being prideful; but in retrospect it was Eliab who was the proud and jealous one.

Note: suffering always comes before exaltation. The apostle Peter declared: *“Beloved, think it not*

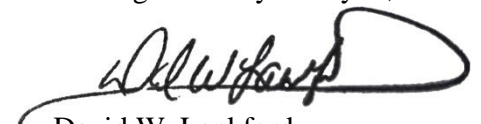
*strange (foreign) concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ’s sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy” (1 Peter 4:12-13).*

Remember Christ was smitten, mutilated, marred, spat upon, despised, rejected, and eviscerated before He was glorified. Exaltation never comes until the suffering has first been embraced and endured. We read about Christ: *“Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:6-11).* First, Christ humbled Himself, then His Father highly exalted Him.

True promotion can only come from the Lord of Glory which is based solely upon humility.

I want to thank you so very much for your love and support for *The Voice of Evangelism*. We want you to know we take the time to pray over all of your e-mails and letters. I do not take you for granted in any way. I pray we are as great a blessing to you as you are to us.

Serving faithfully with you,



David W. Lankford  
Pastor / Evangelist