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REVIVAL IN AMERICA
2023-2024 – PART 14

APRIL 2024

This is Part 14 in our newsletter series, “*Revival in America*”. In our Scripture text we read: *“And he took away the horses that the kings of Judah had given (dedicated) to the sun, at the entering in of the house of the , by the chamber of Nathanmelech the chamberlain (eunuch), which was in the suburbs (1/4 of Jerusalem), and burned the chariots of the sun with fire. And the altars that were on the top of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the LORD, did the king beat down, and brake them down from thence, and cast the dust (residue) of them into the brook Kidron.” (2 Kings 23:11-12).*

The “kings of Judah” refers mostly to Josiah’s grandfather, Manasseh, and Amon, Josiah’s father. Josiah burns all the physical objects used in desecrating the Temple of God. Needless to say, the modern church needs a thorough cleansing of sin and all that plagues it as well! Josiah was determined to eradicate anything representing sin, idolatry, and the past.

One of the reasons young converts today grapple in faithfully serving Christ is because they retain too much of their past. When anyone is *born again* they must bury the past in its entirety. Thus the apostle Paul declared: *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17).*

The horses and chariots had been dedicated to the sun god at the en-

trance of the Temple. Dedicating chariots and horses to the sun was a Persian practice. It is believed the Greeks and Romans also took this idea from Persia. Such chariots and horses were used by Israel for mostly religious processions. Sadly, Israel had desecrated everything that was deemed *holy unto the Lord*.

I question today just how far the churches in America will go in desecrating the holy things the Word of God has highly esteemed and clearly sanctified. I watched a video recently where a mega-church in the state of Ohio had a Super Bowl Sunday service. In that so-called church service, they teed up a Bible and kicked it like a football across the podium. What a wicked and godless act of desecration concerning the Word of God! Any professing Christian in that congregation who accepted such degradation has become apostate.

I was told some weeks ago about a Minister of Music in a Presbyterian church who openly testified on a Sunday morning that she and her lesbian partner were going to get married. In unison, the church stood to their feet and gave them a standing ovation. Anyone who did not oppose that abomination and remains attached to that fellowship has become reprobate and is a partaker of their sins. We are forewarned to be careful what we support: *“Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker (associated with) of other men's sins: keep thyself pure (innocent)” (1 Timothy 5:22).*

The signs of the times are abundantly clear and they warn us we are in the days of Lot. There was a day

when flagrant sins remained in the closet but today they are openly flaunted and now made manifest in the church. Many Christians today accept such sins without any shame, remorse, or conviction.

Allow me to be very pointed; many so-called Christians live like Hell today. Forgive my brashness but someone needs to cry aloud and spare not. Today many so-called Christians drink alcoholic beverages, swear, curse, commit fornication, acts of adultery, sodomy, and somehow deem themselves as vessels of honor unto Christ our Lord.

Oftentimes I am warned: ***Do not get political***, but I will anyway. The District Attorney of Atlanta, Georgia, who is prosecuting the former president, openly testified in a court of law how she and her married boyfriend were having relations outside of wedlock and she openly conveyed in which liquor she indulges. She spoke publicly of how people have sent her a multitude of text messages and e-mails with this Scripture passage: *“No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn” (Isaiah 54:17).* I have sobering news for that District Attorney! That Scripture passage is only for the blood-bought, the redeemed, and to those who live godly lives; not for those who live filthy, shameful lifestyles.

This is the problem within the modern church today: people live anyway they like but profess they have a godly and holy relationship with Christ our Lord. We need more ministers like John the Baptist who

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will stand before the King Herod's of this world and tell them: **"It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife"** (Mark 6:18). Yes, John spoke the truth to those two adulterers and it cost John his life.

The apostle Paul did the same as he stood before Governor Felix and his wife, Drusilla, when **"he preached righteousness, temperance** (crucifying one's fleshly, sensual appetites), **and judgment** (of God) **to come"** (Acts 24:25). Those who openly stand for righteousness in these last days should expect persecution. The world hates Christianity and, if you bear the fruit of His Spirit, you will be persecuted.

I heard an MSNBC commentator say white evangelicals are destroying America. Saints of God are not destroying America, but I can assure you, sin and sinners are taking their toll on this nation. This is why I am certain judgment is at the door.

We all know something is wrong, terribly wrong, and practically everything about our nation has become extremely evil. The redeemed of the Lord sense a presage and a foreboding awaiting this nation.

Several weeks ago many lost their cell phone service and were filled with panic, anxiety, and trepidation. That is how quickly judgment can fall upon America. That cell phone debacle was followed by yet another supposed Chinese balloon floating across America. Only a fool would deny the facts we are witnessing at this time. Several months ago the entire U.S. Senate was given satellite phones in case something disastrous happens to normal phone service.

Air Force General Mike Minihan, Commander of the Air Mobility Command recently stated: **"I hope I am wrong, but my gut tells me we will fight in 2025."** This was from a memo sent to his subordinate officers and obtained by NBC. General Minihan went on to say: **"because both Taiwan and the U.S. are having presidential elections in**

2024, the U.S. will be distracted, and Chinese President Xi Jinping will have an opportunity to move against Taiwan."

My point in sharing this detailed information is because, following Josiah's Reformation, the judgment of God fell upon Israel. I question: **Where is today's Holy Ghost conviction within God's people?**

Josiah tore down the altars Ahaz, Manasseh, and Amon built on the palace roof. Josiah beat those pagan altars into powder and then cast the powder and dust of them into the brook Kidron. You might say he was "Holy Ghost angry". We are told: **"Be ye angry, and sin not"** (Ephesians 4:26). I've learned in life, *righteous anger* can be a great impetus in correcting wrongs and making them right, while *plain anger* can be destructive. Only righteous indignation has a place within the children of God.

Josiah's anger drove him to do the right thing. Like then, the modern church has too many false altars. There is but one true altar Elohim recognizes – Jesus Christ and Him crucified. The church needs to return to the foot of the cross with old-fashioned repentance. The apostle Paul declared: **"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God"** (1 Corinthians 1:18). Paul reiterated: **"For I determined (decided) not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified"** (1 Corinthians 2:2).

When rereading our Scripture, it is hard to imagine how Israel could have fallen into such depths of idolatry; and just as hard for me to believe the many sins the modern church has accepted. The reason these evil deeds and acts manifest in the modern church is because we have lost our fear and reverence of Jehovah: **"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruct-**

tion" (Proverbs 1:7). One of the signs of the times is the loss of fear and reverence for Christ: **"There is no fear of God before their eyes"** (Romans 3:18).

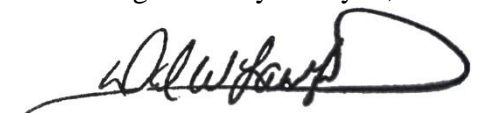
Josiah desecrated the pagan shrines east of Jerusalem and south of the Mount of Olives – also known as the "Mount of Corruption" – where, tragically, King Solomon had built shrines to Ashtoreth. It is amazing that such corruption took place there and yet Messiah fulfilled many Bible prophecies on the Mount of Olives. It was at the Mount of Olives where Jesus Christ earnestly prayed before His betrayal and crucifixion. The Mount of Olives is also known as the "Mount of Anointment". Putting olives under extreme pressure produced the oil used to anoint both kings and priests. It was at the Mount of Olives where Jesus, under extreme pressure, prayed and redemption's process began with the shedding of His innocent blood: **"And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground"** (Luke 22:44).

Please pray for our nation for we are at a cross roads.

Please remember our meeting,
"Revival in America"
September 20-22, 2024,
at the
Hickory Metro Convention Center,
Hickory, North Carolina.
We anticipate a genuine move of
God at this meeting!

Thank you so very much for your continued love, prayers, and support for **The Voice of Evangelism**. Be assured, we sincerely pray for your every need and for every prayer request you send us.

Serving faithfully with you,



David W. Lankford
Pastor / Evangelist