

Psalms 119:156

Great are Thy mercies, O LORD; Revive me according to Thine ordinances.

Here the psalmist is crying out to God to be revived according to God's ordinances or laws. The word revive means, "To return to life; or to recover life." America is in desperate need of revival, but for that to happen the church must first repent and return to the Living God. For far too long, most people have been playing church, the way young children might play house. We really aren't serious, and it is simply something that we lay down and pick up according to our own schedule and emotions. The truth is that the church has lost most, if not all credibility within our communities, states and nation; because the fire has dwindled down to mere smoke and mirrors within our own lives. No longer does the passion for Jesus Christ burn within our souls; so rather than repent and seek that intimacy once again in our lives, we have simply given in to religious traditions, as if they alone can save us from an eternity in hell. Instead of pastors and leaders exhorting their churches and ministries to return fully to God and "ALL" of His ordinances; we have simply watered down the Word of God to where it no longer offends. Ministers are seeking to become a Dr. Phil from behind the pulpit, because that seems to be what the masses are looking for. The church is so immature today that it has become uncommon to see families come together on a weekly basis, unless it is for the social aspect. People have learned to simply take the path of least resistance in the church. So much so, that they jump from church to church every time they are offended, convicted by the Holy Spirit, or simply bored.

I am convinced that the church in America is in desperate need for Revival. In fact, the church in America is the modern day church of Laodicea, spoken of in **Revelation 3**. We have become so lukewarm in every area of our lives, that somehow we have deceived ourselves into believing that we are on the cutting edge. If we are, then where is the fruit that validates such a claim? The leading cause of death among young people today, is suicide, in and out of the church. People have simply lost hope, because Christians are afraid to let their light shine. We have tried to control the illumination of our light, so as not to offend for so long now, that what was once a great flame, is today only smoldering. Must we allow another 911 to take place before we simply start taking our salvation serious again? If you are waiting for revival to come to your church or community before you jump aboard, then you are going to wait too long. Revival is first of all, a personal experience. I believe that if we don't take heed to the leading of the Holy Spirit to repent, and turn back to our Savior; then tomorrow may very well be too late! Many people have never experienced their hearts being transformed and renewed within our local churches. They simply only have known a social gathering that is labeled as 'spiritual'. Yet, I am convinced that many of you, who are listening to my voice today, know exactly what I mean about that "First Love". I exhort you today to return to your "First Love". Seek forgiveness for all of your sins from God, and then give forgiveness where it needs to be given. Each of us has been born for such a time as this. Do your part; start supporting a local church. Look at what you can give, rather than what can always be given to you. Truly make Jesus first in your life, today!!