

The Need for Revival

by Ken Hall

The sermon emphasizes the need for revival in America, highlighting the spiritual drought, devastation, and disease that are plaguing the nation, and warning of the judgment that will come if America does not turn back to God.

Duration: 43:24

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 7:11-22, Psalm 37:4, Proverbs 3:5-6, Matthew 6:33, Romans 8:28, James 1:5, James 5:16-18

Topics: "Repentance", "Revival"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker focuses on the context of verse 14 in the book of 2 Chronicles. He explains that the people of Israel were facing a drought as a result of their disobedience to God. The speaker emphasizes the importance of repentance and getting right with God in order to avoid judgment. He also highlights the need for humility and laying aside pride and selfishness in order to experience revival and healing from God.

Transcript

Take your Bibles today and turn with me to the book of 2nd Chronicles. 2nd Chronicles, the 7th chapter. And in just a moment we're going to read from verses 11 down through the end of the chapter.

2nd Chronicles 7, verses 11 down through verse 22. As I was praying about what to preach this morning, the Lord just took me back to these great old verses that you've heard preached a hundred times. And this morning it's going to be a hundred and one times.

And folks, we've heard these verses preached over and over and over and over again, but they haven't caught on yet. So we better go back to them. And I cannot think of verses that apply more to us in America today than these verses.

I hope you'll hang with me the entire message. The first part's going to probably sound kind of negative. In fact, it's not going to be kind of negative.

It's going to be very negative. But I don't want to leave it there because I think in the midst of the negative, we find our greatest hope. And I hope that you'll see that this morning as we look this morning at a message entitled simply, The Need for Revival, The Need for Revival.

These verses that we're going to read in just a second really have to do with the spiritual condition of the nation of Israel at the time where God called on Solomon to rebuild the temple. God had put it in the heart of his father David, and now it has fallen on Solomon to rebuild the temple. And we find all the events leading up to that day, and these verses talk about that event.

But it also speaks to us about the great spiritual need that was in Israel at that point in time when the temple was rebuilt. And it speaks of the great need for revival in the land of Israel. And those verses or these verses certainly applied to Solomon's time.

I think they apply to us so very clearly this morning. It applies to our country. These verses apply to churches.

In fact, these verses apply to us individually. And I trust that you'll just allow God to speak to your heart this morning as we look at these verses. Beginning in verse 11, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people, and my people, who are called by my name, humble themselves and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Now my eyes shall be open, and my ears attentive to the prayer offered in this place. For now I have chosen and consecrated this house, that my name may be there forever, and my eyes and my heart will be there perpetually. As for you, if you walk before me as your father David walked, even to do according to all that I commanded you, and will keep my statutes and my ordinances, then I will establish your royal throne as I covenanted with your father David, saying, You shall not lack a man to be ruler in Israel.

But if you turn away and forsake my statutes and my commandments, which I have set before you, and shall go and serve other gods and worship them, then I will uproot you from my land, which I have given you. And this house, which I have consecrated for my name, I shall cast out of my sight, and I will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples. As for this house, which was exalted, everyone who passes by it will be astonished, and say, Why has the Lord done thus to the land and to this house? And they will say, Because they forsook the Lord, the God of their fathers, who brought them from the land of Egypt, and they adopted other gods and worshipped them and served them, therefore he has brought all this adversity upon them.

That there is a desperate need for revival in our land, and not only in our land, but throughout the world, nobody could deny it whatsoever. And that was the way it was in Solomon's time. Really, when you began to look at what was going on, you see that they were faced with great problems.

There was a time, God says to these people, He says, You've got a choice. You can either repent and get right with me, and if so, I will bring healing upon your land, or if you keep going in the way in which you have been walking, there is going to come a time where you will face great judgment. And folks, I believe in America.

We're kind of at that crossroads. I don't know at what point in time we reach the point of no return when it comes to God's judgment, but I do believe when you look at us as a nation, God is the one who clearly has established this great land. It's God who has blessed this great country of ours, but it seems to me as if we have left God for the most part.

And God said to Solomon in this day, If you'll follow me like your father David followed me, I will bless you and there'll never be lack in your life. But if you forsake me, judgment will follow. And I just wonder in this day and age in which we're living at, or living in, if we have not gotten to the point where God is saying the same thing to us.

Now, it's interesting to me that we focus on verse 14, which we'll come back to in a moment, because verse 14 is that great promise that God makes us about revival. But you've got to keep it in its context. And its context really is what was happening in that day and age in which Solomon was living.

In fact, verses 12 and 13 of this text talks about three great problems that were going on in the nation of Israel at the time of the writing of these verses. And God is basically saying to the people in Solomon's time, If you don't get right with me, judgment is coming. Judgment is coming.

In fact, again, you can just look at this. I want to come back to it and deal with it in detail in just a moment. You see, this is the context of verse 14.

First of all, in verse 13 it tells that these people were facing or in danger of drought in the land. There was great drought in the land. And that's implied when it says in verse 13 where God says, If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain.

And you can go all through the Old Testament and you will find out oftentimes when God was going to bring judgment upon a people, He did so by sending drought to a land. In fact, over in the book of James, talking about one of the great men of God and talking about the importance of prayer, but at the same time talking about healing. In James 5, verses 16, 17, and 18, it says, Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another so that you may be healed.

And then it says, The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. Hang on to that, we'll come back to it in a moment. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain.

And it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. And he prayed again and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit. Now why did Elijah pray that there'd be no rain? Well, he did so to bring about judgment of God upon the people who would not repent and get right with God.

So oftentimes you see that drought was a judgment upon God, upon a people. Well, I wonder what that says to us here in the Southeast United States. Hmm, just a thought.

There was the danger of drought. Then you find in verse 13, there was also the danger of devastation in the land. In fact, this devastation was brought about by what the Bible says there were locusts devouring the land.

I'll come back to that locust in just a second. But again, you will find throughout Scripture that oftentimes when God judged a land, He did so by sending devouring locusts. Now, I'm not sure what they looked like, but they had to be horrible.

We do know what they can do. They can totally destroy a land. And again, oftentimes God's judgment would be brought by these devouring insects.

So there was the danger of drought. There was the danger of devastation. But you also find there was the danger of disease.

In verse 13, if I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, and then God says, or if I send pestilence among my people. Now, in the Hebrew, that word often spoke of plagues that would destroy. And most of the time, when you see that being applied in the Old Testament times, it would be through diseases that could not be controlled or cured being sent to a group of people.

God says this to the land. If you do not repent, if you do not get right with me, if you rebel and if you leave me, then I'm going to stand upon you judgment, and that judgment will come in the form of drought, and it will come in the form of devastation, and it will come in the form of disease under my judging hand. The choice is yours.

Well, let's apply that to America for a minute, could we? Do we not see these same things going on here today? What about drought? What about drought? And I'm not talking about a physical drought now, though we could argue that at our part of the world. I bet the folks up in Iowa would tell us otherwise. But what about spiritual drought? Folks, I'm going to tell you something.

There is a great spiritual drought in this nation. Now, I know what the polls tell us. The polls will tell you that if you go around and do a survey, that some two-thirds of the people in the United States of America claim to have some type of religious affiliation.

And besides that, aren't we still one nation under God? And the truth of the matter is you can look around you and you find churches on every corner of every street, at least in the South it's that way, and it's like that in most parts of the country. So how in the world could we say that there is a spiritual drought? Well, again, you don't have to look around you and see that though we claim to be a religious people, there's really not a whole lot of fruit from that religious activity is there. Now, let's just talk about us Baptists for a minute.

I'd rather talk about Methodists, and I'd rather talk about other groups, but since I don't know them this morning, we'll talk about us. We as Southern Baptists claim to be and are one of the largest evangelical Protestant denominations in the United States. We are, in fact, one of the few denominations that are still growing from an evangelistic standpoint.

We claim to have some 16 million members of people in our churches. But I want to tell you something. Even on a good Sunday, you couldn't find half of those 16 million in church if you had to.

What's wrong? There's a spiritual drought. Well, let's talk about First Baptist Lilburn for a minute. I can't talk about them other Baptist churches.

We've got hundreds, hundreds of people on our church rolls. In fact, we've even, as he said, we've got thousands. And yet on any given Sunday morning, you might find a third of them in worship.

Where are the other two-thirds? And you know what? If you could find them and you asked them if they were religious, you know what they'd say? Sure am. I'm a member down there at First Baptist Church. I ain't been in 25 years, but I'm a member.

Yeah, buddy, I'm religious. Spiritual drought. In fact, folks, listen to me and hear my heartbeat.

If the membership of First Baptist Church of Lilburn got right with God, Atlanta would have revival. Amen? Well, what about our nation? Is there a spiritual drought? Well, you better believe it. When was the last time you heard a leader in the United States of America say, you know what? Our problems have gotten beyond us.

Our only hope is God. Let's seek his face. Oh, my.

We're even afraid to say that word, God, today. If it's not in vain, we won't say it. We used to be known as a country that was one nation under God, and now we can't even use his name for fear we might offend somebody.

We've become more afraid of the ACLU than we are of God himself. Spiritual drought. I always get emails.

Many of you probably get them this time of year that are quotes from our founding fathers, where you can go back and you can see one quote after the other, after the other, after the other, from some of our great founding leaders who talk about this nation being founded on the basis of God's principles of his word and on a Christian ethic basis where we stand upon the principles that have been given down to us through the Lord Jesus Christ and through God's holy word, and yet we cannot even talk about it in public places nowadays without a lawsuit being thrown on us. There's spiritual drought on our land, just like it was in Solomon's time. What about this matter of devastation? Is there devastation in our land today? Listen to me.

In Solomon's time, the devastation was going to be caused by the locusts. Now, in that time, it was a literal locust, and it could do great damage to the crops, and even in our day and age, there are places where locusts still thrive, and they get into a crop, they can literally destroy it. That's true even of places here in the United States.

But, folks, I would say to you this morning that America is facing the devastation of locusts today, and it's not an insect. In fact, I really believe, and I'll show you this in just a minute, that one of the Old Testament ways of talking prophetically many times of what was coming upon a people was to describe things symbolically for us. And though I realize you must be careful with this, in a real way, the New Testament pictures for us that in the Old Testament, locusts were symbolic, prophetic pictures of demonic forces that would one day be released on this earth.

Now, if you don't believe that, just hold your place there in 2 Chronicles and go with me to the book of the Revelation. Revelation, the ninth chapter. And I'm going to read a few verses for you, beginning in verse 3, talking about a judgment of God upon the earth in the last days.

It says, Out of the smoke came forth locusts upon the earth, and power was given them, as the scorpions of the earth have power. And they were told they should not hurt the grass of the earth, nor any green thing, nor any tree, but only the men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. And they were not permitted to kill anyone, but to torment for five months.

And their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings a man. And in those days men will seek death and will not find it, and they will long to die, and death flees from them. And the appearance of the locusts will be like horses prepared for battle, and on their heads, as it were, crowns like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men.

And they had hair like the hair of women, and their teeth were like the teeth of lions. They had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots, of many horses rushing to battle. And they have tails like scorpions and stings, and in their tails there is power to hurt men for five months.

Now, some people will tell you that's a picture of helicopters in the last days. I don't know, it might be. But regardless of what they are, notice what they are doing.

They are on this earth causing great torment. And then verse 11, And they have as king over them. And by the way, that's a little K for king.

It's speaking of the one who is king of this earth, the great Lucifer himself, the one who has been cast down, who has control of this earth for a short period of time. The angel, the abyss, is this king. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in the Greek, he has the name Apollyon.

By the way, it's interesting that in the Hebrew language, Abaddon means destruction. In the Greek language, that word, or that name Apollyon means destroyer. In other words, there's coming a time on this earth that there's going to be unleashed from the very pits of hell, locusts, devouring locusts who will come, and they will torment this earth for a long period of time.

And I'm not so sure that America is not living in the grip of such torment in our day and age, and there's great devastation being caused. In fact, you don't have to look very far around us, and you'll see there are locusts of depravity in this day and age. Moral impurity.

And folks, my goodness, we see things happening in our generation that just 25 years ago, we would have blushed at. And now people laugh at them, they applaud them, and many cases even embrace such lifestyles. Just, I hope you don't.

But in case you do, if you don't believe that, just listen to late-night TV. In fact, you don't have to go real late at night anymore to see it. Or turn on the afternoon for the afternoon soaps.

My goodness. Again, we're allowing things to come across our TV waves that we would not even have thought about allowing many, many years ago. Now we have states embracing homosexual and lesbian marriages.

Embracing it. Even this morning, while we're here in worship, do you know what's going on in downtown Atlanta? The annual gay pride parade. Isn't that interesting they would do that on a Sunday? If, again, to slap righteousness right in the face.

We live in a time where the locusts of depravity have reached down and it's doing much destruction to this great land in which we live in. There are the locusts of destruction in this country that has been unleashed. And that destruction is being felt in the family.

Many today are having to deal with the heartbreak and the anguish of families that have broken up and have been destroyed by the great destroyer himself. There are locusts of deceit in our land. Isn't it interesting how we live in a day and age where people have just come to expect deceit? I mean, I'm amazed at this political arena that we're living in.

I mean, it's almost. And I realize there are a few, a few, very few, exemptions to what I'm about to say. But we live in a day and age where when a politician opens their mouth you just expect them to lie.

And it doesn't matter whether they're Democrat or Republican. They both are doing it. And what's even more tragic is that we have accepted it to the point that we almost accept it.

The devastation of deceit. There is the devastation of death in this land. And folks, what I mean by that is that we as a nation are moving further and further from a people who value the sanctity of life.

Life is no longer precious to us, and it's no longer sacred here in America. What's happened? Well, there's great drought in the land. There's great devastation in the land.

I'd say something else to you this morning. There's also great disease in the land, just like it was in Solomon's time. Oh, yeah, we've got some physical diseases that are grabbing hold of us.

If something doesn't happen, it could cause great harm in America. And when we talk about the AIDS, HIV problem that's in the world, not just here, but around the world, we think it's under control here in America, but I got news for you, it's not. There are other biological diseases and viral diseases that they're talking about that an outbreak could happen in America and millions of people would die because there's no way that we can cure it or control it.

But I suggest to you this morning that there is a greater threat from a disease than a physical disease that we face here today, and it's the disease of sin. And the Bible says the wages of sin is what? Death. Death as a people.

Death as a nation. Vance Heavner said this one time. He said, We do not have healthy hatred of sin today because we have no proper sense of the holiness of God.

The love of God has been preached, but not His law. Men are not conscious of their need because they do not regard sin as the awful thing that caused God His Son and the Son His life. They do not desire the physician because they do not think they are sick.

Sin is moral leprosy. To put up with leprosy is to die to leprosy. Sin is spiritual cancer.

A man who tries only to live with cancer dies with it. If we do not deal with spiritual malignancy, then indeed it deals with us. And that was the situation in Solomon's time.

It was a problem of drought, of devastation, of disease. And God said, If you do not repent, then you'll face my judgment. If you repent, I will send healing.

But if you do not repent, then my hands are off. Judgment follows. Well, let me close this morning by dealing with the promise of God.

Because in Solomon's day and age, there was the true condition of the land, but God came and made them an unbelievable promise. And in the midst of His coming judgment, God gives to them what we have preached, and you've heard preached time and time again, that is found in 2 Chronicles 7-14. I want you to look at it again.

And my people, and by the way, if you go back up in verse 13, it's very important that you see the context of this verse. It starts out, really, with the word if. And that if carries over to the promise made in verse 14.

It's absolutely imperative that you understand that. If my people, who are called by my name, humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. Folks, it's either revival or ruin.

You cannot have both. And God is saying to us today in America, there'll either be revival or you're gonna face ruin under my judgment. And by the way, God's the only hope we've got.

Thank God for that. We won't find it in the White House. We won't find it in anybody else's house except God's house.

He's our only hope. But we're gonna have to respond to him like he says to respond to him. Four things I want you to see real quickly.

We'll close this morning. Number one, I want you to see God's desire for revival. If these verses that I've read to you say anything this morning, they mean that God is willing, God wants to, he is longing to send revival to our land.

And ladies and gentlemen, you need to be absolutely crystal clear on this. Revival is always God's plan. Revival begins in the very heart of Almighty God.

It is abundantly clear from these verses and other verses found throughout God's word that God would much rather revive his people than judge his people. And in reality, he is our one and only hope. The only hope we have in America today is that we might be revived. Psalm 85 verse 6 says, Will you not yourself revive us again that your people may rejoice in you? God's the one that revives.

And revival's the only hope we have. By the way, in that verse in Psalm 85 verse 6, the key word is that word again. Will you not revive us again, God? Aren't you grateful that God is the God of again? That he is a God of a second chance? That he gives his people time after time, opportunity after opportunity to turn, to come back to him.

Will you not revive us again? The Old Testament book of Habakkuk, the third chapter, verse 2, the word of God says, Lord, I've heard the report about you and I fear. Now let me stop there a minute. Why did Habakkuk fear? I'll tell you why, folks.

Because he also knew that this loving God that wanted to send revival is also a holy God that will send his judgment if his people do not repent. I don't think we believe that. I think most people today believe God's too good a God to send judgment.

I mean, a God of love would never do that. And by the way, that's a true statement. A God of love would not.

But folks, before God's a God of love, he is a God of holiness, and it's out of his holiness that he is who he is. And as a God of holiness, he has to judge. So Habakkuk said, I see God and I'm fearful.

He was fearful because he knew it was either revival or ruin. It was either repent or judgment. Lord, I've heard the report about you and I fear.

Oh Lord, revive your work in the midst of years. In the midst of years, make it known. In wrath, remember mercy.

God is willing to revive his work. That is his desire. And folks, I think I can say with all the assurance of heart this morning that God would rather America have revival than America come to ruin in judgment.

That's his heart. That's his desire. You also see in these verses God's demand for revival.

These verses make it absolutely clear that God has certain demands that must be met if revival is to come. Though God is absolutely sovereign in his work of revival in the hearts and the life of men and nations and churches, there is also a set of conditions that must be met that we have the responsibility to face. And if we do not responsibly respond to God in the way which he demands, revival will never come.

Note if you would, the words if and the word then. It's used numerous times in these verses that I read to you. If my people do such and such, then God says I will respond to what they do and I will send healing.

But if they do not do what I've told them to do, then there will be no revival of the land. That is God's demand. You don't get around them.

You don't short circuit them. You do not substitute them. You don't make deals with God.

God, if you'll let me win that \$10 million lottery, I'll go to church for four weeks in a row. By the way, don't raise your hand. Have you all ever said that and said, God, I'll give half of it to the church? Boy, that sounds good, doesn't it? And by the way, if you should win it, we'll take it.

I just want you to know that up front. I give half of it away so I can keep half of it for myself. Hey, you don't make deals with God.

You're not on the bargaining side. That's God's demand. Thirdly, you find God's design for revival, and I think it's very important that you understand this fact.

Revival of our great land will not begin in Washington. It will not begin in the state capitol. It will not begin with local governments.

Folks, God's design for revival is that it begins with God's people. Doggone it, I wish that wasn't true. It'd be much easier to blame them Democrats or Republicans.

Boy, we haven't learned anything these last 30 years. We ought to have learned the lesson that putting a certain president, whatever color they wear in the White House, will not usher in the millennial kingdom. It's not going to happen.

Folks, what is God's design for revival? I'll tell you what his design is. When his people get right with him, then he'll move. Listen to me.

It's not the heathen in this land that's the problem. It's church members. Amen or me? I'm going to tell you something.

Just church members start living like Jesus, it'd radically change this nation. How in the world can we expect revival to come when church members live just like the world the rest of the week? They go to the same bars. They run around with their wives just like everybody else.

They watch the same garbage on TV. They live the same lifestyle that the rest of the world is living. How do you expect the church to make a difference? That's God's design.

If my people, who are called by my name, humble themselves. Folks, I'm serious when I tell you revival would come to this church, revival would come to this city, revival would come to this county and maybe even this state and this nation if we at First Baptist Church of Louisville got right with God. God's desire, God's demand, God's design.

Then you find God's demonstration. When God's people respond to God's demands and conditions, then God brings healing. He brings restoration.

He brings revival. If my people do four things, we're closing with this. If my people humble themselves.

Now what does that mean? Well, I think the best way to put it is simply this. We have to lay aside our pride and our selfishness and we must humble ourselves under God's mighty hand to let him be able to work in us and through us as he so pleases. Well, that's hard.

Let me ask you this morning, are you walking humbly before God? Have you laid pride, what is pride? Pride is me wanting what I want. Have you put that away? By the way, you can't be proudful and be humble at the same time. And folks, listen to me.

Some of us claim that we've done that, but there are some in the church that you've not even started giving to God like you said to give. And you say you want revival? Hey, that's God's money. That's God's money.

Now, if you want what you want, you'll give what you can give. But if you want what he wants and you're walking humbly before him, you're going to give what he asks you to give. Let me ask you something.

Have you asked God about coming back to church on Sunday night or Wednesday night? Well, I don't want to do that. Well, that's your problem. What does God want? And have you honestly asked him? Have you honestly asked God, God, what do you want? And if he tells you to go, would you go? Do you hear my heart? Folks, if we don't get humble before God, how can we expect the lost to get humble before him? If people don't look at us and see a difference, who are they going to look at? If my people who are called by my name humble themselves and do what? Pray.

By the way, the word pray there used in the Hebrew language might be better translated. At least it carries with it the meaning of the word to plead or plead. It carries with it the thought of great intensity and urgency.

It speaks of those who are serious in their prayer before God. If my people who are called by my name humble themselves and intently plead with God, plead with him about what? Two things. Number one, don't send judgment.

Number two, send revival. You know, you can go back down through the church age, and folks, every revival in the history of the church from Pentecost to the day present started with prayer, didn't it? And you know what? It didn't always start with a large group. Sometimes it started with one individual.

Sometimes it just started with a small group of people. Sometimes it might have started with a church. But when people pled for the reviving hand of God, their prayers got God's attention.

I don't understand how that works within his sovereignty, but that's how it works. God says for my people to pray. Lost people aren't going to pray.

They can't pray. They don't even have access to the throne. But we do.

And I'm not so sure that judgment has not fallen on America as of yet, probably because of the faithful pleading of God's people who are here asking him to hold back his hand of judgment. Pleading. We've lived to see the fall of the Iron Curtain, and if you know the story behind that, it didn't happen because of government so much.

It happened because of faithful men and women who pled with God in prayer that the Iron Curtain might be torn down. That's what's happening. We're hearing of God moving in mighty revival in places like Korea, in places like South Africa, in places like Brazil and other South American countries.

And when you begin to find out why is revival coming, it's coming because of prayer. We're seeing the church explode in communist China. In fact, mark this down.

This Olympic thing is going to forever change the face of the church in China. But even if it doesn't, folks, there are millions of people being ushered into the kingdom of God in the nation of China. Do you know why? People are pleading with God for salvation of souls.

That's why. Even in our own adopted country, where it is so black and so dark, we're hearing reports of an emerging church, and it's not coming because of people. It's coming because of the prayers of the saints of God who are pleading for God to send revival to that nation.

If my people who have called by my name and pray and seek my face. Now, what does that mean? It could mean a lot of things. I'd say this.

It means to seek God's glory for all things. It means to seek his favor in our lives. It means to seek his will and to follow it after it.

It means to seek him and him alone for spiritual blessing and power. If my people who are called by my name would seek God and God alone, we want to seek everything else, don't we? In fact, it's interesting that for some, you get in a situation in life where it becomes so desperate, you finally begin to pray, and it's almost as if prayer is a last-ditch effort. I finally got to seek God about this when it ought to have been the first thing that we did.

You know, I don't know all this. I didn't live back in those days, as you did not live, but when you go back and you read the history books to see what our four founding forefathers did in this nation, I think what you find as a whole is a group of men and women who desperately sought the face of Almighty God in the establishment of this country. And we've gotten so far away from that today, we can't even use his name.

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves and pray and seek my face, and then this, turn from their wicked ways. Man, I wish that said, that those heathens will turn from their wicked ways. But that's not what it says.

Hey, you can't expect a heathen to turn from their wicked way until they get their heart right. But we ought to expect God's people to turn from their wicked ways. You know what? Before I came out here to preach this sermon this morning, God was dealing with me about something in my heart that I had to get right with him, that I had to turn from, that he put his finger on in my life that I knew was wrong, and I didn't want to get it right, but I knew I had to get it right.

But I knew before I stood here and preached this sermon this morning that I had to do that. In fact, at that point in time, I wasn't so much concerned about what you were going to do, I was very concerned about what I was going to do. If they will turn from their wicked ways.

You know what? If the church turned from their wicked ways, most of the liquor stores would close. Lotteries would go out of business. I could stand here and list a whole lot of things that would close up shop if the church got right.

Well, in Solomon's days, it was either repent or come to ruin. In 2008, for America, I'm afraid the story is the same. We will either repent and have revival, or we will come to ruin.

Which will it be? Which will it be? If my people, heads are bowed and eyes are closed.

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/17/SID17322.mp3>
Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/ken-hall/the-need-for-revival/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net