



THE FUTURE TODAY!

Prophecy Meetings

**Should we expect revival in the end
times?**

Acts 2:17-18

Sermon given on March 12, 2023



Sunday Afternoon Service

Pastor Rick Lancaster

Should we expect revival in the end times?

Acts 2:17-18

Opening Comments

- Welcome to the **FUTURE TODAY** prophecy meeting.
- If you have your Bible, turn to **Acts 2**.
- There has been an exciting moving of the Holy Spirit lately.
- The Chosen series, the revival at Asbury college and the success of the movie the Jesus Revolution.
- To the outside secular observer it might not seem like much, but it could be the spark that sets the world on fire for Jesus.
- The question is, ‘Should we expect a revival in the end times?’
- The simple answer is, ‘Yes!’
- Historically, revivals come about once every fifty years and it has been about fifty years since the last one.
- Acts 2 records the first revival after Jesus went back to heaven.
- It began as the disciples were gathered for prayer.
- The Holy Spirit chose that moment to fall on them and imbue them with miraculous gifts.
- The excitement of that drew a crowd who were in Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost.
- Peter was then led by the Holy Spirit to call them to a decision of faith including repenting of their sins.
- Included in that message was this
- **Acts 2:17-18**
- ‘in the last days’ = the end times.
- The last days or end times are the period of time between Christ’s Ascension and His Second Coming.
- We are living in the last days.
- Peter was saying that what they were witnessing was a fulfillment of several Old Testament prophecies.
- The Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples.
- And that led to a great revival which then, over the next century, spread across the whole world.

- And for the last two millennia, the Holy Spirit periodically moves in a radical way and revival bursts forth.
- It is an expression of His sovereign grace.
- The church cannot make a revival happen.
- It can prepare itself and be open to revival.
- A revival is a miraculous work of the Holy Spirit.
- The first step toward being open for revival is to believe that God still does those kinds of miracles.
- Unbelief can hinder the works of God.
- Jesus, God the Son was hindered by unbelief. **Matthew 13:57-58**
So they were offended at Him. But Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house.” ⁵⁸ Now He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.
- If we desire revival, which we should, we must first believe God can bring revival.
- Second, all true revivals have the truth of God’s Word as their foundation.
- In Peter’s message on the day of Pentecost, he told them what God’s Word said.
- God’s Word rightly preached and understood will have a dramatic effect on people during a revival.
- It did on Peter’s audience.
- **Acts 2:37**
- These were religious people who had traveled long distances to be in Jerusalem for the religious festival of Pentecost.
- ‘cut to the heart’ = felt the conviction of the Holy Spirit.
- That is another miraculous work of the Holy Spirit.
- We are living in a time when people have no desire to experience God’s conviction.
- They don’t want to feel bad about themselves or their lives.
- Paul spoke about this time. **2 Timothy 4:3-4**
For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.
- If we want to see revival, we must ask God to help us always be open to the conviction of the Holy Spirit when we hear or read God’s Word.

- Finally, one last thing is needed so that we will be ready for the Holy Spirit to stir up revival – we must be willing to respond.
- They asked Peter, “What should we do?”
- These religious people didn’t know how to respond to what the Holy Spirit was doing.
- But once they knew, they responded.
- **Acts 2:40-41**
- Be ready to say yes to God, no matter what He calls you to do.
- I believe God is going to bring revival again before Jesus comes back for His church.
- I don’t know when. I don’t know where. I don’t know how.
- The disciples were gathered and were in one accord – in unity.
- They didn’t know what was going to happen – they simply believed.
- God is looking for people who will believe – who will stand upon and believe His truth – and who are willing to respond when His Spirit moves.
- That could be us.
- Holy Spirit we humbly ask that You would move in this place and in these people today. Amen!
- Pastor Randy will now share!