

New Sermon Series: Revival

1/18/26 "Fear Helps," Acts 4:36-5:16, MEV

INTRODUCTION revival story...do you want revival here?

The Christian power which heals one man destroys another.
(from *Biblical Illustrator*, J. Parker, D. D.)

MAIN IDEA: Let us seek God for revival. How will I recognize revival? Here are three things that will happen.

I. First, the Spirit will convict us of our sin (4-5, 9-11)

A. not allowing "gray areas" ... *kept back*

Kept back: embezzle (*Strong's*), keep back something that belongs to another (*Thayer*)

1. we make allowances/excuses for ourselves

2. we justify ourselves... *but I don't...they do that*

B. dealing with sin we recognize... *lie to Holy Spirit*

1. trying to deceive or mislead

2. presenting something that is not true... *for personal benefit such as looking good before others*

C. addressing the poisonous root... *envy, pride (4:37, 5:2)*

1. God reveals A & S's here in bible

2. God will reveal ours—at least to us

D. results in purification

1. of us if we repent... *A & S did not*

2. of the local body

- fear of God rises among His children
- children search themselves for sin
- children repent

ILLUSTRATION: in class child caught chewing gum, told to stand in front of class, nose to wall; others spit theirs out & hide in paper

II. Second, the Spirit moves powerfully (12)

A. Spirit fills & refills... *baptism of the Holy Spirit, refilling*

1. **Acts 2:39, MEV:** For the *promise is to you, and to your children, and to all who are far away, as many as the Lord our God will call. [**Acts 1:4*]

2. **Ephesians 5:18, MEV:** Be filled with the Spirit.

B. gifts of Holy Spirit given & used... *healing, deliverance*

1. people cooperate with Spirit

2. Spirit does miracles

C. God is glorified

1. talk ***will not be*** about what someone did

2. talk ***will be*** about what God did

ILLUSTRATION:

III. Finally, the Spirit builds His church (14-16)

A. people are drawn to His body by His Spirit

1. working within them... *drawing*

2. because of hope kindled... *will I be healed?*

3. because of desire for freedom from oppression

B. many become born again... *believers were increasingly added*

1. purification removes hypocrisy, making His body more appealing, genuine

2. purification invites His greater Presence

- to work more fully among those in bondage, & among the hurting & lost

- His Presence brings peace, hope, light

ILLUSTRATION:

CONCLUSION: Christians have agreed to follow & obey Jesus. God will purify His church & our lives because He is holy & wants to save others.

ALTAR: known sin? Confessed Jesus yet? (do so) Yes? (repent)