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**GRACE NOTES RADIO PROGRAM
SERIES: REVIVAL IN THE LAND - Part 6
SONGS: SHOUT TO THE LORD
REVIVAL**

INTRO: Welcome to Grace Notes. Today, Barbara Sandbek concludes her series, 'Revival in the Land' with the finale of this divinely orchestrated event. What a time we've had watching the birth of a great revival in the people of Judah. On our last program, we saw the people worshiping the Lord together in the temple with their burnt offerings, against a backdrop of singing, instrumental music and rejoicing. Revival was well on its way. Let's see what happens now.

King Hezekiah addressed the joyful people with these words in 2 Chronicles 29:31...“You have now dedicated yourselves to the Lord.”

In other words, revival had begun. How do I know? Because the word 'dedicate' here primarily means 'to renew', and 'revival' means 'to impart new spirit'.

But, Hezekiah legislated this, so to see if the people were truly sincere, we need to look for the signs of revival.

One sign was that the people willingly OPENED their hearts.

Hezekiah had instructed them to bring sacrifices and thank offerings to the temple of the Lord, and they did, but the Scripture says - ALL WHOSE HEARTS WERE WILLING BROUGHT BURNT OFFERINGS.

Do we give because we love the Lord, or just out of obligation?

God says to us in 2 Corinthians 9:7...

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Another sign of revival was that the people willingly OFFERED gifts that cost them something.

Remember, burnt offerings were a symbol of complete surrender. The King didn't force the people to do this. They brought so many offerings, the priests had to solicit the help of the Levites.

In Leviticus 27:30, God had said that a tithe (or tenth) of everything from the land belonged to Him and was considered holy (or dedicated). The Israelites had neglected this, because of their sin.

In Malachi 3:8 God spoke concerning this, saying...

**“Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, ‘How do we rob You?’
In tithes and offerings.”**

Should God expect US to give to Him these days? Yes! Christ didn't abolish the law, He fulfilled it. Even before the law was given, Abraham gave a tithe of the spoils from the battle the Lord had won for him, in thanks to God. A tenth is still the Lord's, and offerings are over and above what's expected.

Do we truly realize what we've been given? Through Christ, God has granted us grace – His unmerited favor.

Ephesians 2:6-7 says...

God raised us up with CHRIST and seated us with him in the Heavenly realms in Christ Jesus in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of his grace expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

Who, according to 2 Corinthians 8:9, gave up His riches and became poor so that we through His poverty might become rich.

When our heart is grateful, we don't have to be coerced into giving.

Another sign of revival is a willingness to OBEY God's orders.

God had a prescribed way He wanted things done. He had Hezekiah restore the service of the temple of the Lord and re-institute the Passover celebration according to His instruction. The reason God wanted them to do this, was so they'd take time to remember their release from Egyptian bondage.

God has requirements for us today. Our worship services should always be conducted in a reverent way. 1 Corinthians 14:40 says...Let all things be done decently and in order.

We need fellowship with Believers so as to encourage one another in the Lord. In Hebrews 10:25 we read...

Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the

DAY approaching.

Concerning the Passover celebration, Jesus said in Luke 22:19 when He was conducting the Lord's Supper...

"This is my body which is given for you; this do in remembrance of me."

Do we faithfully attend our church services and whole-heartedly participate in communion?

Another sign of revival is a genuine concern for OTHERS.

The king was so excited about what had occurred, that he sent a proclamation, via couriers, throughout Israel, inviting the people to return to the Lord and come to Jerusalem and celebrate the Passover with them. In a sense, that's what we'd call witnessing. How excited are we about what the Lord has done in our lives? Excited enough to tell others and invite them to share in the experience?

The couriers were met with OPPOSITION – another sign that revival has taken place. The devil will do whatever he can to thwart the efforts of those who live for the Lord and influence others. Despite the opposition, though, a very large crowd came to the celebration.

God blesses revival with ONENESS.

2 Chronicles 30:12 says...the hand of God was on the people to give them UNITY of mind to carry out what the king and his officials had ordered, following the word of the Lord.

There is no satanic dart that can defeat Godly UNITY.

God blesses revival with OVERFLOWING joy.

The people celebrated JOYFULLY for fourteen days. Over and over again the Scripture says the people rejoiced and had great joy. Do we take time to celebrate our Salvation? There's nothing we have that can even begin to compare to the promise of eternal life we've received through Christ. It's something to shout about!

***** WRITER: Darlene Zschech

*** SHOUT TO THE LORD ** LENGTH:

*My Jesus, my Savior,
Lord, there is none like You;
All of my days
I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love.*

*My comfort, my shelter,
Tower of refuge and strength;
Let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship You.*

*Shout to the Lord, all the earth,
Let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King;
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name.*

*I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand,
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.*

*My Jesus, my Savior,
Oh, Lord there is nothing like You;
All of my days
I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love.*

*You're my comfort, and my shelter,
You're my tower of refuge and strength;
Let every breath, and all that I am
Never cease to worship You.*

*Shout to the Lord, all the earth,
Let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King;
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name.*

*I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand,
Nothing compares to the promise I have in...*

*Shout to the Lord, all the earth,
Let us sing, yeah,
Power and majesty, praise to the King;
Mountains bow down (mountains bow down and the seas will roar)
At the sound of Your name.*

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,

*Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand,
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You...
(Nothing compares to the promise I have in You...)
Oh, nothing compares to the promise I have in you.*

Revival opens the door for a great OPPORTUNITY for change.

Even the aliens who'd been invited to the celebration experienced joy. The zealous people of Judah then went out to the surrounding towns and got rid of the rest of the idols themselves.

Revival brings a great OUTPOURING of gifts.

Hezekiah ordered the people living in Jerusalem to give on a continual basis, so the priests and Levites could devote themselves to the Lord's work. The people generously gave the **FIRSTFRUITS** of their produce and animals – their **BEST**, right from the top, so much so, it says there were heaps of gifts.

God was pleased and blessed their gifts. The priests and Levites could now attend to their duties - there was plenty to spare.

Going back to Malachi 3:10 we read...

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

I remember an illustration a pastor gave for this verse. He took an empty glass and filled it with stones. He asked if it was full. It was, but yet it wasn't. He then poured sand into it and asked again. It seemed that it was, yet he could still pour water into it. This shows the way God blesses when we give.

So, in summary, let's review the signs of revival:

an **OPEN HEART...**
OPEN HAND...
OBEDIENT WILL...
ONENESS with Christ and others...
OVERFLOWING JOY...
and a genuine concern for **OTHERS.**

Though this revival occurred as a result of an orchestrated event, I don't believe it has to. In thinking about the times I've felt revived in my spirit,

I've come to the conclusion that revival can and should occur on a daily basis. Think about it, we refresh our physical bodies every day, by taking a shower to clean the outside, and eating and drinking to satisfy the inside. It's the same with our spiritual being. We clean our spiritual self by confessing our sin. We sustain and refresh it by feasting in God's Word and drinking in His Living Water as we meditate and pray.

So, have you experienced revival in your life? God has great things in store for you. He used one man, King Hezekiah, to impact a whole nation. He can use you to greatly change those people in your sphere of influence.

Can there be revival in your land? You bet! It can begin with YOU!

***** WRITERS: Jeff Gibson, Kirk L. Talley

*** God's gonna send revival *** LENGTH: 3:10

CHORUS

*All over this land – all over this land – get ready
God's gonna send revival all over this land
We're gonna be marchin' to victory
With power in our hands
God's gonna send revival all over this land*

VERSE 1

*Where two or more are gathers in His Name
There He said he would be
Right here in this very room
All of us agree
That He's the only Mighty One
And we need His power to stand
We know that God's gonna send revival
All over this land
Repeat Chorus*

VERSE 2

*Like a fire out of control
Sweeping across the plain
God's gonna pour down manna
Just like a thunder-shower of rain*

***A mighty, rushing wind will blow
When He waves His Mighty hand
We believe, God's gonna send revival
All over this land***

Repeat Chorus 2X

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