



re//vive

PSALM 80:14-19

14 Turn again, O God of hosts!
 Look down from heaven, and
 see; have regard for this vine,
 15 the stock that your right hand
 planted, and for the son whom
 you made strong for yourself.
 16 They have burned it with fire;
 they have cut it down; may they
 perish at the rebuke of your face!
 17 But let your hand be on the man

of your right hand, the son of
 man whom you have made
 strong for yourself!
 18 Then we shall not turn back from
 you; give us life, and we will call
 upon your name!
 19 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts!
 Let your face shine, that we may
 be saved!



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The psalmist now beseeches God to look down from heaven and see the suffering of the nation he loves. The nation was devastated and ruined. Because of Israel's sin and unfaithfulness, the enemies of God mocked his people and dishonored his name. Yet the psalmist recognizes God's goodness and power. He calls the people to repent and he remembers God's great promises to his covenant people. Therefore, he prays that God will restore his people and their nation. For God alone is the only one who has power to do such a thing.

In the church today, we must understand that revival and restoration are acts of God. It is only through the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit that revivals come. We cannot manufacture them no matter how wise or gifted we may be. Humanly orchestrated "revivals" are not genuine or lasting in their effects. Whatever we conjure up will at best be nothing more than illusions of revival. When God restores us and shines his face upon us, we will be truly saved. And because God alone brings revival, he alone is glorified when revival comes.

Let us all be like the writer of

Psalm 80. Let us plead with God to bring restoration where there is destruction, to bring unity where there is division, to bring peace where there is hostility and to bring life where there is death. And most importantly, let us pray that God would be glorified and his name magnified as he revives lost and dying churches in our nation. If revival in your church depended on the fervency of your prayers, how likely would revival be? Let us all pray with the psalmist,

“Restore us, O Lord God of hosts! Let your face shine, that we may be saved!”

prayer guide

Lord of my life, bring conviction of sin where it is needed.

God, bring me swiftly to repentance.

God, please bring clear direction for needed change.

Lord, move upon my heart and the hearts of others to fervently pray for revival.

Revive and restore your church, Lord, for your glory.

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