

# Why Revival Tarries Textbook

## Why Revival Tarries: Understanding the Delays in Spiritual Awakening

**Why revival tarries** has been a question posed by believers, pastors, and scholars for centuries. Throughout history, many communities and nations have experienced periods of spiritual dryness and stagnation, only to see revival moments that seem to delay or linger. Understanding the reasons behind these delays is crucial for those longing for an outpouring of God's Spirit and for churches seeking to see their communities transformed. In this article, we will explore the various factors that contribute to the delay of revival, analyze biblical and historical perspectives, and offer insights on how to prepare for and accelerate the move of God.

## Historical Perspectives on Revival Delays

### Revival in the Bible: Examples of Tarrying

Scripture provides numerous examples of God's people experiencing delays before revival or divine intervention. For instance:

- **Isaiah's Prophecy:** Isaiah 6 depicts a period of spiritual decline before God's call to Isaiah to be a prophet.
- **Jonah and Nineveh:** The city of Nineveh experienced a delayed revival as they repented after Jonah's message, but only after their own delay in repentance.
- **Early Church:** The disciples, following Jesus' resurrection, waited in Jerusalem for the promised Holy Spirit, which came after a period of waiting (Acts 1-2).

These biblical narratives show that divine timing often involves periods of waiting, testing, and preparation, which can feel like a delay but are part of God's sovereign plan.

## Historical Revival Movements and Their Delays

Throughout church history, revival movements often faced delays before breaking forth:

- **The Great Awakenings:** Multiple revival periods in America experienced long periods of spiritual drought before the Holy Spirit moved powerfully.
- **Welsh Revival (1904-1905):** Several years of prayer and spiritual hunger preceded the revival

explosion.

- **Azusa Street Revival:** Prayers and persistent faith led to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit after years of expectancy.

These examples demonstrate that revival often requires persistent prayer, spiritual preparation, and patience, which can contribute to the perceived delay.

## Spiritual and Theological Reasons for Revival Tarrying

### 1. God's Sovereign Timing

One of the primary reasons why revival taries is God's sovereign timetable. God, in His wisdom, orchestrates events and delays for purposes beyond human understanding. Revelation 10:6 refers to God's "time of delay," indicating that divine timing is often beyond our control or comprehension. Believers are called to trust God's sovereignty, knowing that His timing is perfect.

### 2. Preparation and Purity of the Church

Revival often requires a church that is spiritually prepared and purified. James 4:8 encourages believers to draw near to God, and He will draw near to them. When the church is compromised by sin, complacency, or worldliness, it can hinder or delay revival. God may delay revival to allow His people to repent, seek holiness, and align their hearts with His will.

### 3. Repentance and Intercession

Revival is frequently linked to repentance. 2 Chronicles 7:14 states, "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven." The delay can be due to a lack of genuine repentance or intercession among God's people, which must precede His outpouring.

### 4. Spiritual Warfare and Opposition

Revival can be delayed by spiritual opposition from enemy forces. Ephesians 6:12 reminds us that our struggle is against spiritual rulers and powers. Demonic resistance, distractions, and discouragement can hinder the timing of revival, requiring believers to engage in persistent prayer and spiritual warfare.

### 5. Cultural and Social Barriers

Societal issues such as corruption, moral decay, and apathy can also delay revival. When the culture resists spiritual change, it can take time for the Gospel to penetrate and transform societies.

Revival often involves breaking strongholds and overcoming entrenched sin, which can be a lengthy process.

## Factors That Contribute to the Tarrying Period

### 1. Lack of Faith and Expectancy

Revival is fueled by faith and expectancy. When believers lose hope or become complacent, the spiritual atmosphere becomes less receptive. Hebrews 11:6 emphasizes that faith pleases God; therefore, a lack of faith can delay divine movement.

### 2. Insufficient Prayer and Spiritual Hunger

Persistent prayer and hunger for God are catalysts for revival. Without a dedicated prayer movement, the spiritual climate remains stagnant. History shows that revival often begins with concentrated prayer efforts.

### 3. Unprepared and Unsurrendered Hearts

Individuals and churches that are not fully surrendered or prepared hinder the collective readiness for revival. God desires vessels that are clean, humble, and obedient to His Spirit.

### 4. Complacency and Worldliness

When believers and churches become comfortable with their status quo or overly attached to worldly pursuits, revival is delayed. Revelation 3:15-16 warns against lukewarmness, which can hinder God's Spirit from moving freely.

## How to Overcome the Delays and Accelerate Revival

### 1. Pray Persistently and Fervently

Prayer is foundational. Acts 1:14 records the disciples praying together in anticipation of the Holy Spirit. Churches and individuals should cultivate a culture of prayer, fasting, and intercession to create an atmosphere conducive to revival.

### 2. Seek Personal and Corporate Holiness

Revival begins with personal sanctification. 2 Corinthians 7:1 encourages believers to perfect holiness out of reverence for God. Churches should pursue purity, repentance, and humility as preparatory steps.

### 3. Cultivate Expectancy and Faith

Expect God to move. Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as the substance of things hoped for. Believers should maintain a positive outlook and actively anticipate God's outpouring.

### 4. Remove Obstacles and Repent of Sin

Identify and confront sin within ourselves and our communities. Acts 3:19 calls for repentance, which prepares the way for divine refreshment.

### 5. Engage in Community Outreach and Social Justice

Revival often extends beyond the church walls into society. Addressing social issues and demonstrating Christ's love creates an environment for spiritual awakening.

### 6. Build Unity Among Believers

Unity is a catalyst for revival. John 17:21 records Jesus praying for believers to be unified, so the world may believe. Strong bonds among believers foster collective prayer and spiritual momentum.

## Conclusion: Embracing the Journey Toward Revival

While the question of **why revival tarries** can be complex, understanding the biblical, spiritual, and social factors involved provides clarity and hope. Revival is ultimately a divine act, but it often requires human cooperation—prayer, repentance, humility, and faith. Believers should remain steadfast, knowing that God's timing is perfect, and that through persistent prayer and preparation, the delays will give way to divine outpourings. As history and Scripture show, revival may tarry, but it is never denied forever. The key is to stay committed, continue seeking God, and trust in His sovereign plan for spiritual awakening.

### Why Revival Tarries: Unraveling the Complexities Behind Spiritual Resurgence

In many spiritual communities and religious circles, there's a recurring question that echoes through the corridors of faith and practice: Why does revival tarry? The phenomenon of spiritual revival—the sudden or gradual awakening of faith, repentance, and renewed divine encounter—has historically been a hallmark of spiritual movements. Yet, time and again, believers and leaders witness seasons of heightened spiritual fervor followed by periods of stagnation or delay. Understanding why revival often tarries involves examining theological, spiritual, cultural, and practical dimensions that influence divine timing and human response.

In this article, we will explore the multifaceted reasons behind the delays or tarrying of revival,

providing a comprehensive analysis that blends biblical insights, historical examples, and contemporary observations.

## The Nature of Divine Timing: God's Sovereignty and Human Readiness

### God's Sovereignty in Revival

At the core of understanding why revival tarrys is recognizing the sovereignty of God. Scripture emphasizes that revival is ultimately an act of divine grace, initiated and sustained by God's will. For example, in 2 Chronicles 7:14, God promises to heal the land when His people humble themselves and pray, but the timing of this awakening is subject to His sovereign plan.

God's timing is often different from human expectations. He may delay revival to accomplish specific purposes?such as purifying His people, correcting error, or preparing a community for greater responsibility. Delay does not equate to denial; rather, it reflects God's strategic patience.

### Human Readiness and Spiritual Maturity

Revival also depends on the spiritual preparedness of a community. The collective heart must be receptive, humble, and repentant. If pride, complacency, or disobedience dominate, divine mercy and revival are hindered.

In the biblical narrative, the Israelites' repeated cycles of revival and backsliding highlight this dynamic. When they turned back to God with genuine repentance, revival followed; when they persisted in rebellion, delay ensued.

**Key Point:** The interplay between divine sovereignty and human response determines when revival occurs. God may tarry to allow hearts to be fully prepared.

## The Role of Spiritual Conditions and Repentance

### Genuine Repentance as a Prerequisite

Revival is often preceded by repentance?both personal and corporate. Without sincere repentance, revival remains elusive. This is underscored in the Old Testament, where prophets called Israel to repentance before experiencing God's renewal.

If a community tolerates sin?be it moral compromise, injustice, or apathy?revival will be delayed. The presence of unrepentant sin acts as a barrier to divine movement.

### The Importance of Humility and Brokenness

Revival requires humility and brokenness before God. When leaders and congregations are prideful or self-sufficient, they resist God's work. Conversely, acknowledging dependence on God's grace creates an environment conducive to revival.

List of Factors That Hinder Revival Due to Lack of Repentance:

- Unaddressed sin and moral compromise
- Spiritual pride and self-reliance
- Apathy and spiritual complacency
- Resistance to correction and discipline

Conclusion: Without authentic repentance and humility, revival remains a distant hope.

## Cultural and Societal Factors Influencing Revival

### Cultural Barriers and Worldview

Cultural norms and societal values can either facilitate or hinder revival. For example, cultures that emphasize individualism over community, materialism over spirituality, or secularism over faith, may resist spiritual awakening.

In societies where religion is viewed skeptically or marginalized, the climate for revival is less favorable.

### Political and Economic Climate

Political instability, economic hardship, and social unrest can affect spiritual revival. While adversity can sometimes lead to repentance and renewal, it can also cause distraction, despair, and apathy, delaying revival.

Historical examples include revival movements during times of societal upheaval, which often emerge as responses to crisis. However, ongoing societal chaos can also hinder sustained spiritual renewal.

Factors that hinder revival due to societal conditions:

- Secularization and decline of religious influence
- Political repression or instability
- Economic hardship leading to focus on survival

- Cultural disinterest in spiritual matters

## Practical Challenges and Leadership Dynamics

### Leadership Integrity and Spiritual Authority

Effective leadership is vital for fostering an environment where revival can thrive. Leaders who lack spiritual integrity, humility, or vision can inadvertently hinder progress.

Moreover, leadership complacency or resistance to change can delay revival. Conversely, leaders who are faithful, prayerful, and proactive can catalyze spiritual awakening.

### Prayer and Intercession

Revival is frequently linked to prayer. A lack of persistent, fervent intercession can slow divine activity. The biblical pattern shows that sustained prayer positions the community for divine visitation.

Challenges in fostering prayer for revival include:

- Complacency in prayer life
- Distraction from spiritual disciplines
- Lack of unity in intercession efforts

### Institutional Limitations

Religious institutions may inadvertently inhibit revival through rigid doctrines, traditionalism, or resistance to change. Flexibility and openness to the Spirit are crucial for renewal.

Summary: Practical leadership issues, prayer deficiency, and institutional rigidity can impede the manifestation of revival.

## The Testing and Refinement Process

### Purification Through Delays

Delays in revival often serve as a spiritual testing ground. God may use the period of tarrying to refine His people, exposing hidden sins, deepening faith, and strengthening resolve.

This refining process ensures that when revival finally comes, it is sustainable and rooted in genuine

transformation rather than superficial excitement.

### Building Anticipation and Faith

Tarrying periods cultivate anticipation and hunger for God's move. As believers pray and seek God during delays, their faith is strengthened, making the eventual revival more impactful.

### Historical and Contemporary Examples of Tarrying

#### The Welsh Revival (1904-1905)

The Welsh Revival was preceded by years of prayer and spiritual dryness. Persistent intercession and repentance laid the groundwork, illustrating that divine timing often involves preparation and patience.

#### The Azusa Street Revival (1906)

Led by William Seymour, this revival emerged after years of prayer and expectation within Pentecostal circles. The delay allowed for spiritual readiness and doctrinal clarity.

### Modern Movements

Many contemporary revival movements report prolonged seasons of prayer and fasting before breakthrough. For instance, the Brownsville Revival (1995-2000) followed years of prayer and spiritual longing in the community.

### Strategies to Overcome the Tarrying

#### Cultivating Persistent Prayer and Fasting

Consistent intercession creates an environment for revival. Prayer chains, fasting, and corporate gatherings can accelerate divine activity.

#### Fostering Genuine Repentance and Humility

Encouraging personal and communal repentance aligns hearts with God's will, removing barriers to revival.

#### Promoting Unity and Spiritual Discipline

Unity among believers and a focus on spiritual disciplines prepare the soil for divine sowing.

## Addressing Cultural and Institutional Barriers

Openness to change, humility in leadership, and contextual sensitivity help create a conducive environment for revival.

## Conclusion: Embracing the Divine and Human Partnership

While divine sovereignty ultimately determines the timing of revival, human responsibility plays a crucial role in creating the conditions for God's move. Recognizing that revival tarrys is not a sign of divine reluctance but an invitation for deeper preparation, genuine repentance, and persistent prayer.

In embracing this partnership, believers can remain steadfast, knowing that God's promises are sure, and that His timing is perfect. The tarrying is often a divine setup for a greater outpouring that is rooted in authentic transformation and sustained by ongoing faithfulness.

Remember: Revival may tarry, but it is never denied. Patience, prayer, humility, and perseverance are the keys that unlock the divine timetable for spiritual awakening.

**Question** What does the phrase 'why revival tarrys' mean in a spiritual context? It refers to the question of why spiritual revival or a move of God often delays or doesn't happen as quickly as expected, prompting believers to examine factors hindering divine outpouring. **Answer** What are common reasons believed to cause revival to tarry? Common reasons include lack of genuine repentance, complacency among believers, unresolved sin, disunity within the church, and insufficient prayer or fasting. How does spiritual dryness contribute to the delay of revival? Spiritual dryness reflects a state of lukewarmness or disconnect from God, which can hinder the readiness and receptivity needed for revival to take hold. Can personal and collective repentance influence the timing of revival? Yes, sincere repentance on individual and corporate levels is often seen as a key catalyst for revival; without it, divine intervention may be delayed. What role does persistent prayer play in bringing about revival? Persistent prayer is crucial; it aligns believers' hearts with God's will, breaks spiritual barriers, and creates an environment conducive to revival happening. Are societal issues and moral decline factors in why revival tarrys? Yes, societal issues, moral decay, and widespread ungodliness can slow down revival, as they reflect a broader need for spiritual renewal and repentance in communities.

**Related keywords:** spiritual awakening, delayed blessing, divine timing, faith, patience, prayer, spiritual growth, God's plan, perseverance, hope

## Oswald j smith the revival we need

## Oswald J. Smith: The Revival We Need

In a world that continues to grapple with spiritual apathy, moral decline, and a waning sense of purpose, the message of revival remains as vital as ever. Among the many voices calling for renewal, Oswald J. Smith stands out as a prophetic figure whose teachings and life exemplify the urgent need for spiritual revival today. His passionate advocacy for revival, combined with a deep understanding of biblical principles, continues to inspire believers worldwide. This article explores who Oswald J. Smith was, the essence of his revival message, and why his call for spiritual awakening remains relevant in the contemporary church.

## Who Was Oswald J. Smith?

### Biographical Overview

Oswald J. Smith (1889-1986) was a Canadian preacher, evangelist, and prolific author renowned for his dynamic preaching and unwavering commitment to evangelism and revival. Serving as the pastor of the Peoples Church in Toronto for over 50 years, Smith's ministry was characterized by a passionate desire to see souls saved and lives transformed through the power of the Holy Spirit.

### His Ministry and Influence

- Founded the International Christian Outreach, emphasizing global evangelism.
- Authored numerous books and sermons focusing on revival, missions, and Christian living.
- Emphasized the importance of prayer, personal holiness, and evangelism as keys to spiritual revival.
- Inspired generations of pastors and believers with his unwavering faith and commitment to God's work.

## The Core Message of Oswald J. Smith on Revival

### Understanding Revival

For Smith, revival was more than just a transient spiritual boost; it was a divine awakening that revitalizes the church and transforms society. He believed revival was a biblical mandate—a return to God's truth and power that leads to personal and corporate renewal.

### The Biblical Basis for Revival

Smith often pointed to scriptures such as 2 Chronicles 7:14 and Acts 2:17-18 to underscore God's promise and expectation for revival. He emphasized that revival involves:

- A recognition of sin and repentance.
- A renewed passion for prayer.
- A fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
- An increased zeal for evangelism and missions.

## **The Necessity of Personal and Corporate Revival**

Oswald J. Smith argued that revival begins with individuals, but its true power is manifested when it permeates entire communities and nations. He believed that:

- Personal holiness fuels corporate revival.
- Churches must prioritize prayer and evangelism.
- Society benefits when believers are spiritually awakened.

## **Why We Need the Revival Oswald J. Smith Advocated**

### **The Current State of the Church and Society**

Modern society faces numerous challenges that reflect spiritual decline, including:

- Moral relativism and loss of biblical values
- Decline in church attendance and engagement
- Apathy toward spiritual matters among younger generations
- Increasing secularism and materialism
- Global crises that highlight humanity's need for divine intervention

### **The Relevance of Smith's Revival Message Today**

Oswald J. Smith's teachings remain crucial because they address these challenges head-on. His call for:

- Holiness and personal commitment
- Fervent prayer and dependence on the Holy Spirit
- Active evangelism and missions
- Renewal of faith and spiritual fervor

are timeless solutions that the church still needs to embrace.

## Key Principles from Oswald J. Smith's Revival Doctrine

### 1. Revival Is a Divine Work

Smith emphasized that revival is initiated by God, not human effort alone. Believers must seek God's face through prayer and humility, trusting that He will send revival in His timing.

### 2. Prayer Is Central

He famously said, "The church is just a prayer meeting with a congregation attached." Prayer is the catalyst for revival, awakening the spiritual life of believers and preparing the church for divine outpouring.

### 3. Personal Holiness and Repentance

Revival begins with individuals confessing sin, turning away from wrong, and pursuing holiness. Smith believed that personal sanctification paves the way for corporate renewal.

### 4. Evangelism and Missions

A revived church cannot be inward-focused. Smith urged believers to share the gospel locally and globally, emphasizing that revival naturally leads to increased evangelism.

### 5. Expectancy and Faith

Smith encouraged believers to anticipate revival with faith, trusting that God is eager to pour out His Spirit upon His people.

## Implementing Oswald J. Smith's Revival Principles Today

### Practical Steps for Individuals

- Dedicate daily time for prayer and Bible study.
- Confess and forsake personal sins.
- Share your faith actively with others.
- Cultivate a spirit of expectancy for God's work.

### Strategies for Churches

- Organize targeted prayer meetings focusing on revival.
- Preach sermons emphasizing repentance and renewal.
- Encourage personal holiness among members.
- Launch evangelism campaigns to reach the lost.
- Foster an environment that welcomes the Holy Spirit's moving.

## Community and National Level Initiatives

- Engage in prayer movements and fasting initiatives.
- Partner with churches and ministries committed to revival.
- Support global missions as an expression of revived faith.
- Promote social justice as a reflection of true spiritual renewal.

## Testimonials and Legacy of Oswald J. Smith

Many pastors and believers testify that Smith's teachings ignited their passion for revival. His sermons continue to inspire revival movements worldwide, emphasizing that spiritual renewal is possible when believers earnestly seek God.

His legacy endures through:

- His writings, which remain influential.
- The ongoing work of the International Christian Outreach.
- The revival fires kindled by his passionate preaching and writings.

## The Call to Action: Embrace the Revival We Need

The world desperately needs a spiritual awakening—an Oswald J. Smith-style revival rooted in prayer, repentance, holiness, and evangelism. Every believer has a role to play in this divine movement.

As Smith famously declared, "Revival is a new beginning, an awakening, a spiritual awakening of the church of Jesus Christ." It is time for believers to heed this call, pray fervently, live holy lives, and share the gospel boldly.

## Final Thoughts

The revival Oswald J. Smith spoke about is not just a distant hope but an achievable reality through dedicated, collective effort anchored in biblical truth. His life and message serve as a blueprint for

spiritual renewal, reminding us that revival begins with individual hearts turned toward God and culminates in a transformed society. Let us embrace his principles and pray earnestly for the revival we so desperately need today.

## Oswald J. Smith: The Revival We Need

In a world increasingly marked by uncertainty, moral decline, and spiritual apathy, the words of Oswald J. Smith resonate with urgent clarity: "The revival we need" is not just a nostalgic longing but a divine necessity. As a prominent 20th-century preacher, evangelist, and church leader, Smith's insights and passionate call for revival continue to inspire believers today. His emphasis on prayer, evangelism, and personal holiness provides a timeless blueprint for cultivating spiritual awakening in the modern age. This article explores the life, teachings, and enduring relevance of Oswald J. Smith, illustrating why "the revival we need" remains a vital pursuit for the church and individual believers alike.

## Who Was Oswald J. Smith? A Brief Biography

### Early Life and Background

Born in 1889 in Canada, Oswald J. Smith's journey into ministry was marked by a deep hunger for God's presence and a desire to impact the world through the gospel. He served as a pastor at the renowned Toronto Baptist Church (later known as the People's Church) for over 50 years, transforming it into a beacon of revival, evangelism, and global missions.

### A Man of Vision and Passion

Smith was not content with complacency within the church walls. His life was characterized by a relentless pursuit of spiritual renewal and a conviction that revival is essential for the church to fulfill its divine commission. He believed that revival was not merely a fleeting emotional experience but a divine movement that revitalizes hearts, renews faith, and mobilizes believers for evangelism.

### His Legacy

Beyond his pastoral work, Oswald J. Smith authored numerous books and sermons emphasizing the importance of prayer, missions, and revival. His teachings continue to influence evangelical and Pentecostal circles worldwide, inspiring generations to seek the fire of revival anew.

## The Core Principles of Oswald J. Smith's Teaching on Revival

### - Revival Begins with Prayer

Smith famously stated, "Revival is born in the secret place." He believed that personal, fervent prayer is the foundation of any genuine spiritual awakening. Revival, in his view, does not originate with programs or strategies but from a deep, authentic communion with God.

Key aspects of his teaching on prayer include:

- Consistent daily prayer life
  - Corporate prayer meetings for revival
  - Persistent intercession for spiritual renewal and global missions
- 
- Revival Is for the Church, but It Must Spill Over into Society

While personal holiness and church renewal are vital, Smith emphasized that revival must extend beyond the church walls to impact communities and nations. The ultimate goal is to see the gospel transform entire societies.

- Revival Leads to Evangelism and Missions

Smith was a passionate advocate for world missions. He believed that revival naturally results in a renewed zeal for evangelism, leading to greater outreach and the salvation of souls. The revival he envisioned was active, not passive—a movement that compelled believers to share their faith boldly.

- Revival Requires Faith and Expectation

He encouraged believers to approach revival with faith, expecting God to move powerfully. For Smith, revival was not a mere hope but an anticipation rooted in God's promises.

- Revival Is a Divine Work

Ultimately, Smith recognized that revival is a sovereign act of God. Human effort must be coupled with divine grace, humility, and dependence on the Holy Spirit.

The Revival We Need: What Did Oswald J. Smith Advocate?

A Call to Personal Holiness

Smith believed that revival begins with the individual. Personal repentance, sanctification, and a surrendered life are essential. Without personal holiness, corporate revival cannot be sustained.

### An Emphasis on Evangelism and Missions

He challenged believers to prioritize evangelism, emphasizing that revival should produce a harvest of souls. He famously said, "The church that loses its passion for souls will lose its power." The revival we need involves a renewed commitment to winning the lost.

### Restoring Prayer to Its Central Place

Smith urged believers to prioritize prayer as the engine of revival. He saw prayer meetings as vital moments where divine fire could be rekindled.

### Reigniting the Spirit's Power

He called for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit, believing that without the Spirit's empowerment, efforts are futile.

### Addressing Cultural and Societal Issues

Smith recognized that revival must confront societal ills—poverty, injustice, and moral decay. The church's mission extends into transforming society through the gospel.

### Practical Steps Toward the Revival We Need

Drawing from Oswald J. Smith's teachings, here are actionable steps individuals and churches can take to pursue "the revival we need."

#### For Individuals

- Deepen Prayer Life: Dedicate time daily for prayer and Bible reading, seeking personal revival.
- Practice Repentance: Regularly examine your heart and confess sins, pursuing holiness.
- Share Your Faith: Look for opportunities to evangelize and support missions.
- Expect God to Move: Approach prayer and service with faith and anticipation of divine intervention.

#### For Churches and Ministries

- Organize Prayer Meetings: Create regular gatherings focused solely on seeking revival.
- Prioritize Evangelism: Launch outreach programs that aim to reach the lost in your community and beyond.
- Emphasize Missions: Support global missions as a vital part of revival.
- Preach on Revival and Holy Living: Regularly teach on the importance of spiritual renewal.
- Foster a Spirit-led Atmosphere: Encourage openness to the Holy Spirit's moving during services.

### The Relevance of Oswald J. Smith's Message Today

In today's world, marked by secularization, moral relativism, and apathy, Smith's call for revival is more pertinent than ever. His emphasis on prayer, evangelism, and spiritual holiness offers a comprehensive approach to restoring vitality within the church and society.

### Addressing Modern Challenges

- Moral Decline: Revival can lead to renewed convictions and righteous living.
- Global Missions: The global church must heed Smith's call to reach unreached people groups.
- Spiritual Apathy: Personal revival can ignite passion and purpose among believers.

### Why We Still Need "The Revival We Need"

Because history has shown that spiritual awakening transforms nations and renews the church. Oswald J. Smith's teachings remind us that revival is both a divine gift and a divine responsibility—something every believer can pursue through prayer, obedience, and faith.

### Conclusion: Embracing the Revival Spirit Inspired by Oswald J. Smith

The message of Oswald J. Smith continues to illuminate the path toward "the revival we need." His life exemplified a relentless pursuit of God's presence, a passion for souls, and a conviction that revival begins with prayer and personal holiness. As the church faces new challenges today, his timeless principles serve as a clarion call: revival is possible, and it begins with us.

Let us commit anew to seeking God's face, praying earnestly for revival, sharing the gospel boldly, and living lives dedicated to holiness. Only then can we see the spiritual awakening that will transform our hearts, our churches, and our world—just as Oswald J. Smith envisioned and passionately championed.

**Question** What is the main message of Oswald J. Smith's 'The Revival We Need'?  
**Answer** Oswald J. Smith emphasizes the importance of spiritual revival within the church, urging believers to

seek a renewed passion for God and evangelism to bring about societal transformation. How does Oswald J. Smith define true revival in his teachings? He describes true revival as a divine awakening that leads to personal holiness, fervent prayer, and a renewed commitment to evangelism and service for Christ. What historical context influenced Oswald J. Smith's perspective on revival? Smith's views were shaped by the early 20th-century church movements and the desire to see a renewed spiritual awakening to combat societal issues and moral decline. What practical steps does Oswald J. Smith suggest for experiencing revival today? He advocates for prayer, repentance, personal holiness, and active evangelistic efforts as essential steps toward experiencing and sustaining revival in the modern church. Why is Oswald J. Smith's 'The Revival We Need' considered relevant in contemporary Christian discussions? Its emphasis on spiritual renewal, evangelism, and societal impact resonates with current church priorities, inspiring believers to seek revival amidst modern challenges and cultural shifts.

**Related keywords:** Oswald J. Smith, revival, spiritual renewal, Christian awakening, church revival, prayer, Holy Spirit, revival sermons, spiritual revival, gospel revival

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