

Isaiah 64:1-4 – “Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down! That the mountains might shake at Your presence – As fire burns brushwood, as fire causes water to boil – To make Your name known...” When God comes down in revival four things happen: Shaking, fire, cleansing, and reshaping. Shaking has to do with the destabilization of organizations, plans, leadership, and non-biblical traditions in the church. Revival does not respect man-made boundaries. Shake-up has to do with changes the Holy Spirit must make to regain His reign in the church. Fire symbolizes purification. Gold is refined in fire. We used to sing, “Refiner’s fire; my heart’s one desire is to be holy, set apart for You Lord... ready to do Your will.” I haven’t heard the song in years. Maybe that tells us something. We can’t sing that song and mean it unless we’re ready for the fire of purification. Except for Jesus, probably there has never been a person who suffered like Job. Job complained bitterly to the Lord. He was a blameless man (yet not perfected), but God put him in the fire to purify him. When Job got to the place where he thought he couldn’t stand anymore, he looked around for God and couldn’t find Him (Job 23:8-10). Finally He gave up and said, “He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.” At that moment something happened in Job’s heart. It wasn’t long until God came down. When God comes down in revival, He picks out disciples who will endure the fire. God wants to burn up everything that is not of the Spirit, and set on fire everything that is left. When that which is holy catches fire, revival will burn and our hearts will boil over. And no one will be able to quench it. HA