

Matthew 16:18 – “The gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” “It seems that luxury and wickedness of almost every kind, is well-nigh come to the utmost extremity in the nation; and if vice should continue to prevail and increase for one generation or more, as it has the generation past, it looks as though the nation could hardly continue in being, but must sink under the weight of its own corruption and wickedness.” That is an apt description of conditions in the United States today. It was actually written by Jonathan Edwards (1703-1754), who knew something about the power of God over decadence. His sermon, “Sinners in the Hand of an Angry God,” unleashed one of the greatest revivals in history. The Great Awakening of the 1700s not only changed the direction of America, it paved the way for future revivals that have passed through like a rushing mighty wind. The differences between America’s need for revival now and then is the degree of depravity and 300 years. There will be a generation that will not endure sound doctrine. The apostasy will be the last. The judgment will be final. Are we there? If God does not send revival, the answer is yes. Jesus promised that the Gates of Hell would not prevail against the church. As long as the church is on earth there it will be victorious. When the church age ends and the rapture takes place, all bets are off. I’m not a prophet, but I can read the signs. The end-time prophecies require a widespread apostasy, uncontrollable lawlessness, world-wide depression, and global socialism that will be replaced by an evil dictator. Men will be lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God. Jesus asked a chilling question? “When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” I have no proof, but there is precedent for revival before God sends final judgment. Although God purposed to judge Judah, he permitted a last revival under King Rehoboam. After Rehoboam died, it was downhill to judgment. Is it worth praying for revival, knowing that judgment is coming? The answer is yes. It is worth seeking God while He can be found. “Praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life” (Jude 20, 21). God extends mercy until there is no hope for repentance. I still have hope. Please join me in praying for revival. HA