

Psalm 42:2 – “My soul thirsts for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.” The revival that is sought by prayer is God Himself. God is sought after. When we pray for revival, we pray for God to manifest His presence through the Holy Spirit. By seeking the Lord, we acknowledge that God has withdrawn Himself. When we seek Him, we are asking Him to return in power and blessings that have been missing for a long time. Seeking God by fervent prayer is to seek a restoration of the church. We are promised we will find Him if we seek Him with all our heart. “Then you will call upon Me, and I will listen to you” (Jer. 29:12). When we pray for revival, we pray for God’s manifest presence, and we can expect certain things to happen: Lives transformed; people confessing their sins publicly; saints asking for forgiveness and making restitution. People praying at the same time, and backsliders calling out to God in desperation. Church services lasting for hours, because people don’t want to go home. Drug addicts becoming clean without the need of detoxing. Marriages miraculously restored. In all this, the church becomes what it is supposed to be, the body of Christ, alive and well in this present evil world. When we pray for revival, we begin by praying for ourselves. A revival that begins in us will spread to others. It is impossible to want revival for the church and not want it for ourselves. For 10 days, 120 people remained sequestered in prayer until Pentecost. When they got revived, the Holy Spirit fell on thousands. Pentecost was special. It was a prophetic fulfillment, but the Holy Spirit came upon the first church, so we can receive His empowering again, and again... “For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call” (Acts 2:39). God calls us to revival before we pray for it. Revival is His idea, not ours. HA