

OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Phil O. Waldo
Lead Pastor



1224 Hancock Drive
Boone, Iowa 50036

Phone: 515 432-3329

Website: www.booneopenbible.com
E-mail: office@booneopenbible.com
pastor@booneopenbible.com

SERMON TITLE Revive Us Again

SERIES

DATE 7/11/2021

KEY SCRIPTURE Psalm 85

SYNOPSIS We need a revival and restoration. God did it before; He will do it again.

HIGHLIGHTS Open and close with a Hymn



Revive us Again

☞ We praise Thee, O God!
For the Son of Thy love,
For Jesus Who died,
And is now gone above.

Refrain:
Hallelujah! Thine the glory.
Hallelujah! Amen.
Hallelujah! Thine the glory.
Revive us again.

☞ Revive us again;
Fill each heart with Thy love;
May each soul be rekindled
With fire from above.

☞ Psalms 85

You showed favor to your land, O Lord; you restored the fortunes of Jacob. 2 You forgave the iniquity of your people and covered all their sins 3 You set aside all your wrath and turned from your fierce anger. 4 **Restore us again**, O God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us. 5 Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger through all generations? 6 Will you not **revive us again**, that your **people may rejoice** in you? 7 Show us your unfailing love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation. 8 I will **listen** to what God the Lord will say; he **promises peace** to his people, his saints — but let them **not return to folly**. 9 Surely his salvation is near those who **fear him**, that his **glory may dwell** in our land. 10 Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other. 11 Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven. 12 The Lord will indeed **give what is good**, and our **land will yield its harvest**. 13 **Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps**.

v. 4 Restore us again... v. 6 Revive us again

☞ **THE RESTORATION.** Restore to what?

☞ In verse 8 God promises **peace** to his people, so there's a **Restoration of Peace**.

Peace = shalom; health, prosperity, safety, and completeness. Everybody longs for peace. We want to be healthy and prosperous. We want our families to be safe. In the scripture, peace is often linked with another quality that helps us understand what true peace means.

☞ In Psalm 29:11 peace goes together with **strength**.

☞ In Isaiah 57:19 peace is linked with **healing**.



- ☞ In John 14:27 peace **overcomes worry and fear.**
- ☞ In 2 Thessalonians 3:16 peace is simply that **God is with us.**

Revive us, O God, and restore your peace.

- ☞ In verse 9 it speaks of his **glory** dwelling in the land. So, there's a **Restoration of God's Glory.**

Glory = kabod; weightiness, honor, his imposing presence. I think of God's glory as an
☞ **overwhelming sense of his presence.** When Solomon dedicated the temple, the glory of God was so strong it appeared as a cloud in the temple and the priests couldn't even perform their normal duties. The glory of God is his presence so powerfully with us that we **won't just be**
☞ **doing business as usual.** It won't take someone in charge to tell you that God is in the house. You will know it without a doubt all by yourself. His glory in this fashion will have an effect upon you. Some will weep, some will shout for joy, all will praise and worship.

Revive us, O God, and restore your glory.

- ☞ In verse 12 the Lord will give what is **good.** **Restoration of God's Goodness.**

☞ Psalm 84 speaks of God's goodness and likens it to his **favor** and **honor.** Ephesians 1:3 speaks of his **spiritual blessings.**

When the bible talks about God's blessings it isn't just about prosperity or possessions. While that may be part of his blessings, there is more to it. According to Genesis 12:2-3, his blessing on you means that others around you will be positively affected just by knowing you. In 1 Chronicles 4:10 Jabez linked God's blessing with enlarged territory or **influence** as well as
☞ **freedom from harm.** Isaiah 61:9 says that God's blessing can make people famous, at least in the sense that **others will recognize that God is with you.**

Revive us, O God, and restore your goodness.

He did it before. These same kinds of things are mentioned in verses 1-2.

He showed Favor – God delighted in his people. This kind of favor from God includes the concept of paying off debt. God pays the debt that we owe so that we can be acceptable in his
☞ presence. Then he enjoys being with us. That's his favor. **He did it before; he will do it again.**

--Jerry Vargo... "In other words...God really likes you!" "When He likes you, there is such an influence that comes upon you that the charisma of God himself rubs off on you which makes other people like you or cooperate with you whether they like you or not!"

He restored Fortune – some translations say, "he brought back the captivity of Jacob." This restoration is that of prisoners of war being set free by their liberators. It also includes a return of the wealth that the enemy had stolen. God restores his people. What the enemy has stolen, God
☞ returns. What the enemy has held captive, God sets free. **He did it before; he will do it again.**



Not only can God wipe away our past, but he can restore and replace what has been destroyed or lost. Do you believe that?

He Forgave his people – Literally, this means that he lifted or carried the sins of the people. Those things in our lives that have been twisted and distorted; the guilt that we have experienced and the punishment which is due – these have all been taken away by God. Those times that we've fallen short and missed the mark are forgiven and carried away by God. **He** ☞ **did it before; he will do it again.**

A lady in church was always saying, "The Lord said to me..." One day someone said, "If God really is speaking to you, ask Him to tell you what I did years ago." A few days later, she came back to him. "Well?" "Did you ask Him?" "Yes," she replied. "And what did He say?" "He said He doesn't remember."

☞ **These result in rejoicing** (v.6). When God does this kind of restoration there will be extreme happiness. There will be visible expressions of joy coming from God's people. You won't be able to fully contain yourself.

You may sense such relief in his favor and acceptance, that you will cry **tears of joy**. You may experience such freedom and restoration in the Lord that you'll have to **shout**. Some might even need to jump. For sure, when you experience the sweet release of God's forgiveness you'll be moved to **express gratitude**. You might not be able to stop **singing**. For some, this kind of relief may make you feel so light on your feet that you'll have to dance before the Lord. When God restores his people there is rejoicing!

God wants to revive his people. He did it before. He will do it again. But, is there a part for us to play in this restoration? Yes:

☞ **THE RESPONSIBILITY**

☞ **Be Receptive**

v. 8 Listen – pay attention; hear, understand and obey. This is a deliberate choice to **tune in to** ☞ **God** and understand what he is saying. We need to be so tuned into God, that we go, do and say whatever he directs. This kind of listening also means to be discerning. So, here we have it ☞ again... we need to **know the word of God** so well, that we are not sidetracked and misled by deception. Listen to the Lord!

--Alfred Brendel... The word "listen" contains the same letters as "silent".

--Mark Roberts... We all have many voices speaking into our lives. Some may be wise and well worth heeding. Others may be trivial, distracting, or downright evil. But, in the midst of a cacophony of voices, may God give us grace to hear his voice. May we find the will and the way to quiet down enough to hear what God has to say.



☞ **Be Resolute**

v. 8 Don't return to folly – turn back; retreat; backslide. Don't be foolish by doing the junk that led you away from the Lord. We have talked before about repentance – turning back to God. Well, once you're going the right direction, don't turn again. **Stay on track**; be determined to go ☞ after God. **Don't look back!**

Luke 17:32 says, "Remember Lot's wife!"

☞ **Be Reverent**

v. 9 Fear God – reverence; honor. This fear of the Lord is more than just being polite and saying ☞ the right things. It means to genuinely **stand in awe** of him; to **honor** him in word and in action.

Reverence for God is a quality missing in much of what masquerades as Christianity today. Instead of the kind of reverence we see demonstrated throughout the Bible, modern Christianity has adopted a "Jesus-is-my-buddy" attitude that grossly downplays the holiness, power, and righteous wrath of the Sovereign Creator. Once we truly know who God is, we reverence Him in our hearts. Even the thief on the cross, after he realized who Jesus was, rebuked the other thief for his irreverence: He said to the other thief, "Don't you fear God?"

☞ Ultimately, **Righteousness prepares the way** (v. 13). **Biblical ethics** and **moral standards** clear the way for this kind of visitation from God. The righteousness referred to here includes **right ☞ behavior toward other** people. Show **mercy** to others. Be **generous** to others. **Help** others in need. Always do the right thing. Always do the biblical thing.

Revive us, O God, and Restore us, we pray.

God did it before. He will do it again. He will restore his people with favor and fortune and forgiveness. There will be great rejoicing as we experience the overwhelming sense of God's presence and glory. Let's prepare the way with righteous living. Let's be receptive and listen to the Lord. Let's resolve to keep moving forward with God. And, let's always show reverence and respect to our Lord and Savior.

To be restored is to be brought back to the right place. Think of a runaway or kidnapped teenager returning to the loving home of his family. He becomes restored.

To be restored is to be brought back to the right condition. Think of a classic car someone is lovingly fixing up, so it's like new again. It becomes restored.

This desire to be restored is a theme all throughout the Bible. Here's the great news: God is a God of restoration. He promises to restore us. Zechariah 10:6 says, "I will restore them because of my compassion" and Isaiah 57:18 says, "I have seen their ways, but I will heal them; I will guide them and restore."

God can restore you. He can take what's wrong in your life and make it right.



God can restore the world. He can take what's wrong in the world and make it right. God's promise is even better. Check out what God says in Joel 2:25, "So I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten" (NKJV). God promises not only to return the land to its original condition but also to renew what got lost during the wasted years. He is the God of restoration.

Restore us again and revive us again, O God. He did it before. He will do it again.

**☞ We praise Thee, O God!
For the Son of Thy love,
For Jesus Who died,
And is now gone above.**

***Refrain:*
Hallelujah! Thine the glory.
Hallelujah! Amen.
Hallelujah! Thine the glory.
Revive us again.**

**☞ Revive us again;
Fill each heart with Thy love;
May each soul be rekindled
With fire from above.**