

PREPARING FOR REVIVAL

(Whangarei Assembly of God - 29/8/93 - EKB)

1. God has given **many assurances** of revival coming to Northland.
2. During prayer in 1976, the Holy Spirit showed in vision the map of Northland dotted with tongues of flame, which increased in number and size until **the whole province was ablaze**. This was repeated twice and confirmed by intercessors from overseas.
3. Since 1976 many churches have been established in the North. These churches have grown steadily and leaders are meeting regularly to pray. This year there has been a great increase in commitment to prayer by individuals, families and churches.
4. There are **two stages to revival**:
Stage 1 within the church **Stage 2** out in the world
5. **Revival among God's people** follows these steps:
 - a. **Cleansing from sin** resulting in purity among God's people.
2Chr 7:14, Jam 4:8-10, Ps 24:3,4.
 - b. **Prayer** for an outpouring of His Spirit when God's people gather together.
Joel 1:14, Eph 6:18, Lk 18:1-8.
 - c. **Praise is** the joyful expression of faith that magnifies the Lord.
*2Chr 20:22, Ac 16:25, Ps 22:3, 2Chr 5:13,14 Ps 118:15,19, Ps 149:5-9.*These three steps can be seen in *Mat 21:12-16*. They lead to the **Provisions** of God's healing, health, wholeness, *v14*, and **Power** over the works of the enemy *v16, Ps 8:2*.
6. **John the Baptist's ministry**, *Mat 3:1-6, 8-11*, describes God's work of revival among God's people, preparing them for the revelation and ministry of God's Son, and the outpouring of His Spirit, *Mat 3:11*.
7. **God's way is holiness**, *Ps 77:13, Is 35:8, Ex 25:8, Heb 12:14*.
8. **Keep on track to revival** with cleansing from sin and increase of prayer.
9. Remember prayer and praise will not benefit unless sin is dealt with, *Ps 66:18, Is 59:1,2*.
10. One pastor said, "I can see my life's task is to get rid of all sinful bondage out of my life."
11. **God says**, "If you get rid of sin out of your life and the life of the church, I will judge sin in the nation," *2Chr 7:14*.
12. God will not judge sin in the nation while there is sin in His church.
13. **God's plumb-line** and checklist to guide us in purifying ourselves from sin is in *Ex 20:3-17*.
14. **Get rid of all other "gods"**, *Ex 20:3*, especially the "god" of self-will coming before God's Will. Confess and renounce this "god" of rebellion and cry out to God to enable you to walk within the truths expressed in *Lk 9:23, 1Pet 5:6,7, 2Chr 7:14, Jam 4:10*.

15. **Refuse to hold on to any idols**, *Ex 20:4,5*, of the things of this world, which hinder your fellowship with God and obedience to His will. Anything we can possess can be an idol. It may be property, family, security, reputation, some treasure, job or ambition which rivals God's first place in our heart, as well as sport, TV, or pleasure. *Col 3:5* says holding on to things God wants us to release is idolatry.
16. **Do not use God's Name in a disrespectful way**, *v7*. Avoid all blasphemy and using God's Name without meaning it, *Mat 7:21, Lk 6:46, Lk 11:2*.
17. **Keep the Lord's Day for the Lord**, *v8-11*, and refuse to use it for pleasure or business, *Heb 10:25, Ac 20:7, Is 58:13, Rev 1:10*.
18. **Honour your parents**, *v12*. Care, honour, respect and obey them. Don't forget to visit, write letters and make phone calls, *Eph 6:1-3*.
19. **Commit no murder**, *v13*. Jesus said that if we have hateful, unforgiving and judging attitudes towards others we have disobeyed this command, *Mat 5:21-24, Mk 11:25,26, 1Jn 3:15*.
20. **Avoid all immorality**, *v14*, adultery, fornication, incest, child molesting, homosexuality, immoral fantasies, unclean videos, TV and magazines and walk in purity, *Mat 5:27-32*.
21. **Do not steal**, *v15*, cheat, lie, or take time, money or possessions from another, *Eph 4:28*.
22. **Do not bear false witness**, *v16*, or spread any lies, gossip or false stories about another person, *Eph 4:15*.
23. **Be content with what you have** and do not covet your neighbour's house, wife, husband or car, *1Tim 6:6,8, Heb 13:5*.
24. Jesus said - either we **get rid of sinful habits** out of our life **or sin will cut us off from God's house**, *Jn 8:31-36*, especially, *v34,35*.
25. **By faith in God and His Word we able to overcome**, and be set free, from sinful habits and bondage, and walk in obedience to God's Will. *2Cor 7:1, Rom 6:2,6,11,14,22, Ezk 36:25-27, Phil 2:13(GNB), Gal 2:20, 1Thes 5:23,24*.
26. Honestly **acknowledge** the sin. **Admit** you are not able to overcome it in your own strength. **Set your will** against it and count it as a deadly enemy. **Focus** in on the Word of God and His promises to set you totally free. **Know, believe and confess** aloud what God says in His Word and the Lord will set you free, *Jn 8:31,32,36*.
27. You can be free because 2000years ago **Jesus, on the Cross**, set you free, *2Pet 1:3*.