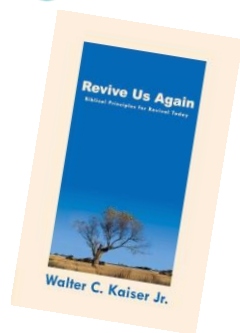


Why study revival history?

1. To be inspired by what is possible
2. To understand the ways that God tends to move
3. To become the kind of people that God will use
4. To setup environments that seek the Lord

Biblical Revivals

- Revival under the Sons of Korah (*Psalms 85:1-13*)
- Revival under Jacob (*Genesis 35:1-15*)
- Revival under Moses (*Exodus 32:1-34:7*)
- Revival under Samuel (*1 Samuel 7:1-13*)
- Revival under Elijah (*1 Kings 18*)
- Revival under Asa (*2 Chronicles 14-16*)
- Revival under Jehoshaphat (*2 Chronicles 20*)
- Revival under Hezekiah (*2 Chronicles 30:1-19*)
- Revival under Josiah (*2 Chronicles 34:1-33*)
- Revival under Zerubbabel (*Haggai 1, Zechariah 1:1-6*)
- Revival under Ezra and Nehemiah (*Nehemiah 8*)
- Revival under John the Baptist (*Matthew 3:1-14*)
- Revival under the Peter at Pentecost (*Acts 2:1-47*)
- Revival under Philip at Samaria (*Acts 8:1-25*)
- Revival under the Peter at Caesarea (*Acts 10*)
- Revival under Paul and Silas in Europe (*1 Thessalonians 1:2-10*)



Nehemiah 1-7 = rebuilding the wall (key leader = Nehemiah)

Nehemiah 8-13 = rebuilding the people (key leader = Ezra)

LOOKING UP

Nehemiah 8:1-4

1 When the seventh month came and the Israelites had settled in their towns, all the people assembled as one man in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel. 2 So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. 3 He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. 4 Ezra the scribe stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion.

Book of the Law = Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy

Nehemiah 8:6

Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

Hunger is a sign of life.



LOOKING BACK

Nehemiah 9:7-8 → story of Genesis

Nehemiah 9:9-12 → Exodus, Israelites being freed from 400 yr. captivity in Egypt

Nehemiah 9:13-15 → Giving of the law at Mt. Sinai + manna from heaven

Nehemiah 9:16-21 → Desert wanderings, rebellion, pillar of fire, pillar of cloud

Nehemiah 9:22-25 → story of Joshua, how God brought them to the Promised Land

Nehemiah 9:26-29 → story of Judges, spiritual ground-hog-day

Nehemiah 9:30-31 → story of the kings & eventual exile to Babylon

Reflecting back on your history with God gives perspective on your current reality.

LOOKING IN

Nehemiah 9:1-3

1 On the twenty-fourth day of the same month, the Israelites gathered together, fasting and wearing sackcloth and having dust on their heads. 2 ...They stood in their places and confessed their sins and the wickedness of their fathers. 3 They stood where they were and read from the Book of the Law of the LORD their God for a quarter of the day, and spent another quarter in confession and in worshiping the LORD their God.

Nehemiah 9:33-35

33 In all that has happened to us, you have been just; you have acted faithfully, while we did wrong. 34 Our kings, our leaders, our priests and our fathers did not follow your law; they did not pay attention to your commands or the warnings you gave them. 35 Even while they were in their kingdom, enjoying your great goodness to them in the spacious and fertile land you gave them, they did not serve you or turn from their evil ways.

Awareness is a prerequisite to change. You can't change something you're not aware of.

LOOKING AHEAD

Nehemiah 9:38

"In view of all this, we are making a binding agreement, putting it in writing, and our leaders, our Levites and our priests are affixing their seals to it."

Robertson McQuilkin was president of Columbia International University for 22 years when his wife of 40 years, Muriel, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. In the midst of wrestling with the decision about Muriel's long-term care needs, their eldest son was tragically killed in a diving accident. McQuilkin left his life work as president of Columbia to care for Muriel, something he did for 13 years, the last 8 years she didn't speak a word to him or anyone. He wrote this in the midst of the valley...



Life was heavy on me...I was numb. Not bitter...Why should I be? That's the way life is, life in a broken world. But the passion in my love for God had evaporated, leaving a residue of resignation...I knew that I was in deep trouble, and I did the only thing I knew to do - I went away for prayer and fasting. It took about 24 hours to shake free of the preoccupation with my own wounds and to focus on the excellencies of God...I wrote God a love letter, naming 41 of his marvelous gifts to me, spotlighting 11 of his grandest acts in history, and exulting in 10 of his characteristics that exceed my imagination. Surely he enjoyed my gratitude - who doesn't appreciate gratitude? But I discovered something else...I call it the reflex action of thanksgiving...that ingratitude impoverishes but a heavy heart lifts on the wings of praise.