

Found Dead Beside the Ark of God's Glory

Holy Spirit is renewing God's people across the world, and the need of the hour is to keep our plans from interfering with His activity – learning to invest our efforts and energies to steward/partner with Heaven's movement on the Earth.

As we learn to partner with Holy Spirit, we **will** witness increased revival and outpouring.

Revival is agreement with what the New Testament church looked like.

- Nothing to do with the style of worship/music, architecture, technology, or being edgy
- If being edgy replaces the anointing, being edgy becomes a negative

The emphasis of the early church was on a Person: **Holy Spirit**.

- The early church existed to accommodate Holy Spirit and this same embracing of Him is what is needed above all else.

2 Samuel 6 tells the story of what happens when man tries to control or manage the presence of the Lord.

- King David is desiring to return the Ark of God to Israel after it was captured by the Philistines in the last battle under King Saul.
- The Ark of God represented His presence, the place where the priests met the Lord to offer sacrifices and worship to the Lord.

2 Samuel 6:5-7 David and all the house of Israel were celebrating before the Lord, with songs, lyre, harps, tambourines, castanets, and cymbals. When they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it; for the oxen stumbled. The anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah, and God struck him down there because of his error, and he died there beside the ark of God.

- Many church leaders today are in a manipulative mode of trying to control or manage the move of God's presence.
- The result is that many congregations and movements are dying even as Holy Spirit is moving powerfully in fresh ways.
- They have chosen comfort and predictability over the unknown unexplored places Holy Spirit desires to lead His church into.
- I am committed and determined not to miss the opportunity to partner with the Lord in ushering in an end-time revival.
- The Lord is waiting for those who will say YES to Him:

2 Chronicles 16:9 *For the eyes of the Lord run throughout the whole earth; to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is perfect toward Him.*

The question is:

How will we respond to His movement?

Will we [you] reject or tolerate it?

Or will we celebrate and embrace Holy Spirit's
supernatural activity with open arms?

Popularity – Prominence – Power – Notoriety – Reputation:

All must be put to death if we will experience God's presence among us.

In the tongues and interpretation of Sunday Aug. 16th, Holy Spirit said:

“It's an all or nothing thing”

“You have a future you have not tapped into and I'm waiting for you to ask Me to show to you.”

That's both a personal word and a corporate word!

Desperation is not trying to twist God's arm to send His outpouring.

Desperation does not seek to change God from being unwilling to willing.

BUT – there needs to be a desperation from us to align our hearts with the Father's heart.

It's not begging God to open the heavens; there is already an open heaven Jesus brought.

This desperation is asking Holy Spirit to help us steward the open Heaven we already have because of Pentecost.

The Lord is asking us to receive the invitation and make the appropriate adjustments to live out the New Testament expression of Christianity.

Acts 3:19 living in repentance and aligning with Holy Spirit:

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

Quote from Rev. Leonard Ravenhill:

**“The world is not waiting for a new definition of Christianity,
it's waiting for a new demonstration of Christianity.”**

Compromise Disconnects Our Prayers

It has been proven historically impossible to have a people-pleasing revival. We can hold all night prayer services and do all the right things, but if it is in our agenda to “steady the ox cart” or attempt to assist the Lord with our agenda – we will not be found fit to host His presence.

2 Samuel 6 & 1 Chronicles 13:9-12 tell us everything was in place as far as man could arrange to bring the Ark of God’s presence.

- The right songs, the right instruments, the right dance, the right prayers and worship.
- Everything seems right for the coming glory of the Lord to be returned to Israel.
- They forgot from scripture that no human was to touch the Ark, it was to be carried on poles on the shoulders of priests who had consecrated themselves for this purpose. Not on carts built by pagan people.
- You and I are to be carriers of the Ark of His presence in our day – not systems or organizations, but followers of Jesus/Yeshua.



- This was an attempt to mix the Philistine religion and what the Lord ordered. Exodus 25:10-15 – *And they shall make an ark of acacia wood; two and a half cubits shall be its length, a cubit and a half its width, and a cubit and a half its height. ¹¹ And you shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and out you shall overlay it, and shall make on it a molding of gold all around. ¹² You shall cast four rings of gold for it and put them in its four corners; two rings shall be on one side, and two rings on the other*

side. ¹³ And you shall make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. ¹⁴ **You shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, that the ark may be carried by them.** ¹⁵ **The poles shall be in the rings of the ark; they shall not be taken from it.**

Numbers 4:15 "After Aaron and his sons have finished covering the holy furnishings and all the holy articles, and when the camp is ready to move, **the Kohathites are to come to do the carrying. But they must not touch the holy things or they will die. The Kohathites are to carry those things that are in the Tent of Meeting.**"

- Failing to follow God's precise instructions would be seen as not revering God's words when He spoke them through Moses, it also reflected having an independent attitude bordering on rebellion, seeing and acting on things from a worldly/carnal, rather than a spiritual, perspective.
- The ark had stayed for a period of time at Abinadab's house ([2 Samuel 6:3](#)), where his sons, Uzzah and Ahio, may well have become accustomed to its presence. There's an old saying, "familiarity breeds contempt," that could apply in this case.

Uzzah, having been around the ark in his own home, may have forgotten the holy presence of the Lord it represented.

There are times when we fail to recognize the holiness of God, becoming too familiar with Him with an irreverent attitude.

- The account tells us the oxen stumbled. The cart didn't fall and neither did the Ark:
Uzzah, for a moment, felt it was his responsibility to save the integrity of God, as if Almighty God somehow needed Uzzah's assistance.
He presumed that, without his intervention, God's presence would be dealt a blow. 1Sam 1:5 – Yahweh in the temple of Dagon – the idol statue fell flat – beheaded and arms broken.
- Moses also lost his right to enter the promised land because he felt his intervention was needed when he struck the rock, instead of speaking to it as God had commanded ([Numbers 20:7-12](#)).

We need to listen carefully to what God has to say to us, and in obedience strive to do all He commands.

Acts 5:32 God gives His Holy Spirit to those who obey Him.

God is loving and merciful, but He is also holy and He defends His holiness with His power, and violations to His holiness sometimes bring about His holy wrath. "It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" ([Hebrews 10:31](#)).

The more we try to bring God down to our worldly way of thinking or reasoning, the farther away He will seem to us. Those who would draw near to God and have Him draw near to them are those who approach Him in reverence/holy fear.

God Defines Success As Obedience!

The Lord moves on His own terms yet allows us to partner with Him, but we must know His ways and cooperate with Him to accomplish His will.

Our definition of revival must be His definition of revival, or we will be tempted to touch or adjust what He is doing to suit our preferences.

So, we have a choice to make:

Will we embrace this outpouring on God's terms, or will we try to "steady the ox cart" and adapt what God is doing to accommodate our systems?

The Lord makes a clear point about His presence and the human tendency to want to control it.

If we truly desire the life and visitation of revival, we will align ourselves with what God is doing rather than manipulate His work to fit our vision of Christianity.

Revival is the unceasing mercy of God, sovereignly reaching out to us and calling us to embrace His definition of what the Christian life looks like.

- This is why revival is confrontational – it confronts sin, apathy and complacency.

The Lord will not send revival to those who have an agenda to control His activity and movement.

There are many churches, movements, and communities that have died beside the Ark of God – close, but not complying with His will.

Holy Spirit wants to move powerfully. We can't allow our traditions, religious preferences, the desire to please people, or the fear of man cause us to reject God's invitation.

The question for you and me at WOWChurch is:

Are we going to say **Yes** to Holy Spirit?

Or will we say **No** to His move among us and continue with business as usual. If we do, the result will be that we miss the opportunity to partner with the Lord and make a difference in this community, city, region and beyond.

Will we be like Uzzah who attempted through his own means to assist God and ended up dying at the Ark of God?

Who do you want to make comfortable in your life? God or man?

How you and I answer determines whether we are qualified for the outpouring of revival.