JM Jason Mayfield

SERMON OUTLINE FOR PASTORS

REVIVAL IS COMING

The Revival Cycle and the Two Marks of the Next Move of God

> God has promised to pour out His Spirit, and revival is coming. Revival is not arrival but part of a cycle of formation, consecration and visitation, and the next move of God will be marked by strong preaching and ministers laying hands on people again.

MAIN TEXT
Joel 2:28-29

SERIES
Stand-alone message

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BY
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AT A GLANCE

THE MESSAGE

1. In December 2022 and January 2023 Pastor Jason received what he calls a downloaded word that a great outpouring would come within 18 to 36 months, and the Asbury revival three weeks later was a small quaking confirming something larger was coming.
2. Church history shows great awakenings roughly every 20 to 35 years, and since the last move ended around 2005 the nation is statistically due for another one.
3. The church moves through a continuous cycle of formation, consecration, and visitation, and visitation is meant to send you back into formation.
4. Revival is not arrival. The recurring failure of the Pentecostal church is treating a visitation as a destination instead of re-engaging the cycle.
5. Revival brings salvations first, and then four supernatural results: prophecy, tongues, healing, and people falling under the power of God.
6. The first mark of the next move is that preaching must be a priority, because revival fades but the word of God does not, so revival must carry revelation.
7. The second mark is ministers stepping back into their apostolic authority and laying hands on people in the altars rather than observing from the platform.
8. Present cultural signs, Gen Z men attending church at higher rates than Gen Z women and the response to Charlie Kirk's assassination, suggest a stirring is already underway.



WATCH IT PREACHED

youtu.be/aVGnYcwOqu0



READ THE ARTICLE

jasonmayfield.com/messages/revival-is-coming

PREACHING NOTES

Before You Preach

This is a testimony message. It rests on a personal experience of hearing from the Lord, so it does not move in a tidy one, two, three. Say so up front, and give yourself room to preach "fast and loose" while keeping the three anchors clear: the cycle, what to expect, and the two marks.

It was preached two weeks before a six-week series on hearing from God, and the Wednesday before, the revival cycle was taught in more depth. Point people to that teaching if it is available.

Two cautions. First, a prophetic word is received "in a mirror dimly" (1 Corinthians 13:12). Hold the timeline with humility and say so. Second, the closing section points to current events (the Barna findings on Gen Z and the response to Charlie Kirk's assassination in September 2025). These were fresh when preached. If you preach this later, update or replace them with what is stirring in your own day, and check the figures against the source before you use them.

Introduction

> **JOEL 2:28-29** ESV
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> [28] "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.
> [29] Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

This morning I want to share an experience I had a few years ago, a season when I got under what I can only call an open heaven and began to hear from the Lord in a special and specific way.

To some of you that will sound like just another day. To others it will sound out of reach. Here is the good news: it is not special for pastors. It is not special for prophets. It is not special for apostles. You too can get under an open heaven and hear from the Lord.

Today's message: **Revival Is Coming.** Have the congregation say it together.

MY EXPERIENCE

In December 2022, I began to feel a spiritual intensity rise in my personal time with the Lord. For about a month the heat turned up.

By the middle of January 2023, I was in prayer one morning, face down in my chair, and it was not a vision and not a voice. It was as if information was being downloaded from heaven. That season lasted about six weeks, from mid-January to the end of February.

Be clear that this is not normal, and it is not what every day is like. Don't ever make people think the Christian life is one long mountaintop. Moses could tell you that you can receive on the mountaintop and come down and throw a fit fast (Exodus 32:19).

What the Lord shared with me in that season was this: **within the next 18 to 36 months, we would see a great outpouring hit the nation.** The next great revival. The next great move of God.

I have not backed off that word. But in the prophetic you can only receive as clearly as you can receive. Even Paul said, "For now we see in a mirror dimly" (1 Corinthians 13:12). If it comes at 39 months, I will not kick myself.

ASBURY: AN EARLY SPARK

Within three weeks of receiving that word, revival broke out at Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky. At the time there was not much Pentecostal fire in the church, in the movement, or among my peers.

My first thought was that I had the timeline wrong. Within about 48 hours I knew this was not "the big one," because there was no preaching. More on that later.

I came to see Asbury as an early spark, a small quaking that showed God was about to do something. Most great outpourings have a trail of smaller outpourings leading up to them.

Illustration: Azusa Street. When revival broke out at Azusa Street under William Seymour in the early 1900s, you could trace the fire back through smaller outpourings in Texas and Kansas, and across the ocean to Wales. Little revival fires burned for years before something broke open at Azusa Street.

A PATTERN IN HISTORY

During that season I began reading about great awakenings, revivals and outpourings. As I studied, I stumbled on a pattern I had never heard anyone talk about: **these outpourings seem to come about every 20 to 35 years.**

So now I had a word from God, and I had something my brain liked too. The last great outpouring in our nation wound down around 2005, with the last embers gone by about 2007. By that pattern, we are due for a move of God.

Present this as your own observation from your reading, not as an established statistic.

Normally I preach in a tidy outline. This morning there is no system. I am going to share what the Lord showed me.

1. The Revival Cycle

There is a constant cycle going on in the church: **formation, consecration, visitation.** The cycle is always in motion. It never ends.

Formation. The church is shoring up the foundations of the faith: Bible reading, prayer, church attendance, doctrine, good foundational Bible teaching. This is a teaching season, and it is important, for a local church

and for the church at large.

Consecration. You can only spend so much time in the Word, in prayer, in church and in good teaching before it grabs hold of you and pushes you to a different level in the Lord. You begin to separate from things that may not even be bad. This isn't pulling away from sin; it's pulling away from frivolous things. For some it is football. For me, it is TV. You will feel the spiritual heat turning up in this season. It doesn't last forever, but you will have seasons of consecration.

Visitation. As we consecrate ourselves and focus on Jesus and His presence, there comes a moment of visitation. It is sovereign and divine. God looks down and pours out His Spirit. This is what we call revival.

Illustration: "In revival, everything works." I asked a pastor friend who led a church through revival in the late '90s what it was like. He said, "In revival, everything works. Every strategy works, every invitation works, every joke works." There is a great grace on the results of revival.

REVIVAL IS NOT ARRIVAL

The cycle is continuous: formation, consecration, visitation, and then back to formation.

Here is where the church goes off the rails, and you can trace it through two thousand years of supernatural history: when God pours out His Spirit, **we confuse revival with arrival.** But revival is not arrival. Revival is part of the cycle.

If God poured out His Spirit this morning and none of us could stand for six hours, we should not get up, go to the buffet, and act like nothing happened.

It is easy to prophesy favor, favor, favor (compare the prophets of Jeremiah 23:16-17, who kept saying, "It shall be well with you"). It preaches well and everybody likes it. But there is also favor in the unfavorable. It doesn't all have to be a Cinderella story.

You won't live in revival forever. It will come to an end. But if you re-engage the cycle, you will grow deeper and deeper in the Lord.

2. What to Expect in Revival

SOULS

The first thing you can expect in revival is **souls.** Salvation, salvation, salvation. When the presence of the Lord hits the church in a unique and powerful way, sinners will come.

> **ACTS 2:1-4 ESV**
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> [1] When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. [2] And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. [3] And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. [4] And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Everybody in that room got a touch from God. Then Peter stood up and preached to the crowd outside. There were about 120 in the room (Acts 1:15), and "there were added that day about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41). That means we could see thousands saved at any moment.

Revival is a blessing to the saints, but revival is more than goose pimples and doodads. It's about people getting saved. If we get nothing else, that is a good bargain.

THE SUPERNATURAL

Along with salvations, four supernatural results typically come with a visitation from heaven:

- **Prophecy.** People receiving from the Lord in a way they can articulate and share: words of knowledge, words of wisdom, words of encouragement.
- **Tongues.** The baptism in the Holy Spirit happens almost naturally.
- **Healing.** Divine healing is one of the 16 Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God. Healing is your portion, but it goes to another level in revival.
- **Falling.** People falling under the power of God.

The first three can be a regular part of the Christian life. The fourth tends to happen uniquely where the presence of God is poured out.

Where is falling in the Bible? The best text is 2 Chronicles 5. When the glory of the Lord filled the temple, "the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God" (2 Chronicles 5:14). At some point they were standing, and then they could not.

Don't push people down, and don't fall if you're not going to fall. But if the Lord touches you, go with Him.

People treat falling as a modern Pentecostal invention. Our movement's written roots are only about 120 years old. But there are accounts of people falling under the power of God in the ministries of John Wesley, Jonathan Edwards and George Whitefield in the 1700s. Under Wesley's preaching, grown men were reported to fall in the aisles. We have documentation of this going back nearly 300 years.

3. Two Marks of the Next Move of God

The Lord showed me two marks, two anchor points, that will be evident in the next move of God.

MARK ONE: PREACHING MUST BE A PRIORITY

No revival has lasting substance without strong preaching.

A line often attributed to John Wesley says, "Light yourself on fire with passion and people will come from miles to watch you burn." When revival fire breaks out in a church, people come from everywhere.

- **Lost people will come.** That is why the gospel must be preached constantly around revival.
- **Believers will come.** They will hop on a plane to be part of it. And when believers step into an environment where the presence of God is poured out, revival must carry revelation.

Revival does not last forever. Revival is not arrival. But the Word of God never withers, never fades and never fails. It "shall not return to me empty" (Isaiah 55:11). So whenever there is revival, there must be strong preaching. This is why Asbury, as wonderful as it was, was not the big one.

MARK TWO: MINISTERS LAYING HANDS ON PEOPLE AGAIN

Ask for a little latitude on this one.

About 20 years ago we saw a great exodus of pastors from the altars. Altar calls now often happen from the platform, and pastors observe what is happening without involving themselves. There were good reasons for that, and the church may have needed that season. But one of the first things the Lord showed me in December 2022 was this: if we are going to see God move in power, preachers will have to get back in the altars.

When I went back to traveling and preaching, a key reason was to show pastors how easy it is to get in the altar and pray for people. Many of my peers are afraid of it because they never had good models.

Part of why pastors stepped back is a real tension. We have taught the kings and priests paradigm, that God has made us "a kingdom, priests to his God and Father" (Revelation 1:6), and the priesthood of every believer, that we are "a royal priesthood" (1 Peter 2:9). Both are true. It is not a problem to solve; it is a tension to manage.

Pastors pulled back to let the priesthood of the believer operate: "If you need something, let someone near you lay a hand on you." That is good and fine. But **the next move of God will be marked by ministers stepping back into their apostolic authority and laying hands on people,** not by accident, not off in a corner, but intentionally in their services.

OPTIONAL: LAYING ON OF HANDS IN ACTS

This material is in the original notes but was not preached on October 5, 2025. Use it if time allows.

- Peter and John in Samaria: "Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit" (Acts 8:17).
- Ananias laid his hands on Saul so that he would "regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 9:17).
- Paul at Ephesus: "And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying" (Acts 19:6).

4. Where Are We Now?

Hold this loosely. We see in a mirror dimly, and I resist the urge to chase every wind that blows. After the revivals of the '90s, every time something stirred in a service, crowds showed up thinking it was the next great move, and six weeks later realized it wasn't.

But there are things happening in our culture right now.

Gen Z. Barna's research on Gen Z (roughly ages 13 to 28 in 2025) reports a striking shift. Gen Z men are now attending church at higher rates than Gen Z women, reversing a long pattern in which women have led religious attendance in America. Barna also reported that commitment to Jesus among Gen Z men climbed about 15 percentage points between 2019 and 2025. Much of that generation took in Christian content online long before they decided, "I've got to get in the house of the Lord."

The assassination of Charlie Kirk. Be careful not to sensationalize. It is early, and we do not know its full cultural effect. But even many who disagreed with him have looked at this moment and said, "That's not right," and there are reports of people going to church, reading the Bible and engaging with faith content since. It may become a catalyst for the next great move of God. We don't do politics here; the point is that people are being pointed toward the cross.

There is a stirring. There is a shifting. I believe revival is inevitable.

Conclusion

> **2 CHRONICLES 16:9** ESV
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> [9] For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him. You have done foolishly in this, for from now on you will have wars."

The eyes of the Lord are searching the earth, looking at churches, prayer meetings and private times with Him.

One day the Sadducees came to Jesus with a question meant to back Him into a corner, and Jesus said, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God" (Matthew 22:29). That is why we need both. Jesus is the Word made flesh, and it is His anointing that breaks the yoke (compare Isaiah 10:27). We need the Word, and we need His power.

If we will commit ourselves to His Word and His presence, open the Scriptures for everyone, create a place where anyone can encounter the presence of the Lord, and keep building, then maybe, just maybe, the eyes of the Lord will be drawn back to this place again and again.

Prayer. Have the congregation lift their hands. Ask the Lord to stir hearts and prepare the church for revival; to break the status quo; to forgive us for treating His house and His presence as casual and common; to teach us the art of letting go and giving Him permission to move however He wants; and to pour out His Spirit so that everyone who walks in senses something different in the atmosphere.



ABOUT

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