

Why Revival Tarries - Part 2

by Henry Blackaby

Revival tarries because we don't care for God's people and guide them to spiritual maturity, but when we prioritize their spiritual growth, revival will come.

Duration: 9:21

Scripture: Ezekiel 34:16, John 10:27-28, John 17:13, John 17:15, John 17:17

Topics: "Pastoral Ministry", "Spiritual Revival"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the importance of shepherding God's people with a shepherd's heart, ensuring that none are lost but all are guided and kept in the full character and nature of God. It highlights the need for pastors to immerse believers in the relationship with God, keeping them from wandering and ensuring they are filled with joy. The message stresses the significance of guiding God's people to live in the world but not be of the world, being sanctified by the truth of God's Word.

Transcript

church and he adds to that body as it pleases him how then should I consider my relationship to those he adds they're his and it is his will that I should lose none and so that became an absolute in my ministry and after 30 years of pastoring my wife and I went back in our mind we sat through an evening and began to review of the three major churches that I pastored two in California and one in Saskatoon could we remember apart from those who moved out of the city and moved to another place could we remember anybody that we had lost and we could not remember one person that we lost from our churches you know why revival lingers and tarries we don't care for the people of God we're like shepherds who let the sheep wander on the mountain at the disposal of the enemy and we do not seek them

out and save them and God condemns the shepherds who will not go after his sheep or feed his sheep you need to understand God condemns the shepherd who will not have a shepherd's heart don't ask God to bring revival to your church if you are not with a shepherd's heart over the people he gives he won't entrust you with others if you're not faithful with the ones he's given you and so in that enormous passage of Ezekiel he said I will seek out and save my own which you are not seeking out and say I will find them so I look back on my ministry to see if God had granted me the grace to know how to guide the people of God so that we would not lose one that belongs to him they're his and he says I will ask the shepherds to give an account for every solitary one I added to them and at the end

of those 30 years I could not remember nor could Marilyn one person that we had lost in 30 years many people say that's astounding and I say no that's biblical that's what God intended in the first place and so John says concerning Jesus he came to his own and here in the 17th chapter of John you're going to see how Jesus related to the ones the Father gave him and so we continue for these moments while I was with them in the world I kept them in your name folks that became an absolute for me as a pastor while I was with the ones God entrusted to me I kept them in his name that is in his full character I immersed them with God's enabling in the character and the nature and the activity and the purposes and the ways of God when the people of God are immersed in the relationship to God you

don't lose them they wouldn't think of leaving that kind of relationship but you have to teach them and you have to guide them are there some sheep who tend to wander what do you do you find a way to find them and keep them and don't let them wander you don't just say well you're gonna have to lose some that never crossed my mind I never said what the culture says you're going to lose some I said not me God being my helper I will do what the heart of God says to do it is my will that of all I give you you should lose none now how then did he relate to those whom the father had entrusted to him look at verse 13 and following but now I come to you and these things I speak in the world that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves that also became an absolute for me I could always tell

when one of the believers was struggling he had lost his joy because Jesus said the reason I'm giving you what I'm giving you is that my joy might be in you and your joy might be full so how would you know if one of God's people under your watch care was moving away from him they lose the joy and it may relate to what's happening in their marriage or their family but God has a solution for our marriages and God has a tremendous guidance for how we guide our children God has given us everything we need to shepherd the people of God and so he says here father the reason I'm sharing what I'm sharing is that my joy may be fulfilled in them I have given them your word the world has hated them because they're not of the world just as I am not of the world I do not pray that you should take them

out of the world but that you should keep them from the evil one they're not of the world just as I am not of the world is that true about the CEOs who are in your church do you know that most of the people in your church spend most of the week in the in the secular business world do you prepare them as they go out into corporate America they're not of that world but he says I don't pray you take them out of the world but that you keep them from the evil one in the midst of the world are you preparing God's people to be dramatically in the world but not of the world and to be the light in the midst of darkness and salt where it's decaying are you helping them to understand how to live out in the real world in such a way that the enemy does not have a hold on them but they are defeating

him now the reason why Revival Terry's is we're not giving any attention to the people of God Jesus did and Pentecost came his people were ready and I believe Revival Terry's because we are not paying attention to the people of God Jesus said I don't pray I pray for these I don't pray for the world and then he goes on to say to the father what he asked the father to do and you'll catch it here and it's incredible he says sanctify them by your truth your word is truth let me stop there for a moment are you carefully guiding God's people to both hear understand believe and practice the Word of God for instance I often listen

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