

INSTRUCTIONS From The Past

1 Corinthians 10:1-12

1. The instructions from the past are PRESCRIPTIVE AND DESCRIPTIVE

2 Chronicles 7:12-15

Yet, when we read this book, we find 4 specific periods of Revival.

· The first one happened under Kings Asa and Jehoshaphat.

2 Chronicles 15:1-15; 2 Chronicles 17:1-10

· The second one happened under King Joash

2 Chronicles 23-24

· The third one happened under King Hezekiah

2 Chronicles 29-32

· The fourth one happened under King Josiah

2 Chronicles 34-35

2. The instructions from the past are REVEALING THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 1:1-8; Acts 2:36-41; Acts 4:12

We sometimes forget that the history of America is not so much about our forefathers or our constitution, or our bill of rights, but about the GREAT SPIRITUAL REVIVALS that the Holy Spirit brought into this country.

The first great awakening of the 1740s not only brought life back to the church, it kept England and America from the horrors of the French Revolution. Jonathan Edwards, a brilliant theologian and pastor said that one of the distinguishing marks of revival is the work of the Holy Spirit.

"There are no spiritual awakenings without the power of the Holy Spirit."

The second great awakening of the 1790s changed society, resulting in the abolition of slavery, the end of the child labor abuse.....the move for universal literacy, and the reformation of prisons.

The third great awakening of the 1850s started in the lives of individuals praying for God to work in and through their lives, and grew into the great D.L. Moody evangelistic campaigns across the world. This great awakening also saw one of the greatest preachers by the name of C.H. Spurgeon, proclaiming with clarity the true gospel of Jesus Christ.

The fourth great awakening happened during the late 1960s and early 1970s. It was named the "Jesus revolution".

"I came across a story about a young student by the name of Dean. His story happened in the early seventies, during the Jesus Movement in Mobile, Alabama. He and his girlfriend were living together and smoking pot, and they were arrested for marijuana possession.

In his jail cell in Mobile, Dean found a Gideon Bible and thought, "Man, that would roll a good joint." So he started tearing pages out of the Bible, picking up leftover cigarette butts, taking the little bit of tobacco left in each one, and rolling himself cigarettes. But while he was smoking pages from Leviticus, he started reading the Gospel of John, and after a couple of weeks, he met Jesus in that jail cell!

Dean went on to graduate from seminary and pastor churches. His children have grown up to serve as missionaries. There is a legacy of faith and grace in his family that is literally touching the entire globe for the sake of the gospel." Dr. Alvin Reid

When the Holy Spirit has come upon you (that's the condition)

- You shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem. During that time Jerusalem was the local community.
- Judea means the communities surrounding us
- Samaria means caring for people we don't like, or who are different from us.
- To the ends of the earth means we carry a burden for the worldwide advancement of the kingdom of God.