

THE TIMING OF GOD

REVIVAL

This is the third message on the subject of revival. What we are doing in these three messages is to look at the foundations of revival. After that, we will look at the principles in revival. The foundations are different from the principles. We need the foundations to understand how the revival works because sometimes when we begin talking about the principles of revival, we think that they apply to all situations, regardless of whether the foundations are in place or not. If the foundations are not there, the principles cannot stand.

So far we have seen two foundations for revivals, that is, God works through vessels and that the word is vital for revivals. When we talk about the principles of a revival, we assume that the revival has already been built on the right foundations. It doesn't mean that you just because you apply the principles despite the lack of the right foundations, the revival will still come. It will not.

There are three foundations on revival that we are looking at. This morning we look at the third foundation on revival and that is something very queer and interesting and not really in our control. We need to know that it is called the *Timing of the Lord*.

Turn to Acts 2:1 *When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.* The apostles and disciples already had the first two foundations correctly and truly secured. They were praying in one accord. They were doing

everything else that was right. But there is a statement made here that we must not ignore and that is *when the Day of Pentecost had fully come*. There is such a thing as timing. There is such a thing as the seasons of God. In II Timothy 4:2 Paul told Timothy to preach the word of God in season and out of season. Now what kind of season was Paul taking about? He was not talking about the four seasons. He is not talking about being faithful throughout all the four seasons, summer, autumn, winter and spring. He is talking about spiritual seasons. There are seasons in God that we need to be aware of. Seasons in what God is doing. There are some things that cannot be hurried. Everything that God does has a season. Paul was talking to Timothy about being faithful between those seasons. Whether in season or out of season, preach the word of God. Even when Jesus Christ first came to this planet earth, there was a proper time and a proper season. The bible tells us in the book of Galatians that *in the fullness of time*, He was born of a woman. There is such a thing as the fullness of time when we speak about revival. A church can grow. Church growth and revival are not the same thing. Revival affects the society at large in a very dramatic way. Of course in revival there is church growth. But church growth can take place all the time based on the faithfulness of the people winning souls.

Let me give an example. Right now Russia is ripe for the harvest. Anybody who knows just a little bit of the word of God who is called there can go there and start a big church because the people are crying out for the word. When the walls of communism fell, the country was ripe for the harvest. You don't just have normal growth you have revival. Sometimes when the time is ripe and nobody goes in to harvest, the season passes and it takes a long time for the season to come again. Like Japan. When Japan had just lost the war in the Second World War, Japan was crying out for missionaries. General MacArthur went back to the United States and told the missionaries there, "Give me "X" thousand of missionaries and I give you a Christian Japan." I believe only a handful responded. At that time they were ready for a revival. But few laborers went there to the harvest field. The sad news is that now after the Second World War, which ended in 1945 nearly five decades later, they are a very hard nation to reach because the people don't have that need. They have become materialistic and self-sufficient. But the season will come again and we need to be aware that there are seasons.

See a season of revival is something that goes in line with what God is doing even in society at large. There will be a shaking of major proportions that will affect

society. That's a revival. Church growth is just a normal multiplication and growth of a church, which should take place in season and out of season. Now in some places the growth will be slower than others, depending on the principalities and powers ruling that area. But there will be some semblance of growth and some measure of quantity. But when a revival takes place, you don't just have growth. You have what I call an explosion.

So let's define very carefully the difference between a revival and normal growth. What is normal for many people is already revival. The revival growth begins usually with a few. When the season is ripe, there will be an explosion. A hundred and twenty disciples gathered together in the Upper Room and after ten days an explosion occurred. In one day there were three thousand added to the Lord. That's a revival. If the hundred and twenty disciples went through normal church growth, it would take them a longer time to win three thousand souls. There is a sign a sovereign act of God that the people readied themselves for. So there is such a thing as timing that every person called by God will have to wrestle with. Every church pastor, every church planter, everyone who starts a ministry will need to sense and know the season that God has established.

Let's turn to some examples of the timing of God in the lives of some men of God in the bible. They too had to wrestle with the concept of timing in their lives. When we don't realize that there is such a thing as timing and season in each life and in each ministry, we tend to get impatient. When we get impatient, we get frustrated. It will hinder what God is doing rather than help. The season of God cannot be rushed and cannot be hurried. Let's turn to the book of Genesis. I will just give a few examples here of how men of God wrestled with timing.

When we talk about timing, some people think that it is a matter of one to two years. God said to Abraham in Gen. 12:1 *Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation etc.* He knows that God is going to bless him. By Gen. 15 God cut a covenant with him and promised him many, many descendents. But in chapter 16 verse one Sarai his wife couldn't wait for a child any longer and suggested to Abraham to have a child with Haggai, her handmaid. Abraham went along with her idea. Sometimes it's the one closest to you who give up during that waiting period. If you are persuaded,

you may miss the season of God. But it was the wrong time to have the child. It was not because Abraham was not faithful. He was as faithful as he knows how in God. It was just that God has a time and a season, and he didn't know that. His time is not our time. He expects us to learn supernatural patience to wait on His season. Here is one man, the father of faith, struggling with the timing and he missed the timing of God. After the birth of Ishmael, Abraham got twelve years of silence from God. Then God spoke again. Finally the real child came, the one whom God originally wanted them to have.

There is another man in the book of Genesis and his name is Joseph. He became a slave and in chapter 40 by this time he was getting very impatient. He had been in Potiphar's house and then he was framed up and thrown into prison. He was a prisoner for some time. The chief warden entrusted Joseph with the running of the prison, as he was a good administrator. Then God sent the butler and the baker to Joseph to have their dreams interpreted. But there was something in Joseph's life - he wants out even though God was blessing him. God was promoting him in such a way that he was held in high esteem for his wisdom and skill in managing the prison. In Gen. 40 when he knew the butler was going to be released, he told the butler in verse 14 *But remember me when it is well with you, and please show kindness to me; make mention of me to Pharaoh, and get me out of this house.* Joseph wanted out of the prison.

But the time was not ripe. God had bigger plans and purposes for him. Why does God place such timing on our lives? The reason is we are only one small part of God's greater plan. Therefore we have to sit and wait for God's greater plan to be in place before He moves us into whatever position He wants. If we think we are great in God, then of course we will rush ahead of God. But when we recognize how small we are in the sight of God, that we are only one part of the great strategy of God, then we will learn to abide our time.

It is just like when the Gulf War in 1991 was being fought. For many days the foot soldiers were not mobilized for attack. They waited until the air force had pounded every known position they know of. What were the ground forces doing? Were they in war? Yes, but they were waiting while the air force was doing the job of

destroying key installations of the enemy. The first few weeks, they were just carpet bombing before the foot soldiers were sent in to finish the job. The foot soldiers did nothing except wait until the air force had completed their work.

If we think that we are the only ones doing God's work, then we might end up doing something that is out of God's timing. But there are many forces in God's army that God is strategically placing at the right place and the right position before He launch His move in His divine time. He can see beyond what humans see. So Joseph possibly never realize that his life was going to be a type of Christ. You know how old he was when he stood before Pharaoh? The bible tells us in chapter 41:46 that Joseph was thirty years old. If you study the book of Genesis, Joseph represented a type of Christ. Joseph had not even met Christ in a sense that we have met Him. Very few people at that time had even had the faintest idea of the suffering Messiah. Yet you see what Joseph went through. He was thrown into the pit just like Jesus entered the depths of hell. Just as his brethren rejected David, so did the Jews reject Jesus. It was God's destiny that Joseph would stand before Pharaoh only when he was thirty years old. Was he in God's perfect will when he was twenty eight? He was. Was he outwardly in a sense successful as far as the people see? I mean though he was given charge of the prison, to society at large he was still a criminal. He had everything he needed but he had to learn to wait on God. Joseph got a little impatient and asked the butler to please remind and tell Pharaoh about him. Joseph wanted out.

We do not know what would happen to Joseph if he came out two years earlier. Would he still remain there or would he be trying to get back to the land of Canaan? Would he still be around in Egypt when Pharaoh had his dream? See God's timing? Pharaoh still hasn't had that prophetic dream and Joseph was predestined to interpret Pharaoh's dream. God kept Joseph in prison there until Pharaoh dreamt his enigmatic dream. What time was it? The seven years of prosperity was about to begin. This was followed by the seven years of famine. This was something that was going to happen to the entire region. It was something so big that no individual, no single country could understand. But God knew what was going to take place. God warned the king. God made sure that the man who could administrate the prosperity years was there in prison waiting. When Joseph stood at the age of thirty before Pharaoh, it was the beginning of the seven years of prosperity. Had he come out of prison two years earlier, there would be nothing

significant going on in the natural. He would have gone on with his life and missed God's timing and purpose. There is such a thing as timing.

There are other people you read about who had to wait too, like Moses. What was wrong with him? Forty years too early. See God told Abraham in Gen. 15:16 *But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.* Now as we look at Moses we want to draw some principles behind the seasons of God.

Firstly, there is the strategic positioning of various forces that need to come together before God's man or woman for the hour can rise up to his or her destiny. Before that you have to be faithful. In Acts 7 Stephen in speaking about Moses said this about Moses in verse 22 *Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds. Now when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel.* Verse 24 *For he supposed that his brethren would have understood that God would deliver them by his hand, but they didn't understand.* Moses started visiting his people when he was forty years old. By the time he was forty, he knew his call and destiny but it was not the season yet.

What was in play? There were many situations. Point one we talk about many different integrated parts of what God is planning together. There were many things going on at the same time. God doesn't reveal everything. He reveals only some things. No. 1 there was the timing when the number of years that Israel had to be in Egypt would be completed. The timing of the 400 odd years was not completed yet. They had to complete it even though it was going to be another forty years of hardship. Who wants to suffer under Pharaoh any longer? But here was a time dispensation that was bigger than any individual. That is something very queer and interesting that the Israelites never see because in the midst of their suffering they cannot see the other picture. So, firstly, there was a prophetic time span that God spoke to Abraham about his descendants staying in Egypt.

Secondly, the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete (Gen. 15: 16). The Amorites were occupying the land of Canaan at that time, and there was not

enough legal ground before the court of heaven to remove them from that land. Their sin was not yet filled to that measure to necessitate their removal. Thus, it was too early for Moses to bring the Israelites out of Egypt and remove the Amorites from the land and occupy it.

The third aspect that was happening that they didn't see was that the one that was to lead them out of Egypt was not ready yet. For he needs to meet up with God first. That was Moses. He needed to receive the anointing of God and it was not ready to come on his life yet. At forty he was not ready yet. Only when he was eighty God called him. At the burning bush, God anointed him and gave him the signs and wonders. Moses realized that he was going to go in not by the might of his Egyptian training but he was going to go in by the rod of Almighty God, the power of God.

So there are all these factors. I am just giving three but there are many other little sub-factors that we don't see and we don't realize that are taking place that there is a season in God. We are sometimes too small to see the overall season and we think God is too late. He is never. But God's timing is always perfect. There are other people too in the bible that you can see they have to wait for a certain season and a certain time.

Think about other people like David. Think about the number of years he had waited while Saul was pursuing him. Was it God's will? It was not God's perfect will for Saul. But this is a strange thing. The one living in God's permissive was pursuing the man who was after God's heart and living in God's perfect will. God planned it that way. We were lost in sin. All of us were like sheep gone astray and we have each turned to his own way. We were living in the permissive will of God, then came the Lamb of God who lived in the perfect will of God among people to take sin out of their life and die on the cross for us. If we all have lived in the perfect will of God, Jesus need not have to come. But while we are living in the imperfect will, God send Someone to live in the perfect will to bring us out of the permissive will.

So there was Saul in the permissive will. There was David in the perfect will and he suffered. There were times that he must have longed to get out of the situation. David had many opportunities to quicken the season if you want to call it that way. He had many opportunities especially two that was recorded for us. But we do not know the number of opportunities he had to kill Saul while he was still in the palace. But there are two main scripture passages recorded for us of how he had the opportunities to kill Saul. What happen when Saul dies? David would naturally be the next leader. But David was a man who would want to wait on the season of God. There was only one time when he wanted to take vengeance on himself by his own hand. When he was coming against Nabal, it was Abigail who stopped him.

It is better to allow the season of God to run out and let God's hand be the hand that is on the wheel of time for our life. Don't try to hurry because if you do, you will have an Ishmaelite situation. Don't try to push it to any other direction because you will only get frustrated. As for us and our families, we should decide and say, "Lord, we only want to do what is your perfect will."

Now lets cross over to the New Testament. Jesus said in the gospel of Matthew 28:19 *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.* It is God's will to go to all the nations. But there are other sub-clauses who are involved in the word go. There are hundreds of nations. One person cannot possibly evangelize all of them. Yes, one person can go to all of them but it's more like tourist evangelism. You just step into that country, conduct a small fellowship and say you have been to that country. That's not being truthful. We are only called to a certain number of nations. But it is God's will for all nations to hear the gospel. At the same time, each nation has its own timing for what God has to do.

Turn to the book of Acts 16:6 *Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia.* Now isn't Asia Minor part of the Matthew 28 command? It was. But probably God had somebody else in mind to go there. Secondly, it may not be ready yet for the harvest. Then in verse 7 *After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them. So passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas.* That is where the Macedonian man stood before Paul in a dream and said, "Come over here, help

us," for Macedonia is calling. It may be God's general will for the gospel to go forth but there is such a thing as the specific will of God for us to do only specific work in specific places. We are talking about revival and not about normal church growth, where we do bear witness in our lives to our neighbors, to our friends, and that's normal Christian living.

But here, we are teaching on revival. Revival has a sovereign timing. It depends on us and it depends on God. It's a co-operation of men with the timing of God. If God's time is there and men are not ready, we miss it. If men are ready and the timing is not ripe yet, we need to learn to wait. Do you know that Jesus Himself walked by timing of God even though He was the Son of God? Remember when the Gentiles and the woman came to Jesus, Jesus said, "I am not send but to the lost sheep of Israel." See when the Lord came into this planet earth, He also had to submit to the Father's divine plan for the entire earth. So when He stepped in, it was a time of the Jews. He had to operate under the bigger timetable of the Father until the timing was over. When He was resurrected, the dispensation of the Jews was over and He says now you all can go to all the nations. It is found in Lk. 9 and Matt. 10 where when Jesus sent the disciples out two by two, He told them not to go to the Gentiles. But the Gentiles were dying. There is a bigger timetable that is taking place. But what about those who died without hearing the gospel? There is another principle working. Those who were really hungry and walked according to their conscience, God somehow will manifest to them. But God has His timetable.

God showed me His timetable of the revivals in the world. He says, "First it starts over in Jerusalem. That's where the Holy Spirit came down. Then it spreads towards the north and it was the Europeans sector that was the known Christian area. Then it went to the west. We have the United States of America sending the most missionaries of any nations in the twentieth century. At first it was from England, then it is America. But now it's moving in Asia to the east. But there will be one more move. It will be down to the south before the coming of the Lord."

Next you read about it in the newsletter how Sister Chong she went to heaven. She went to a place where she could see the nations of the world. She saw the fires around Asia were burning brighter than any other place. You know why, it is Asia's

time. There is a time and there is a season. Lets understand there is a bigger timetable than any church, than even any one nation, than any even one ministry. We need to be consciously operating on that bigger timetable. If Jesus Himself understood the timetable of God how much more should we? So to everything there is a season and there is a time. Jesus understood His times and His seasons.

Now as Paul moved from place to place, he also had a season and a time in his life. Look at the book of Acts 9. The moment he was born again in verse 20 we are told he preached Christ in the synagogues. Verse 29 he spoke boldly in the name of Jesus. Now Paul was a preacher. He had a ministry to the Gentiles. In the prophecies given to him by Ananias he also had a certain call to the children of Israel. But notice the chronological order. In chapter 9:15 *The Lord said to him, that is Ananias, "Go, for he, that is Paul, is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before No. 1 Gentiles, No. 2 kings, No. 3 and the children of Israel.* Do you notice the progression? Please watch your prophecies and their interpretation. Many prophecies have been misinterpreted because they have been misunderstood. Sometimes God has spoken to us but we didn't catch the meaning. Do you know that Paul's life and ministry was only successful first to the Gentiles then before kings and finally back to the Jews through his letters. That is God's timetable for him. Now Paul tried to minister straight away. He did not succeed. Why? It was not yet God's launching hour for the Gentiles.

It's just like a chess game. Each piece is important. But as you play the game of chess, you put some pieces in strategic positions for latter use, for stealthy and surprise attacks later on. If you know the Lopez opening one of the most powerful thing that the white pieces do is to play with the bishop, which uses the white square. You try to preserve that bishop and constantly point it at the weak point in the black king area. Its power is never revealed until a strategic time. When is the strategic time? The bishop is sometimes hiding right over on queen rook two. Right over the second square on the left. It is hidden by other pieces and blocked from the center by many pawns. But you wait as every piece is placed in position and you began to push all the pawns up. You break up the center and all the pieces are ready to march into attack. Suddenly the power of the bishop comes out. That may be the one bishop that checkmates you.

In the same way, God has the apostle Paul all ready for the Gentiles. But the Gentiles were not yet ready and they needed a season. So God kept him aside and He positioned everything else. Barnabas is like the knight and Paul is like a bishop in a chess game. Barnabas has to get into position until one day in Acts 11, which was nearly nine years later from Acts 9, the Gentiles there received the word. That was how the church of Antioch was founded. Although there were many Gentiles receiving the word, it was the first main Gentile church. In Acts 8 those were not really Gentiles; they were Samaritans. Then you have Acts 10, which was a small little group of Gentiles in one household who was so faithful to God. Do you know that according to church history one Ethiopian eunuch went back and started the Orthodox Church there? Today the church that is in Ethiopia is traced back to the eunuch. See God knows where the people who are hungry He will reach out to them. But there are seasons.

So it's the first time in the book of Acts 11 that the church is generally Gentile. God put it in the heart of Barnabas. Bring the bishop out. Now the bishop goes back into an attacking position. He brings it all the way to Antioch and Paul had a powerful ministry there. See God has a special call and He reserves each one of us for His specific purpose. Don't try to be everything. After all, the bible says some of us are eyes, some are ears, and some are noses. Don't try to be everything. Just be faithful to the dimension and dispensation of what God called you to be. Know that at any time and in any season God is doing something. But there are some seasons where the harvest time is ripe. God will call aside all those sowers and send forth those harvesters to harvest. It's important for us to follow God's timing. Every time where the Gentiles meet who else but the apostle Paul was involved. A man God reserved for nine years. God has His time and His season.

Turn to Matthew chapter 9:37 *Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."* Question, if the laborers are few and the harvest is so plentiful and obviously it is ripe why didn't God said go. The harvest is ripe and there are not enough laborers. Why didn't God said go? Instead he says pray. First answer. If you go and you are not the laborer assigned there, you know what will happen to the harvest? You will be destroying the harvest. God would rather you don't go than you go and spoil the harvest for someone else.

Secondly, you may be the right laborer with the right job. Some are called to sow and some are called to reap. But if you go without the empowerment of God and instead of using the gifts of the Spirit and ministry, you use your own strength you will destroy the harvest. God would rather you not go because if you go you are going to destroy souls. God would rather you pray. That's the second reason. But the time is there. The harvest is ripe. The season is right but the laborers are few. God says to pray to the Lord of the harvest. That is one of the few times when God's title is called the Lord of the harvest. What is He trying to say? The Lord who owns the whole harvest. The Lord who is in charge of the whole thing ripening. The Lord who is in control of the harvest. He says that that Lord of the harvest sends out laborers into His harvest. From there we get the second reason for God's timing. Which is very hard for us to understand and accept sometimes.

The first reason for timing is because of the many intricate things that God is doing. That each individual is only one small part of God's ultimate plan. The second is this: there need to be a dying to birthing the work through fleshly means. What do we mean by that? You know Abraham wanted a child so much and so did Sarah. God promised them a child. They were longing for a child. When Sarah suggested to have a child through Hagar, it was all easy to follow through. Even though God wanted Abraham to have a child, God still wanted him to die to the desire to have that child through fleshly means. In other words, Abraham wanted to fulfill God's prophecies through carnal and fleshly means and God will not share His glory with men. He will not allow His work to be tainted with the flesh.

Before God's given vision can come forth in your life, you must die to your human ways and human endeavors to accomplish God's vision for your life. Before your own ministry can come up, you must even die to all your human machinations, human fabrications, human wisdom, human strength, impure motives etc for your own ministry. There is no revival without self being entirely being crucified. That's when revival can come. The revival will come if the vessel that God uses will be so crucified that even if his own face were shining, it would be like Moses who knew not his own face was shining. Some of us will say, "O God, show me Your glory that my face may shine." Moses was not even aware of his shining face. He was so absolutely dead to himself that he was only conscious of God.

The vessel that God uses must die to himself to everything and to even their desire to be used by God. So that if God had just left them aside to just spend his days in His presence like a pillar in the house of God, he would be satisfied. There is no revival without the main vessel having his ego dealt with so that only God gets His full glory. That doesn't come easily.

Abraham died to his desire to even have a child. All he did was to commit his life to God. I mean he has made a mistake and now all he wants is to walk with God. You know when he was ninety-nine years old in Gen. 17 God said, "Abraham, you are going to have a son." He said, "God, bless Ishmael." God said, "I am talking about your son." Sarah who wanted so much to have a child was now ninety years old when she overheard God talking to Abraham. When God said Abraham you are going to have a son this time next year, Sarah began to laugh. Although their son was called Isaac which means laughter their first laugh was not really a laughter of faith. It was not. I could prove this to you in Gen. 17. Even God's man was in unbelief sometimes. Gen. 17:17 you don't call that faith when you watch what he said. *Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, "Shall a child be born to a man who is one hundred years old? Shall Sarah who is ninety years old, bear a child?"* Then in the next verse, God repeated that promise and Sarah heard it and she also laughed not in faith at first. But thank God when it comes to believing God, they have a very simple heart. When God told them and assured them they immediately started believing. You ask how is it that God can get past that when they got so much unbelief at that time. Know one thing for nearly twenty years Abraham had been visualizing. Your vision is stronger than your confession. Remember God said your seed shall be like the stars of heaven and shall be like the dust of the earth. That was when he was about 75 years old. Now he is a hundred years old and about 25 years he has been visualizing the number of his descendants. Your vision is stronger than your confession because if your confession goes wrong your vision will correct it. But if you try to confess without seeing you never get it.

When Mk. 11:23-24 says to confess with your mouth and speak to the mountain, it also says that you must not doubt in your heart. What does the heart do? The heart visualizes. But Abraham followed after God. He died to everything and he just

committed his life to God. Later when God gave him a son, God still wanted to make sure that he remains dead to himself. That is why God in Gen. 22 asked for Isaac back. We must die even to what we ourselves want to do. Paul literally died to all his own desires in Acts 9 and went to Tarsus waiting for the day when God will show him and God started bringing him forth again. He was now a crucified man for God to use in the move of God. The second point is to die to your desires.

I give you another example Moses. How he desired to deliver the Israelites. You remember when God spoke to him forty years later and told him to go, do you know what Moses said? Can you please send somebody else? You repeated that so often until the Lord got angry with him. Is this the same Moses who was so eager? You see a lot of his eagerness is in the flesh. He had to die to his flesh until he rested in God. Did God really get angry with Moses? Yes He did. In the book of Exodus 4:14, see, *the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses*. I mean Moses made God angry. God said, "Go, Moses." "O, I am not eloquent." Who has made man's mouth? He made God angry. How did this Moses end up that way? Something within him died. A crucified man or woman has no desire for anything else, not even for his or her own ministry. It takes time for us to reach that point. It took Abraham 12 years. It took Paul 9 years. It took Moses 40 years. God knows our heart. When we are talking about corporate anointing and the move of God, God waits for all us till we all sincerely from our hearts desire God and God alone.

What else do you desire when you are crucified? You are no more praying about your own need because you are dead. Everything about you is considered dead. Until all you want is more and more of God. Listen carefully because this is a little secret. When we could gather the people of God for hours and hours and all they want is God and God alone and if we could do it regularly, something is bound to happen. In Acts 13 the leaders got together. Let me tell you this there are very few places in the world that actually do it. Literally there are hundreds and thousands of churches all over the world. There are many meetings going on all the time all over the world. Many prayer meetings, many worship meetings. But do you know in every one of them very few times do people really come just to be with God. Most of the time they will be tucking at God's sleeves asking for something. Or they will be praising God and then after that asking again. Their praise is to get into His presence to ask. There are very few meetings when we say lets all die to everything. Lets just come to seek after our God and our Father. As we come all,

we do is say, "O God, we want more of You. O God, we just want to love You." If we would do that constantly continuously in season and out of season, when the season of God comes that will be where the move of God starts. God is waiting for that to take place. Sometimes the time is there but there is no one around. Sometimes the time is not right and we need to get ready for that.

In Acts 13 it was not by accident that they planned such a meeting. It says *as they ministered to the Lord and fasted*. Churches will always have many needs. Families will always have many needs. When you are young and not married yet, you thought your greatest need is to meet your loved one. Then when you meet your loved one, you thought your greatest need is to plan your marriage. Then after you are married, you think your greatest need is pray for the children. Then you pray for a house. Then after your house, you pray for other things. Then you began to pray for your children's education. There is no end. We need at least one meeting when we don't come for anything but God. I mean you don't even come because there is a powerful guest speaker. You don't even come because of the word. You don't even come to ask for your request. You don't even come for a breakthrough. We need at least one meeting where you would come because you desired God. It doesn't matter if there are very few people when we come to just say, "Lord, we love you." We tell ourselves we are church going Christians. Sunday is the day we worship God. That is not just right you also come to get the word. You also come to fellowship. You also come to get encouraged. We need to be able to have one meeting when we come to just love God. Like Acts 13:1 it didn't tells us how long they did it. We are not thinking about one another; we are all crucified in Christ. We are just there loving God. The end of the meeting we don't try to get anything for ourselves; we just say, "O God thank you." Then we go back and then we come again because we want to love Him. Something is bound to happen. Not that we want it to happen to get more blessed. But lets put it this all of us have a tremendous desire for God if you are really someone in love with God.

All of us right now know that we need more of God. We can have more of God. When we talk about revival we need a time for that. I am not sure how it's going to come about. I know that as revival has begun in our hearts and began to work in our heart, there is a revival flowing forth but that revival is bringing us to the season of God. When the people out will suddenly be prepared by some situations that are bigger than everyone, there will come suddenly a hunger, things bigger

than anyone.

See the fall of communism is not just a fall naturally. When you read the papers everyone say it's because of the arms race that had bankrupted the country. Don't they believe in God's hand? That's only man's interpretation of man's affairs. They cannot see the angels at work. They didn't see the people who went behind the Iron Curtain and had prayer walks to tear down those walls. They didn't see the angels arranging all those situations to tear down those walls so that people are hungry for the word. Literally when the wall fell people were crying out for the word. It was something that was seen in the streets. That's revival. It's not just in the church. Revival affects the streets not just the church. It starts in the church. We need to get deeper in God. We keep praying to the Lord of the harvest until the Lord of the harvest looks at us and says, "I know you. I know you are not going to destroy my harvest. I know you are going to be implicitly obedient to me," He puts His empowerment on us and sends us into the harvest. Now that doesn't mean that we do not bear witness. We do not share the Lord. We do not visit the sick all the time. We do that all the time. But yet we expectantly wait on God for the move that will come. And it will - a move that will shake all society. There will be things happening that will shake society such that people will start turning to God.

We only have time to consider these two things. Firstly, the many things that are involved in the move of God. Some things have to wait for other things to catch up. But be faithful. Secondly, a sort of dying to the need of the flesh to accomplish God's supernatural purposes. God waited till Abraham was, please pardon me, impotent and Sarah was barren. It was impossible for them to conceive in the flesh anymore. Sometimes the longer we wait the more impossible it seems. That's Abraham's situation. But fear not, do not be anxious. When you enter this second point you are at rest. What happens if you are born out of season? You will be like Simeon and Anna the prophetess who only saw the infant Jesus but never lived long enough to hear the adult Jesus preaching. You will receive all that is maximum for your life and you will be rewarded to the maximum up there in heaven. But Simeon and Anna did not have the privilege of being the disciples of Jesus. In their prime of their life Jesus was only a baby. Yet they were fully faithful to Almighty God. We need to be faithful in whatever season we are in. When you see the fig tree budding, then you know the season is coming up for the fruit. My friend the tree in this place here is now budding. It has begun and we need to hear the drum beat of

the Holy Spirit. Maybe that meeting would be in your own home. In your own place. In your own gathering. Maybe it may be one to one. All you want is to love the Lord. But I know that when much of that takes place then the fruit of the tree of revival is beginning to show.