LESSON 33 19.08.18

Theme: CONSEQUENCES OF REVIVAL

Memory Verse: 2 Chron. 7:14 "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land".

Texts: Hosea 14:4-9; Genesis 35:6-13

Revival will also sustain God's appearance and presence in Christian fellowship (Genesis 35:9). One writer said: revival is divine intervention in the normal course of spiritual things. It is God revealing Himself to man in awful holiness and irresistible power. "... It is the Lord making bare His holy arm and working in an extraordinary power on saints and sinners." Peter captures it vividly as he calls it "times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3:19).

These definitions strongly condemn the wrong perception of the so-called Christians of modern times who equate the noise of singing, clapping and drumming or the acts of shaking, dancing, rolling and jumping and the multiplication of activities and religious celebrations with revival. Other results of revival today include: prevention of God's righteous anger (Psalm 85:3-6; Hosea 14:4), personal and communal peace (Psalm 85:8), God's mercy, favour and glory (Psalm 85:9,10; Hosea 14:6,7), answer to prayer, physical, material and spiritual healing (2 Chronicles 7:14). Another Christian writer reported the 1904 Wales revivals under Evan Roberts thus: Wa1es was aflame ... Suddenly, like an unexpected tornado, the Spirit of God swept over the land.

The churches were crowded! Nothing had ever come over Wales with such far reaching results. Infidels were converted; drunkards, thieves and gamiers saved; and thousands reclaimed to respectability. Confessions of awful sins were heard on every side. Old debts were paid. The theatre had to leave for want of patronage. In five weeks, twenty thousand people joined the churches. That was genuine revival whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited His own people, ushering them into the fullness of blessing. There is no rnistaking of the marks of true revival. However, in the peak of this revival fire, Deborah, Rebekah's nurse, died (Genesis 24:59; 35:8). "Light affliction" may sometimes arise in the midst of mighty divine visitation. This should not deter the believer from focusing his eyes on God. The fact that Deborah was not a blood relation to Jacob's household was not noticed as they accorded her a befitting burial in the spirit of genuine love. The bond of the blood of Jesus should inspire the believer to love the brotherhood (1 Peter 2:17).

| | DAILY BIBLE READING | |
|-----------|---------------------|--------------|
| | MORNING | EVENING |
| SUNDAY | Zephaniah 2 | Zephaniah 3 |
| MONDAY | Haggai 1 | Haggai 2 |
| TUESDAY | Zechariah 1 | Zechariah 2 |
| WEDNESDAY | Zechariah 3 | Zechariah 4 |
| THURSDAY | Zechariah 5 | Zechariah 6 |
| FRIDAY | Zechariah 7 | Zechariah 8 |
| SATURDAY | Zechariah 9 | Zechariah 10 |