



Renewal / Revival



Biblical Perspective Series

ment a sensitivity and awareness of God's presence.

Character, good or bad, relates to the soul. Anointing relates to the spirit. The Word of God, properly used, will divide between soul and spirit. God is in the process of restoring our souls, transforming us from glory to glory into the likeness of His image. As a result and due to our yielding to His Spirit, He releases his anointing long before we are perfect. We can all thank God we don't have to be perfect before his anointing will flow through us and touch others!

In many of the renewal events around the world, character flaws undoubtedly existed in the participants. That has provoked some people to discount what was taking place. Often character flaws have led to division that precipitated the end of the move of God. Like Sampson, they brought the house down.

We can rejoice over those that are touched through these meetings and pray that if we see character flaws in its participants we are able to allow the Holy Spirit to deal with them before the leaders bring the house down on themselves.

Biblical Perspective Series:

- Abortion
- Divorce
- Revival
- Inspiration of Scripture
- Women in Ministry
- Accusation and Forgiveness
- Homosexuality



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Revival

A Policy Statement of Global Christian Ministry Forum International

Many questions are being asked in Christian circles about phenomena associated with current renewal/revival movements. In an attempt to answer these questions and clarify our position as it relates to Global Christian Ministry Fellowship, the following has been set forth.

The effectiveness of ministry in the various major revival/renewal venues in recent years manifest Godly characteristics and are genuine and proceeding from the Holy Spirit.

It is evident the Holy Spirit works in various ways to impact the lives of diverse people. For example, One venue may seem largely relaxed and unstructured, emphasizing a sincere love relationship with God, whereas another an intense southern Pentecostal fervor with repentance at the forefront. Another venue may visibly demonstrate the joy of the Lord in an atmosphere that strips religious tradition of its false piety. However, beneath the outward "packaging" the work of the Holy Spirit has common characteristics, most notably:

- Lives changed for the better
- Genuine salvation
- Increased hunger for more of God.

While some persons will invariably infuse the events with fleshly exhibitions, this does not negatively effect the overall work of God.

In light of these observations we encourage our members to be open to the move of the Holy Spirit and sensitive to necessary discernment. We are convinced God desires to pour out His blessing on all His church and will tailor make a renewal/revival to meet the individual needs and flow of any local congregation that will yield to Him. We do

not encourage trying to produce a work of the Spirit by copying the service style or structure of renewal events of venues. Likewise we caution against judgments which use the presence or absence of any "manifestation" as a test of validity. Finally, we, discourage our members from sectarian thinking that would elevate any single ministry, manifestation, service style or structure above others, thereby denigrating an equally valid aspect of the work of God.

In Dr. Judson Cornwall's second last book, he discusses the subject of glory and pride. One chapter provides an important insight into the complexity of God's work in a believer's life and by extension, His church.

The chapter was about the "conundrum" we face in the life of Sampson. Sampson's character faults are obvious and yet the Scripture says over and over, "The Spirit of the Lord came on him mightily." Hebrews 11 includes Sampson's name in what we often refer to as the Hall of Faith, and yet his life was such a shambles that he eventually brought the house down on himself.

It is evident that throughout history, God does not look for perfection before he releases his anointing.

Scripture clearly allows us to judge character according to the fruit of the Spirit but that does not extend to the anointing. Anointing should not be judged; it is to be discerned. By its very nature, discernment cannot be exercised by second-hand reports, internet chatter or pre-determined opinion. Discernment is applied when someone is personally experiencing or exposed to a situation or event. Judging character is a measurement while discern-