

OPPOSE REVIVAL?

Revival focuses on seeking God and accessing the life of God.

Many prefer “controlled carnality” to real fervent Christianity. When revival takes place, if some resist the work of God while others surrender, over time the difference between the two groups will become a stark contrast.

Those who oppose revival do so usually for one of two reasons: worldliness or self-righteousness. Worldliness is conformity to the world’s selfish desires in heart and life, evidenced by the works of the flesh. Self-righteousness is conformity to any standard of righteousness maintained through the strength of the flesh.

Just as justification by faith confronts both unrighteous sinners and self-righteous sinners, so sanctification by faith or revival confronts both worldly saints and self-righteous saints. And just as justification by faith is resisted by both the unrighteous - who do not want their sin to be exposed as a problem - and the self-righteous - who do not want their “filthy rags” to be exposed as insufficient - so sanctification by faith or revival is resisted by both the worldly saints - who do not want their worldliness to be challenged - and the self-righteous saints - who do not want their condition or self-righteous rags to be challenged either.

Excerpt of article: The Dangers of Revival by John R. Van Gelderen

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