

WHAT REVIVAL LOOKS LIKE

2 Cor. 7:4-16



FIRED UP

2 Cor. 7:4 Great *is* my boldness of speech toward you, great *is* my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.

5 For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; without *were* fightings, within *were* fears.

6 Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus;

7 And not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me; so that I rejoiced the more.

8 For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though *it were* but for a season.

9 Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing.

10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

11 For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, *what* clearing of yourselves, yea, *what* indignation, yea, *what* fear, yea, *what* vehement desire, yea, *what* zeal, yea, *what* revenge! In all *things* ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

12 Wherefore, though I wrote unto you, *I did it* not for his cause that had done the wrong, nor for his cause that suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear unto you.

13 Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all.

14 For if I have boasted any thing to him of you, I am not ashamed; but as we spake all things to you in truth, even so our boasting, which *I made* before Titus, is found a truth.

15 And his inward affection is more abundant toward you, whilst he remembereth the obedience of you all, how with fear and trembling ye received him.

16 I rejoyce therefore that I have confidence in you in all *things*.

"Revival is that sovereign work of God in which He visits His own people, restoring and releasing them into the fullness of His blessing." - Robert Coleman

"Revival is a return to spiritual health after a period of decline into sin and broken fellowship with God...
Revival is for God's people when they need to be forgiven and restored to life, spiritual health, and vitality"
-Blackaby & King (Fresh Encounter, Lifeway, 1993)

"Revival is an extraordinary work of the Holy Spirit producing extraordinary results." - Richard Owen Roberts

Psa. 119:156 Great *are* thy tender mercies, O LORD:
quicken me according to thy judgments.

Psa. 119:37 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity;
and **quicken thou me** in thy way.

Psa. 119:88 **Quicken me** after thy lovingkindness; so
shall I keep the testimony of thy mouth.

Psa. 85:6 Wilt thou not **revive us** again: that thy people
may rejoice in thee?

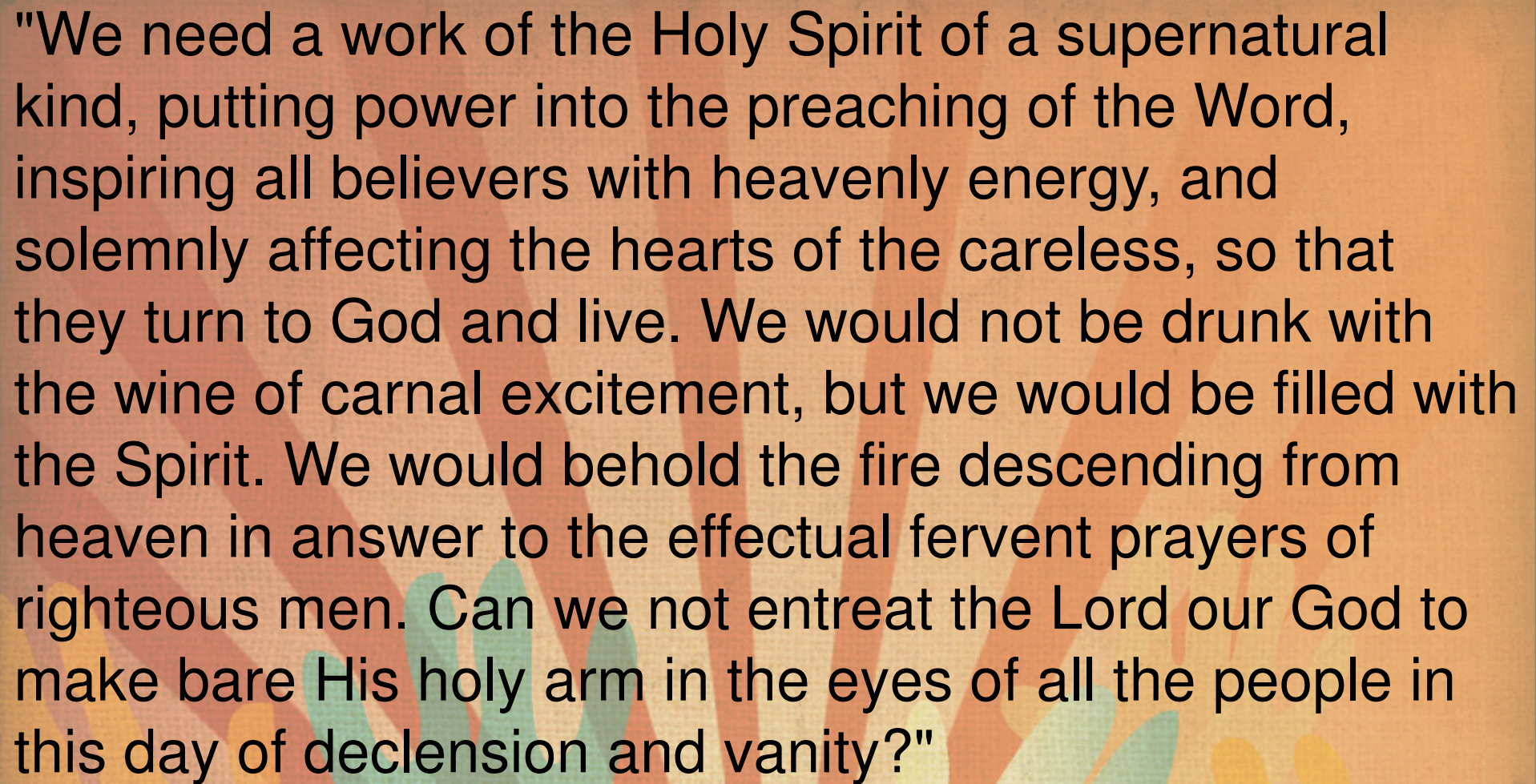
Hab. 3:2 O LORD, I have heard thy speech, *and* was
afraid: **O LORD, revive thy work** in the midst of the
years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath
remember mercy.

When is revival needed among God's people?

- When they have their left first love.
- God's people need to be revived when they find themselves going through the motions, having "a form of godliness but denying its power" (2Timothy 3:5).
- God's people need revival when they are wallowing in sin, perhaps regretting their sins, but unwilling to thoroughly repent of them.
- God's people need revival when they are neglecting their relationship with Christ.
- Revival is needed when we are low on zeal and have grown lukewarm.

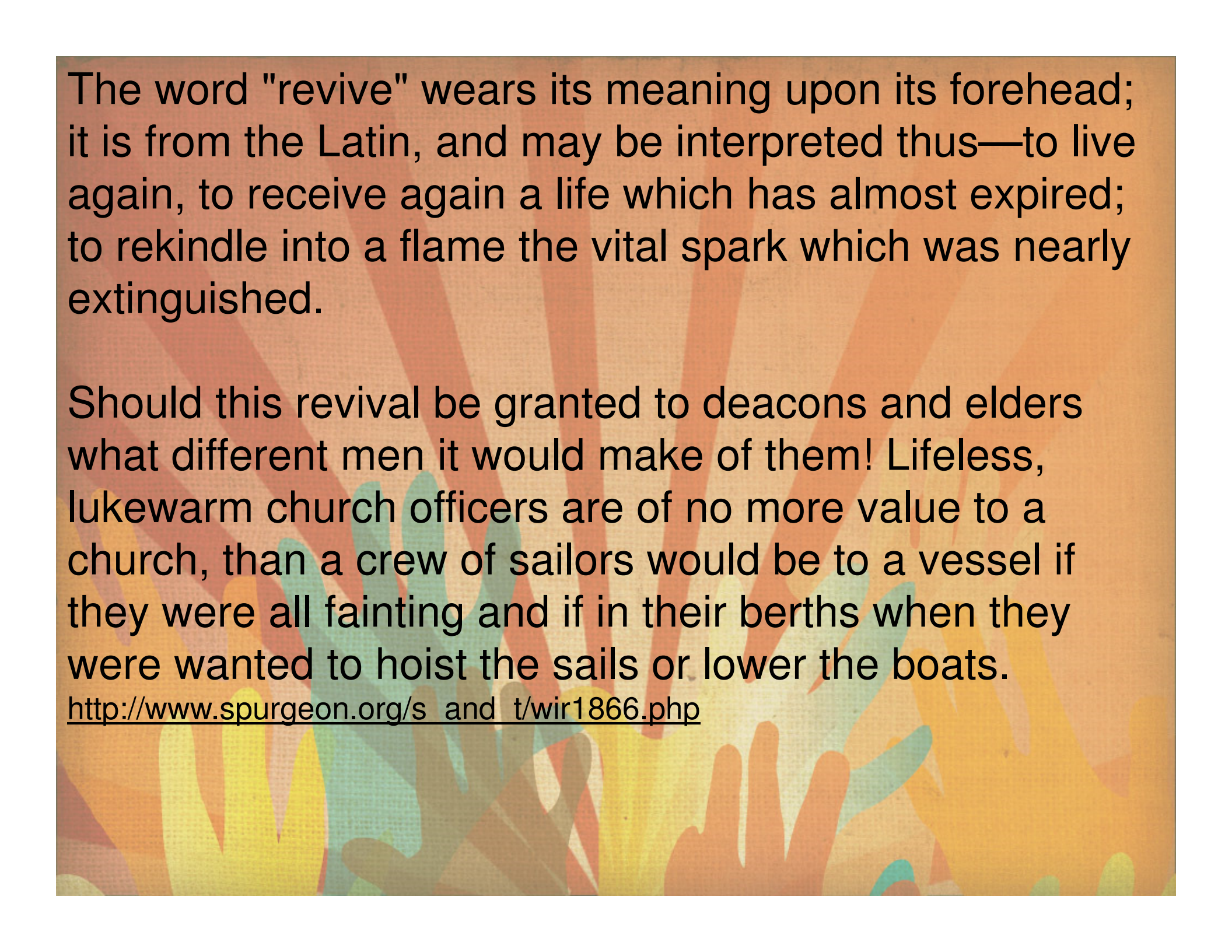
J. I. Packer lists five Marks of Revival:

- (1) Awareness of God's Presence
- (2) Responsiveness to God's Word
- (3) Sensitiveness to sin
- (4) Liveliness in Community - A revived church is full of life, joy, and power of the Holy Spirit
- (5) Faithfulness in testimony - an evangelistic and ethical overspill into the world.



"We need a work of the Holy Spirit of a supernatural kind, putting power into the preaching of the Word, inspiring all believers with heavenly energy, and solemnly affecting the hearts of the careless, so that they turn to God and live. We would not be drunk with the wine of carnal excitement, but we would be filled with the Spirit. We would behold the fire descending from heaven in answer to the effectual fervent prayers of righteous men. Can we not entreat the Lord our God to make bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the people in this day of declension and vanity?"

http://www.baptiststart.com/print/revival_what_who.html

The background of the slide features a stylized illustration of numerous hands in various colors (yellow, orange, green, and brown) reaching upwards towards the top of the frame. The hands are layered, creating a sense of depth and collective effort. The overall color palette is warm and vibrant.

The word "revive" wears its meaning upon its forehead; it is from the Latin, and may be interpreted thus—to live again, to receive again a life which has almost expired; to rekindle into a flame the vital spark which was nearly extinguished.

Should this revival be granted to deacons and elders what different men it would make of them! Lifeless, lukewarm church officers are of no more value to a church, than a crew of sailors would be to a vessel if they were all fainting and if in their berths when they were wanted to hoist the sails or lower the boats.

<http://www.spurgeon.org/s> and [t/wir1866.php](http://www.spurgeon.org/t/wir1866.php)

I. THE ATTITUDE CONFRONTING PRESSURE, 7:4-7

2 Cor. 7:4 Great *is* my boldness of speech toward you, great *is* my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.

5 For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; without *were* fightings, within *were* fears.

6 Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus;

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A. Pressure produces confidence, 7:4

2 Cor. 7:4 Great *is* my boldness of speech toward you, great *is* my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.

Original Word: θλίψις

Transliteration: thlipsis

Definition: persecution, affliction, distress, tribulation.

thlípsis – properly, **pressure** (what constricts or rubs together), used of a narrow place that "hems someone in"; *tribulation*, especially *internal pressure* that causes someone to feel confined (restricted, "without options").

thlípsis ("compression, tribulation") carries the challenge of coping with the *internal pressure* of a *tribulation*, especially when feeling there is "no way of escape" ("hemmed in").

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2347.htm>

2 Cor. 1:3 Blessed *be* God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

B. Pressure provides conflict, 7:5

2 Cor. 7:5 For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; **without *were* fightings, within *were* fears.**

- Physically, there was no rest or relief from problems.
- There was no place to turn without facing troubles.

Original Word: θλίβω

Transliteration: thlibó

Definition: (a) I make narrow (strictly: by pressure); I press upon, (b) I persecute, press hard. = troubled

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2346.htm>

- On the outside, fightings and conflicts were faced, continually.

Original Word: μάχη

Transliteration: maché

Definition: (earlier: a battle, conflict, hence) in the sphere of words, etc: strife, contention, quarrel.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/3163.htm>

- On the inside were fears of inadequacies.

Original Word: φόβος

Transliteration: phobos

Definition: (a) fear, terror, alarm, (b) the object or cause of fear, (c) reverence, respect.

[Fundamentally, *phóbos* ("fear") means *withdraw* (*separate* from), i.e. flee (remove oneself) and hence to *avoid* because of *dread* (*fright*).]

<http://biblehub.com/greek/5401.htm>

C. Pressure previews comfort, 7:6-7

2 Cor. 7:6 Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus;
7 And not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me; so that I rejoiced the more.

- God provides comfort that HE knows will still our trembling hearts.
- God comforts those who humbly cast their care upon Him.

Original Word: ταπεινός

Transliteration: tapeinos

Definition: humble, lowly, cast down, in position or spirit (in a good sense).

Tapeinós, properly, *low*; (figuratively) inner lowliness describing **the person who *depends* on the Lord rather than *self*.**

<http://biblehub.com/greek/5011.htm>

1 Pet. 5:6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

- God uses His servants to comfort one another.
- God uses the blessings of another's comforting to be a comfort to our souls.

(A real revival rubs off upon others!)

- The zealous concern of others for our condition will be a great comfort to our souls, too!



Original Word: ζῆλος

Transliteration: zelos

Definition: (a) eagerness, zeal, enthusiasm, (b) jealousy, rivalry.

zēlos (an onomatopoeic term that mimics the sound of water bubbling over from heat and perhaps derived from 2204 /zéō, "to boil") – **properly, burning emotion (inner feeling boiling over, "boiling from heat," J. Thayer);** (figuratively) something very *fervent* ("red-hot") as with Spirit-fueled zeal to *serve the Lord*. This root (zē-) is used both negatively ("jealousy") and positively ("zeal") depending on *the context*.

[The root (zē-, "zeal") literally means, "hot enough to *boil*." It is metaphorically used of "burning anger, love, zeal" (A-S) – i.e. *to burn (in spirit)*. It can refer to "boiling anger, love, zeal, for what is good or bad" (J. Thayer).]

Conclusion

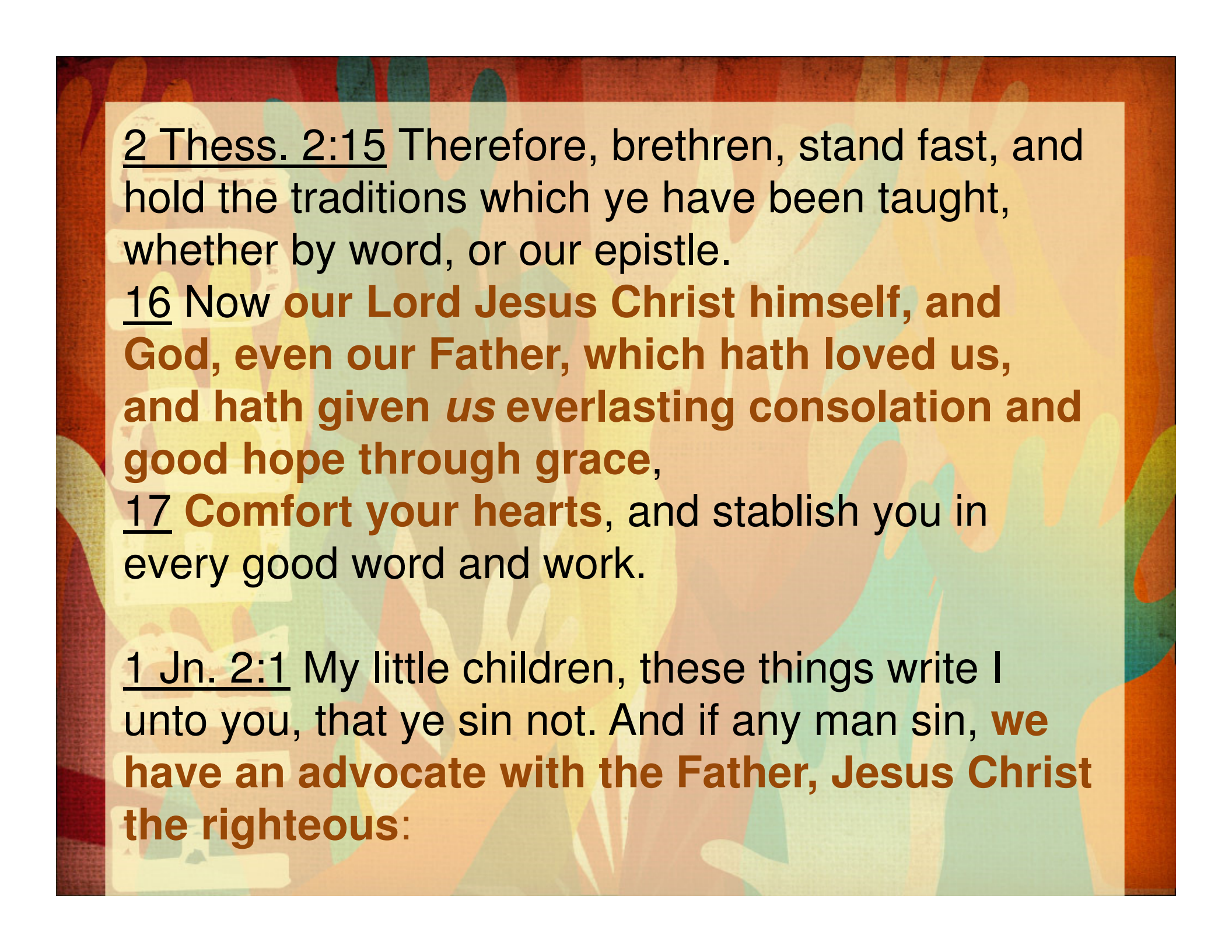
The Greek word for comfort is *parakaleo*.

Original Word: παρακαλέω

Transliteration: parakaleó

Definition: (a) I send for, summon, invite, (b) I beseech, entreat, beg, (c) I exhort, admonish, (d) I comfort, encourage, console.

parakaléō (from *pará*, "from close-beside" and *kaléō*, "to call") – properly, "make a call" from being "**close-up and personal.**"

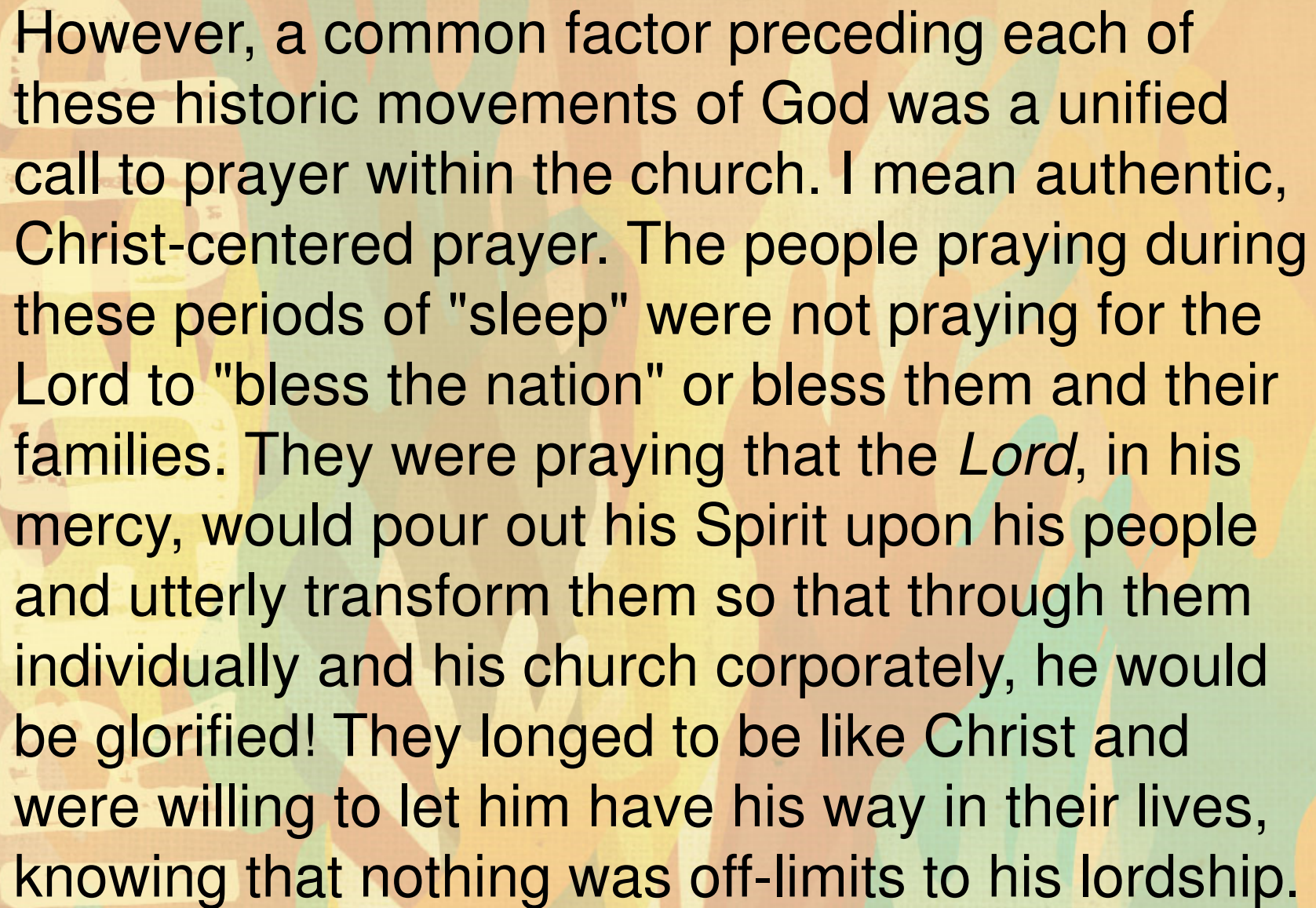


2 Thess. 2:15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.

16 Now **our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope through grace,**

17 **Comfort your hearts,** and stablish you in every good word and work.

1 Jn. 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, **we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:**



However, a common factor preceding each of these historic movements of God was a unified call to prayer within the church. I mean authentic, Christ-centered prayer. The people praying during these periods of "sleep" were not praying for the Lord to "bless the nation" or bless them and their families. They were praying that the *Lord*, in his mercy, would pour out his Spirit upon his people and utterly transform them so that through them individually and his church corporately, he would be glorified! They longed to be like Christ and were willing to let him have his way in their lives, knowing that nothing was off-limits to his lordship.

<http://www.crosswalk.com/blogs/michael-craven/revival-what-it-is-and-why-we-need-it-11635038.html>