

# LET GOD ARISE!

*Revival  
Prayer Guide #7  
Rev. Dr. Don L. Davis*



**Dedicate Ourselves to God's Worship: Revival under Solomon**  
2 Chronicles 6-7

## **Born Again to Praise**

*Don L. Davis*

I was born again to praise  
To bless Your holy name  
Your goodness now I taste,  
Amazing grace!

I was born again to sing  
To exalt You as my King  
Now I turn my loving gaze  
With hands upraised,  
I was born again to praise

And we cry "Holy,  
Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts,  
And the whole earth  
Is full of His glory,  
His glory!"

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**Rev. Dr. Don L. Davis,**  
*(Ph.D., U of Iowa) is the  
Director of World  
Impact's Urban Ministry  
Institute. He also serves  
as World Impact's Vice  
President of Leadership  
Development.*

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2 Chron. 6.1-11 - Then Solomon said, “The Lord has said that he would dwell in thick darkness. [2] But I have built you an exalted house, a place for you to dwell in forever.” [3] Then the king turned around and blessed all the assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel stood. [4] And he said, “Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who with his hand has fulfilled what he promised with his mouth to David my father, saying, [5] ‘Since the day that I brought my people out of the land of Egypt, I chose no city out of all the tribes of Israel in which to build a house, that my name might be there, and I chose no man as prince over my people Israel; [6] but I have chosen Jerusalem that my name may be there, and I have chosen David to be over my people Israel.’ [7] Now it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of the Lord, the God of Israel. [8] But the Lord said to David my father, ‘Whereas it was in your heart to build a house for my name, you did well that it was in your heart. [9] Nevertheless, it is not you who shall build the house, but your son who shall be born to you shall build the house for my name.’ [10] Now the Lord has fulfilled his promise that he made. For I have risen in the place of David my father and sit on the throne of Israel, as the Lord promised, and I have built the house for the name of the Lord, the God of Israel. [11] And there I have set the ark, in which is the covenant of the Lord that he made with the people of Israel.”

Exod. 20.21 - The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

Exod. 24.15-18 - Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. [16] The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. [17] Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. [18] Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.



*Unless otherwise noted, all Scriptures are taken from the English Standard Version (ESV)*

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Ps. 18.8-11 - Smoke went up from his nostrils, and devouring fire from his mouth; glowing coals flamed forth from him. [9] He bowed the heavens and came down; thick darkness was under his feet. [10] He rode on a cherub and flew; he came swiftly on the wings of the wind. [11] He made darkness his covering, his canopy around him, thick clouds dark with water.

Ps. 97.2 - Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

Nah. 1.3 - The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, and the Lord will by no means clear the guilty. His way is in whirlwind and storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.

2 Chron. 2.4-6 - Behold, I am about to build a house for the name of the Lord my God and dedicate it to him for the burning of incense of sweet spices before him, and for the regular arrangement of the showbread, and for burnt offerings morning and evening, on the Sabbaths and the new moons and the appointed feasts of the Lord our God, as ordained forever for Israel. [5] The house that I am to build will be great, for our God is greater than all gods. [6] But who is able to build him a house, since heaven, even highest heaven, cannot contain him? Who am I to build a house for him, except as a place to make offerings before him?

Ps. 132.13-14 - For the Lord has chosen Zion; he has desired it for his dwelling place: [14] "This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it."

Heb. 9.11-12 - But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) [12] he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.



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2 Chron. 6.14-21 - and said, “O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you, in heaven or on earth, keeping covenant and showing steadfast love to your servants who walk before you with all their heart, [15] who have kept with your servant David my father what you declared to him. You spoke with your mouth, and with your hand have fulfilled it this day. [16] Now therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father what you have promised him, saying, ‘You shall not lack a man to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your sons pay close attention to their way, to walk in my law as you have walked before me.’ [17] Now therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you have spoken to your servant David. [18] But will God indeed dwell with man on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, how much less this house that I have built! [19] Yet have regard to the prayer of your servant and to his plea, O Lord my God, listening to the cry and to the prayer that your servant prays before you, [20] that your eyes may be open day and night toward this house, the place where you have promised to set your name, that you may listen to the prayer that your servant offers toward this place. [21] And listen to the pleas of your servant and of your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. And listen from heaven your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.”

Deut. 7.9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

Neh. 1.5 - And I said, “O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments.”

Dan. 9.4 - I prayed to the Lord my God and made confession, saying, “O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments.”



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Mic. 7.18-20 - Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. [19] He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities under foot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. [20] You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

2 Chron. 6.40-7.3 - Now, O my God, let your eyes be open and your ears attentive to the prayer of this place. [41] “And now arise, O Lord God, and go to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. Let your priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, and let your saints rejoice in your goodness. [42] O Lord God, do not turn away the face of your anointed one! Remember your steadfast love for David your servant.” [7.1] As soon as Solomon finished his prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. [2] And the priests could not enter the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord filled the Lord's house. [3] When all the people of Israel saw the fire come down and the glory of the Lord on the temple, they bowed down with their faces to the ground on the pavement and worshiped and gave thanks to the Lord, saying, “For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.”

2 Chron. 7.8-10 - At that time Solomon held the feast for seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great assembly, from Lebo-hamath to the Brook of Egypt. [9] And on the eighth day they held a solemn assembly, for they had kept the dedication of the altar seven days and the feast seven days. [10] On the twenty-third day of the seventh month he sent the people away to their homes, joyful and glad of heart for the prosperity that the Lord had granted to David and to Solomon and to Israel his people.



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2 Chron. 7.12-16 - Then the Lord appeared to Solomon in the night and said to him: "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice. [13] When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people, [14] if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. [15] Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place. [16] For now I have chosen and consecrated this house that my name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will be there for all time."

John 4.21-23 - Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. [22] You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. [23] But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him."

Isa. 1.10-15 - Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Give ear to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! [11] "What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?" says the Lord; "I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. [12] When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts? [13] Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations—I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. [14] Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. [15] When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood."



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Isa. 66.1-2 - Thus says the Lord: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest? [2] All these things my hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the Lord. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.”

Matt. 15.7-9 - You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: [8] “This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; [9] in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”

Isa. 57.15 - For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

Luke 18.13-14 - But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner!” [14] I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted. ■

WHAT IS the most awesome event you have ever experienced?

The birth of a child? Witnessing an historic event? Seeing the Lord move in an extraordinary way? Undoubtedly, each of us would answer the question of “awe-full” experience in a different manner, depending on our understanding of the meaning of awe, wonder, and the mysterious.



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Revival can easily be characterized as the restoration of the awe of God as his presence is manifested in an extraordinary way in the midst of his people.

This simple definition captures the theme of revival we consider this month in study and meditation in the dedication of the Temple during the reign of Solomon. This story is laid out carefully in the early chapters of 2 Chronicles which records Solomon's completion of the Temple in obedience to his father David's instruction before he died.

In his zeal and wisdom, Solomon followed through on the wishes of David's heart to build the Lord the Temple, a place for his honor to dwell and for the worship and service of God. Without question, the glory and grandeur of the Temple and the Dedication are hard to imagine:

*2 Chron. 7.4-6 - Then the king and all the people offered sacrifice before the Lord. [5] King Solomon offered as a sacrifice 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep. So the king and all the people dedicated the house of God. [6] The priests stood at their posts; the Levites also, with the instruments for music to the Lord that King David had made for giving thanks to the Lord—for his steadfast love endures forever—whenever David offered praises by their ministry; opposite them the priests sounded trumpets, and all Israel stood.*

The grand nature of these preparations and the lavish construction of the Temple did not overly impress nor fool Solomon into thinking that someone as glorious and infinite as Yahweh could actually dwell in a house of wood and stone. Solomon clarifies the purpose of the Temple, as a place of prayer and supplication to God for those who are indeed humble and contrite before him:



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*2 Chron. 6.18-20 - But will God indeed dwell with man on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, how much less this house that I have built! [19] Yet have regard to the prayer of your servant and to his plea, O Lord my God, listening to the cry and to the prayer that your servant prays before you, [20] that your eyes may be open day and night toward this house, the place where you have promised to set your name, that you may listen to the prayer that your servant offers toward this place.*

Truly, the spheres of the universe are not capable of containing the glory of the sovereign and infinite LORD, the Creator of both heaven and earth. Why then a “house” for the Lord? It is made as a place of petition, that God’s ears might be open day and night toward that house, “the place where you have promised to set your name, that you may listen to the prayer that your servant offers toward this place.” The Temple is a place where human petition and divine audience meet, where broken, lowly, and humble people in contrite prayer offer to God their praise and prayers, and where the Sovereign Lord hears and meets them at their point of need. Can anything be clearer for us as a prescription of what true worship is before our great God?

The notion of where God dwells and where his honor dwells is a significant issue in all the major monotheistic religions today—Judaism, Islam, and Christianity. Each focuses on different geographic sites which have special significance in its belief and practice, and oftentimes pilgrimages and petitions are made toward these sacred places as a sign of true devotion and remembrance. The reality with the God and Father of Jesus, however, is that our God demands more than religious conformity to ritual and pilgrimage. What matters to God, what produces revival is humility and a new creation. Revival stimulates those who are regenerated to worship God as he truly deserves to be worshiped.



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Centuries later, when our Messiah discussed worship and place, he made it plain that the worship of God under the new covenant now takes on a new and different sense. In a discussion with the Samaritan woman on the nature of the right place of worship, Jesus provides a shocking new revelation. Salvation is rooted in the covenant promise through Abraham, and true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for these are the kinds of worshipers the Father is seeking to worship him (John 4.21-23). Sacred place and pilgrimage has been replaced by true worship in spirit and truth wherever the people of God gather to glorify his name.

The people of God under Solomon, humbled, readied, and led by Solomon at a time of his obedience and openness, were revived at the Dedication of the Temple. The presence of God came in the humble intercession of the king, the obedient worship of the priests and people, and the sacrifices of praise and faith made in the Temple. When the people of God in obedience and humility came before God in contrition and reverence, God truly manifested his glory there:

*2 Chron. 5.13-14 - and it was the duty of the trumpeters and singers to make themselves heard in unison in praise and thanksgiving to the Lord), and when the song was raised, with trumpets and cymbals and other musical instruments, in praise to the Lord, "For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever," the house, the house of the Lord, was filled with a cloud, [14] so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.*

God promised that if his people would in fact humble themselves and pray, if they would forsake their wicked ways and stay true to him, he would heal them, bless them, and come to them (2 Chron. 7.14). Truly, if the fuel of genuine revival always and only be times of adversity and trial, it is equally true that when God's people are truly humbled before him, he manifests his presence in their midst—he himself actually comes to them, and his presence



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produces awe, joy, wonder, repentance, healing, blessing, and judgment. Truly, revival is nothing more than the extraordinary manifestation of the presence of God in the midst of his people!

Let us this month, therefore, obey the command of the Lord to Solomon at the Dedication of the Temple. For emphasis, this is the same stirring we mentioned about revival under Asa last month: if we seek the Lord in humble contrition he will come to us.

*2 Chron. 7.14 - if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

Seeking God (revival under Asa) results in the worship of God (revival under Solomon). Let us bring the sacrifice of praise to him, come before him together in assembly with prayers, petitions, intercessions, and supplication of our need for him, not just his gifts. Let us humble ourselves, pray, seek his face, and turn from our wicked ways, and then wait patiently for the God of covenant to hear from heaven, to forgive our sin, and to heal our land.

Revival that comes and is real will result in massive, continuous, and extraordinary new expressions of heartfelt and heaven-sent praise and worship to God. This is only right, for all things were created for his glory (Isa. 43.7), and everything that has breath ought to praise the faithful God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Ps. 150). May God grant us the humility and longing to wait in the presence of the Lord until he appears and sets our hearts free to worship! ■



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### Example of Seeking the Lord in Worship: Isaiah

*Isa. 66.1-2 - Thus says the Lord: "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest? [2] All these things my hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the Lord. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word."*

### Biblical Principle of the Month

Revival ushers the truly contrite and humble into the extraordinary manifestation of the presence of the Lord. When we worship the Father in spirit and in truth, humbling ourselves before him, seeking his face, and repenting from our wicked ways, God is set free to reveal his presence in our midst in wondrous and remarkable ways. The fruit of true revival is authentic worship of God who comes and dwells in our midst.

*2 Chron. 7.14 - if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*



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