

Evan Roberts had been aware of the need for great spiritual change in the churches of his home country of Wales for some time. Many people were praying for a change, and due to his personal burden for an awakening, Roberts had been praying fervently for revival for 13 years. God called him from working in the coal mines into full-time church ministry, and on a Monday night in 1904, he shared with a group of less than 20 people in his church four simple, biblical points regarding pursuing personal holiness.

1. Put away any unconfessed sin.
2. Put away any doubtful habit.
3. Obey the Holy Spirit promptly.

Each following night of their meetings saw more prayer, more repentance and more Christians being aligned with God. As more Christians were “revived,” they began to share what Christ had done in their lives outside the walls of the church. Within half a year, over 100,000 people in the country were converted and professed saving faith in Christ.

Our God is the God of Evan Roberts, the God of Jonathan Edwards, the God of Hezekiah and the God of Pentecost. God can still work in the same way today, but revival requires our hearts to be prepared. We must be deeply repentant, fully surrendered and wholly dependent. Evan Roberts’ desire for a spiritual awakening for the glory of God can be summed up in the short prayer he often uttered, “Lord, bend me.” Are you willing to ask God to “bend you” to his will for the sake of revival?

Prayer prompt: Today, ask God to give you a clear view of his holiness and to create a deep brokenness in your heart over sin. Ask God to show you any areas of your life where you are “on the throne” instead of him and surrender to his leadership. Pray that you would reject relying upon yourself and depend entirely upon the Holy Spirit’s empowerment in all areas of life. Pray that God would send revival to his people once again.

“Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD of hosts...

- Malachi 3:7

Every great movement of God can be traced to a kneeling figure.

- D. L. Moody

To desire revival... and at the same time to neglect prayer and devotion is to wish one way and walk another.

- A.W. Tozer

History is silent about revivals that did not begin with prayer.

- Edwin Orr

A revived church is the only hope for a dying world.

- Andrew Murray

When God has something very great to accomplish for his church, it is his will that there should precede it the extraordinary prayers of his people.

- Jonathan Edwards