



## LESSONS FROM HEZEKIAH'S REVIVAL

1. A courageous and godly leader is needed to bring about revival (2 Kings 18:3–6; 2 Chron. 29:3–11). The age of the leader is not important: Hezekiah was only twenty-five years old when he led the revival in Judah (compare 2 Chron. 29:1 with 29:3).
2. Revival begins with the political (2 Chron. 29:4–5, 11, “the officials of the city” 20, “the king and the princes” 30) and religious leadership (29:12–19, 34) and then spreads to the people (30:13).
3. Revivals usually begin in the big cities (2 Chron. 29:20) and draw in the countryside (2 Chron. 30:13).
4. Revivals often come suddenly (2 Chron. 29:36).
5. Invitations must be sent out for people to repent and get right with God (2 Chron. 30:1–12).
6. The people must respond to the invitations to get right with God (2 Chron. 30:13–14, 18–20; 31:1).
7. Expect a lot of opposition and a large positive response (2 Chron. 30:10–13).
8. God works quietly in the hearts of people to bring them to himself—to bring revival (2 Chron. 30:12).
9. Revivals include a recognition of past disobedience and guilt (2 Chron. 29:6–7; 30:6–9).
10. National divine discipline may motivate revival (2 Kings 18:9–12; 2 Chron. 29:5–11; 30:6–12).
11. Revivals are often extended more weeks (2 Chron. 30:23).
12. Prayers are answered during revivals (2 Chron. 30:27).
13. Revivals are accompanied with great joy, praise, thanksgiving, and singing (2 Chron. 29:25–30, 36; 30:21–22, 23–26).
14. Material blessing follows revivals to promote Bible study and Bible teaching (2 Chron. 31:4–10, esp. “that they might devote themselves to the law of the LORD” in verse 4). Hezekiah’s revival took place in the spring during the “latter rains” (April–May); apparently God provided timely rains to bless their harvests so they could give generously to support the priests—the teachers of the Law. Giving generously is not a problem for revived people (31:3, 5).
15. Anticipate a tremendous satanic backlash or counterattack after a great revival because a revival is a serious spiritual defeat for the enemy. Satan will work hard to quickly undo the spiritual effects of a revival.
16. Revivals are usually short-lived: Hezekiah’s Revival lasted about 29 years—from the first year of his sole reign in 715 B.C. (2 Chron. 29:3) to the ascension of his son Manasseh in 686 B.C. (2 Kings 21:1–18; 2 Chron. 33:1–20). Hezekiah reversed the idolatrous policies of his father Ahaz; but Manasseh reversed the godly policies of his father Hezekiah. God put a weak twelve-year-old child on the throne to test Judah, to see if the people would remain faithful to the covenant. They didn’t. The revival was short-lived; the people returned to idolatry as soon as Hezekiah died. Within a few years of a revival you’d never know it happened.