

More Thoughts on the Asbury “Revival”

Calvary Church of Port Orchard, March 6, 2023

A previous article, “A Look at the Asbury ‘Revival’” (<https://calvarypo.org/a-look-at-the-asbury-revival/>), examined the Asbury “Revival” in light of the Bible, showing convincingly how this event is leading people to worship a false Jesus.

However, several well-known Christian leaders have enthusiastically endorsed this event including Anne Graham Lotz (“The Asbury Revival – Latter Day Rains?”, annegrahamlotz.org/category/messages-from-gods-word/latest-from-anne/) and Joel Rosenberg (“As the #AsburyRevival enters Day 14, an Israeli pastor from Jerusalem who was there tells ALL ISRAEL NEWS what he sees God doing,” <https://allisrael.com/exclusive-as-the-asburyrevival-enters-day-14-an-israeli-pastor-from-jerusalem-who-was-there-tells-all-israel-news-what-he-sees-god-doing>).

If the Asbury “revival” is not an authentic work of the Holy Spirit, how can trusted Christian leaders such as Graham Lotz and Rosenberg be drawn into the deception, despite all the warning signs discussed in the previous article? The answer lies in realizing that the church today is woefully ignorant of Bible prophecy, specifically what the Bible teaches us about the signs of the end times and the sequence of the Rapture, the 70th week of Daniel (the “Tribulation Period”), and Jesus’ return to earth to establish the Millennial Kingdom. Only an accurate understanding of Bible eschatology, which requires studying the Old Testament as well as the New, protects believers from confusion and deception. Many Christian leaders appear to know very little of the entire Bible. Graham Lotz demonstrates her ignorance in this area by quoting Scriptures that relate to the time of Jesus’ return to earth, which happens after the Rapture and the Tribulation Period.

Calvary Chapel Pastor and prophecy teacher, JD Farag addressed the Asbury deception recently in his February 26, 2023 weekly prophecy update, “The Only Way Any of This Makes Sense,” jdfarag.org/bible-prophecy, citing evidence that this event was planned in advance, not spontaneous, as advertised, perhaps to “jump-start” the worldwide religious revival that NAR / Dominion Theology doctrine teach is required in order for Jesus to return. Those of us who believe the Bible know that there is no evidence for a worldwide revival prior to Jesus’ return. In fact, Scripture teaches the opposite, that there will be great spiritual deception.

In these days of increasing deception and confusion, we must not assume that something is “Christian” just because a well-known Christian personality says so. Like the Bereans in Acts 17, we must search the Scriptures ourselves and prayerfully for God’s wisdom. In so doing, we can ask ourselves the eight questions that Pastor JD lists in the message referenced above.

1. Does it have as its foundation the gospel of salvation, found only in the person of Jesus Christ?
2. Does it reach the lost? Or is it something that is taking place exclusively in the Christian arena?

JD Comment: When the Holy Spirit moves, and we want the Holy Spirit to move, it's to reach the lost for Jesus.

3. Does it focus on spiritual experience or does it focus on the person of Jesus Christ, whom the Holy Spirit points to?

JD Comment: The Holy Spirit, God the Holy Spirit does not point to the Holy Spirit. God the Holy Spirit points us to God the Son, Jesus the Christ. So if it's all about the Holy Spirit and there's no Jesus? Problem.

4. Does it lend itself to emotionalism and hyper Pentecostalism at the expense of sound doctrine? This is important.
5. Does it have the markings of being manufactured in the energy (“ergon”) of the flesh to further an agenda, in this case, a false doctrine?
6. Does it provide a platform for promotion of and acceptance with the LGBTQ community?

JD Comment: Well, you can do the research yourself. I would encourage you to. Don't take my word for it. But upon closer examination, you'll find that the people that are on that stage are very overt about it. Go to their social media pages. That's who's up there leading worship in this experience. And it kind of goes along with what we talked about last week, the “He gets us.” It's kind of - it's the wrong Jesus. It's a false Christ that says, okay, you're okay. I'm okay. We're okay. He gets us. He loves us. No, you're not okay. ... how about when the Apostle Paul to the church in Corinth goes through this list of homosexuality and all of these sins? And then he says, “As *were* some of you.” Translated: You got saved and Jesus delivered you out of that lifestyle that was destining you for hell. But see this Jesus, this false Jesus and this false revival says, no, you're good. It's all good. You're not good.

7. Does it require that I go to a specific location in order to experience a specific sensation?

JD Comment: I was kind of taken back by all the people that were flocking to this thing, traveling great distances so they could be there. Listen, God is omniscient. He's omnipresent. He's omnipotent. You think God has to book a flight to Kentucky to be there on time? He's there. Well, if He's there, He can't be - no.... This is a profaning, again, of God, bringing God down to man's level.

8. Does it create confusion and division within the body of Christ?

JD Farag Comment: We know that God is not the author of confusion. If there's confusion, and I mean any confusion, the Lord's not in it.

May we all diligently seek the Lord's discernment and wisdom in increasing measure in these last days!