

# Revive Us Again

## Part 4 — Preparation For The Sacred Assembly

September 28, 2014

Pastor Don Finto and Pastor Dave Buehring joined Pastor Steve Berger in preparing us for The Sacred Assembly next Sunday, October 5, 2014, at 5:00 p.m., at Nashville's Legislative Plaza. [www.sacredassembly.com](http://www.sacredassembly.com)

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### Sanctify

- to purify
- to prepare
- to dedicate oneself

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### Breaks fellowship

#### 2 Chronicles 29:3-10

In the first year of his reign, in the first month, he opened the doors of the house of the LORD and repaired them. Then he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them in the East Square, and said to them: "Hear me, Levites! Now sanctify yourselves, sanctify the house of the LORD God of your fathers, and carry out the rubbish from the holy place. For our fathers have trespassed and done evil in the eyes of the LORD our God; they have forsaken Him, have turned their faces away from the dwelling place of the LORD, and turned their backs on Him. They have also shut up the doors of the vestibule, put out the lamps, and have not burned incense or offered burnt offerings in the holy place to the God of Israel. Therefore the wrath of the LORD fell upon Judah and Jerusalem, and He has given them up to trouble, to desolation, and to jeering, as you see with your eyes. For indeed, because of this our fathers have fallen by the sword; and our sons, our daughters, and our wives are in captivity. "Now it is in my heart to make a covenant with the LORD God of Israel that His fierce wrath may turn away from us."

#### These things defile the land

- idolatry
- immorality
- bloodshed
- broken covenants

#### Signs that God is lifting His presence

- famine
- ecological devastation
- war
- disease

#### 2 Chronicles 7:14

If My people who are called by My name will 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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## Leaves us powerless

### Joshua 7:13

Get up, sanctify the people, and say, sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says the LORD God of Israel: "There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you."

### Acts 1:4-5

And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "*which,*" *He said,* "*you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.*"

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## Waiting

- is preparing
- is purifying
- is a hopeful participation

### Acts 2:1-2

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

### Psalms 24

- clean hands (actions)
- pure heart (attitude)
- idol (affections)

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## Discussion Questions

1. Why does God require that we sanctify ourselves before He will move?
2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 says that if God's people will "humble, pray, and turn" then He will hear and move. He did not say if government leaders or those in power will "humble, pray, and turn"...! How does that shift your thinking — and actions?
3. Joshua 7:13 says that you can't stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed things among you. One man's sin (even a private one) has an effect on everyone. How is this true? How does it affect taking ownership of your own sins?
4. Does anyone have an issue against you, or do you need to humble yourself and make something right with someone?
5. What do you see in the relationships between the spiritual and our physical world? Have you ever thought that our spiritual defilements could actually lead to God's lifting His presence?
6. Will you practice taking on the sins of another, in addition to your own, as you pray this week? How will you do that?
7. Joel 2 says to blow the trumpet and sound the alarm because the day of the Lord is coming. It says to return to God with fasting, and weeping, and mourning, because the nation has gone against God. Are we living in the season of the Lord's return? What is God personally challenging you to do?