

GREAT AWAKENING



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In a **Great Awakening**¹ God's chosen messengers speak with unusual power and authority by an outpouring of the Holy Spirit; Christians are awakened from a shallow life with Christ to repent and live boldly for their Savior; many people turn from the ways of the world to knowing and living a gospel life; society is strongly impacted by the presence of real Christian love.

¹http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Awakening

KEY BIBLE VERSES

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.

(2 Chronicles 7:14)

And with many other words [Peter] bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

(Acts 2:40-41)

VIDEO – America's First Great Awakening

By: CBN; Date: November 2012

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R37ZkkAnG14>

Description

The First Great Awakening (early 1730s to late 1740s) was a period of religious revival in history and laid the foundation for our freedoms. Today, more than 200 years later, the same call is going out for America to reclaim her spiritual heritage...

VIDEO – The Second (and Third) Great Awakening

By: Orchard Cinema; Date: March 2013

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvU_VwD6w9Y

Description

The Second Great Awakening (late 1790s to 1850s) occurred at a time when conditions were much as today: moral decay under anti-Christian philosophies; the church unable to do anything about the decay; young people having little interest in Christianity

The Third Great Awakening (late 1850s to 1900s), which followed on from the Second Great Awakening, had an emphasis on prayer, and prepared the nation for the great trials of the Civil War

TWELVE REASONS WHY WE NEED A GREAT AWAKENING TODAY

By a God's Hub contributing Author

The Church

1. Many parts of the church are spiritually dead (Revelation 3:1-3), as they frequently operate in man's ways and man's strength rather than by the leading and the power of the Holy Spirit.
2. Many parts of the church are neither cold nor hot (Revelation 3:15-18), preferring seeker-sensitive² messages rather than confronting sin with the full word of God.
3. Many parts of the church have embraced sexual immorality (Revelation 2:20-23), even appointing leaders who have life-styles that are an abomination to God.
4. Many parts of the church have sought denominational fragmentation over the unity described in Jesus's prayer (John 17:23).
5. Most Christians act in the same sinful ways as those who do not know God.
6. Most Christians fail to reach out to peoples of other cultures and races, and so we also fail to exemplify the unity Jesus prayed for.

Our Nation

As the church has lost its power and as Christians have lost their Christ-like calling, so the nation has turned away from the one true God.

7. The teaching in State schools is frequently contrary to God's truth and schools disallow many Christian activities.
8. Most colleges and universities indoctrinate the nation's youth in anti-Christian philosophies.
9. The media and movie industries proclaim messages that call good evil and evil good.
10. The representative governments of the people at State and Federal levels have passed laws that are in direct contradiction to God's word.
11. The courts – up to and including the Supreme Court – have interpreted the Constitution in ungodly ways.
12. The highest executive in the land has encouraged, rather than restrained, these ungodly practices.

²Seeker-sensitive

Seeker-sensitive churches make the church experience as comfortable, inviting and non-threatening as possible to attract the 'unsaved' at the expense of declaring the full gospel message.

PRAYER

O Lord, Your words to the Israelites in 2 Chronicles 7:14 also speak to us today.

You tell us - we, the people who are called by Your name - are to:
humble ourselves,

pray,
seek Your face,
and turn from our wicked ways.

O Lord, open our eyes to our pridefulness, our lack of prayer, our failure to seek Your face, and our wicked ways, so that we repent.

O Lord, hear from heaven and forgive our sin and heal our land, as we are being overrun by those who promote evil.

Amen