

COURSE SYLLABUS

EVAN 930 Revivals and Church Growth 11-15 Jan 2010 Dr. Charles N. Davidson	Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary Lynchburg, VA Office location is NC 2553 phone 592 4241
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- I. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** An examination of the history of spiritual revival awakenings and their influence on the church life and growth. This course will study the sociological and spiritual milieu out of which these movements arose and what impact they had on cultural society. The class will seek to discover the theological and biblical principles of those movements and apply them to the contemporary church.
- II. **RATIONALE:** Recognizing revivalism as one of the most distinctive modes of American Protestant evangelism, this course is designed to show how revivalism has had great influence upon the needs of society. It has supplied the undulations, upheavals, points of departure and lines of continuity of American Church history. The student will learn how to plan for a revival and how a revival can expand and grow local churches.
- III. **PREREQUISITES:**
None.
- IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**
- A. General Aims
1. To understand the general sweep of the history of revival from biblical times until today.
 2. To understand what were the sociological and religious factors that precipitated the various revivals studied.
 3. To arrive at an understanding of the methods and general principles that are normally at work in revival.
 4. To see how awakenings foster evangelism, soul winning, and church growth.
 5. To learn principles of church ministry from the lives of outstanding personalities in the various movements.
 6. To see the necessity of an awakening in our own day.
- B. Specific Cognitive Objectives
1. To understand causes nature and results of revivals and how they have influenced society. The student should be able to recognize the empirical results of a revival upon various cultures.
 2. To recognize key persons involved in revivals. The student will develop a deeper knowledge of these persons through individual research and class presentations.
 3. To gain a broader understanding of revivalist literature. The student will read books and listen to tapes in order to explore and experience the revival atmosphere.

4. To obtain a zeal for revival. The student will meet and pray for revival with church leaders and other students.

V. **OVERVIEW OF COURSE:** (see Appendix A)

- A. Defining Revival
- B. Various Descriptions of Revival
- C. History's Greatest Revival
- D. Conviction and the Confession of Sin
- E. The First Great Awakening
- F. Using Your Faith to Build Ministry
- G. The Second Great Awakening
- H. Preaching for Revival
- I. The Third General Awakening
- J. The Use of New Methods in Revival
- K. The Layman's Prayer Revival
- L. The Role of Prayer in Revival
- M. Fasting for Spiritual Breakthrough
- N. Moody and His Men
- O. Revival and Evangelism
- P. The World War II Revival
- Q. Mid-Twentieth Century African Revivals
- R. Baby Boomer Revival
- S. The Protestant Reformation
- T. Wycliffe and the Lollard Revival
- U. The Role of Laymen in Revival
- V. The Conversion of Nations
- W. Pentecost as a Proto-type of Revival
- X. Leading Your Church into Revival

VI. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

- A. *Class Participation.* Each is expected to be at every class session unless providentially hindered.
- B. *Quizzes on a Regular Basis.* Each quiz is based on previous student presentations, class lectures, and assigned reading. There will be no make-ups. The quizzes will be averaged to count 30 percent of the grade.
- C. *Final Exam.* The final exam will be comprehensive (essay). The exam counts for 30 percent of the grade.
- D. *Research Paper.* Each student will select a Revivalist Personality involved in an awakening. You must get permission from the professor for the person you will research.
- E. *Reading Report.* You must read 2400 pages for D.Min and 1400 pages for Masters level in revival literature and/or listen to revival tapes. Turn in Report due 30 days after class.
- F. Each student is to meet with one or more students in the class to pray weekly for spiritual awakening.

VII. REQUIRED TEXT:

Textbook: *The Ten Greatest Revivals Ever*, by Elmer L. Towns, Servant Publications, 2000

Worktext: *Revivals and Church Growth*, Harcourt and Brace Publishers, 2000

GRADING SCALE:

A = 93-100

B = 86-92

C = 75-85

D = 70-74

F = 0-69

Suggestions for the paper on Revivalist and their movements

Johann Arndt

Richard Baxter

William Booth

John Bunyon

William Carey

Charles G. Finney

George Fox

August H. Francke

Francis of Assisi

Howell Harris

William Law

James McGready

George Mueller

Asahel Nettleton

Evan Roberts

Savonarola

Lord Shaftesbury

Gypsy Smith

Phillip J. Spener

C. H. Spurgeon

C. T. Studd

William Sunday

Hudson Taylor

Jeremy Taylor

Theodor Unteryek

Charles Wesley

John Wesley

George Whitefield

William Wilberforce

Count Zinzendorf

READING/TAPE REPORT
EVAN 930
Dr. Charles N. Davidson

NAME _____
DATE _____
PAGES READ _____
DUE DATE: _____

Professor _____ Date of Course _____

Book (author, title, place, publisher, date, # of pages)

Library Number:

One paragraph summary of book/tape. (At least 50 words)

List strengths of book/tape.

List weaknesses of book/tape.

Accurately quote sentence or paragraph that best reflects the author's thesis:

Why have you chosen the above quotation?

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