

Published based on [Who is the Ultimate Enemy of Revival? -- sermon notes](#)

Who is the Ultimate Enemy of Revival? -- sermon notes

The following is a sermon outline that can be used to call people to a place of personal responsibility regarding revival. Such a sermon may not be the most popular but it will be one of those sermons that God will bless if preached in a spirit of humility.

Who is the Ultimate Enemy of Revival?

by Eddie Lawrence

INTRODUCTION: One of the most well known passages in the whole Word of God concerning revival is 2 Chronicles 7:14. It records for us the condition or restoring God's favor upon a land and a people when they are in the midst of a spiritual downturn accompanied by famine and drought. In this famous passage also is the revelation of the greatest enemy to revival.

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. (NKJV)

TRANSITION: I will share with you three culprits you might suspect to be the ultimate enemy of revival and then reveal what I believe the Bible teaches the ultimate enemy of revival to be.

1. IT IS NOT SATAN

I suppose a number of people would say that Satan is the ultimate enemy of revival. While he is certainly behind many schemes, snares, deceptions, and slanderous accusations that would thwart revival, I do not think He is the worse enemy of revival.

- Make no mistake he is God's enemy.
- Make no mistake he is the Church's enemy.
- Make no mistake he is your enemy.

Yet, I think there is a greater enemy to revival than Satan.

In the passage above there is no mention of addressing Satan in order for revival to come.

2. IT IS NOT THE WORLD

We are warned to not love the world nor the things in the world. The worldly system does run contrary to the ways of God. The world is uninterested in revival or your spiritual growth. The "prince of this world" is behind worldly influence.

All through the Scripture you see the world moving one way and God another way. The worldly system is the enemy of God and His people.

Yet, I think there is a greater enemy to revival than the World.

In the passage above there is no mention of addressing the World in order for revival to come.

3. IT IS NOT SIN

Surprisingly, I do not think sin is the greatest enemy of revival. Sin brings the penalty of death upon humanity. When sin entered the world, the curse entered the world. The enemy and the world work hard to see that sin abounds.

Yet, I think there is a greater enemy to revival than Sin.

2 Chronicles 7:14 does mention a need to address sin and wickedness, but the truth is revival is only hindered when God's people choose to commit sin.

4. IT IS NOT LOST PEOPLE

The passage above speaks of God's people but not lost people. Revival means to live again. It speaks of renewal and a refreshing life flow. Lost people are dead in sin. They do not need revived. They need "vived."

The enemy may work through them to stand against revival and the things of God.

Yet, I do not believe they are not the ultimate enemy of revival.

Who is the ultimate enemy of revival?

5. IT IS OUR OWN FLESHLY SELF

2 Chronicles 7:14 calls for God's people to turn from "their wicked ways". You see God will forgive and cleanse us from sin. Sin, however, arises out of our on fallen nature. Now I know we sin because we have a sinful nature and we have a sinful nature because of sin. But in Christ, we now have a new nature. The old selfish, sinful nature, is to be reckoned as dead.

When Satan came to Jesus, the Bible says he found nothing in him. That is, there was no landing pad for sin in the life of Jesus. Revival is about God's people operating under the favor and blessing of God as they live out of the new life in Christ. The Chronicles passage in this study is an example for us. It shows God's people can choose to repent and bring renewed blessings upon themselves and their land.

Have you ever thought about this:

- Satan will not be in heaven in eternity, He will in the lake of fire.
- Sin will not be in heaven for the lamb will have cleansed it all away.
- The wicked will not be in Heaven
- God's people will be in Heaven. Their new resurrected glorified bodies will be in Heaven. Their spirit will be housed in their glorified bodies in Heaven. But their fallen fleshly nature will not be in Heaven. Neither will it be in Hell. It simply will not be. It is dead and no more.

To defeat the ultimate enemy of revival, we simply must see our sin nature crucified with Christ and live his life in the here and now. When he is truly living enthroned in our lives, then sin, Satan, and the world cannot keep us from experiencing revival. Dear friend, when he is truly enthroned and we are honoring him, and allowing him to live through us.....that is REVIVAL.

You can also find this article published on [Who is the Ultimate Enemy of Revival? -- sermon notes](#), and on the tag pages [2 Chron. 7:14](#), [enemy of revival](#), [satan](#), [sermon notes on revival](#), [sermon of flesh](#), [sermon on 2 Chronicles 7:14](#), [sermon on revival](#), [sermon on world](#), [sermon satan](#).