**Prepare The Way Of The Lord**

**• Isaiah 40:3-5**

**INTRODUCTION**

His name was Evan \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

It had a dramatic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on society!

***Revival***

Friends - that's revival! Real revival is a sovereign work of \_\_\_ that doesn’t just fill churches, it changes the moral and spiritual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

***Prepare***

Though revival is a sovereign work of God's Spirit that cannot be manufactured by man, there is something we \_\_\_\_do to prepare for revival.

But we must *first* understand these words in their historical \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Isaiah.

They will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the city and temple. The walls of Jerusalem will be restored and their blessing will increase.

God's judgment of their rebellion will be a thing of the past

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ journey will be but an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ expression of their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ return to God, and His return to them. So Isaiah issues a call to the returning exiles to be as diligent in their spiritual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as they would be in packing their things to go home.

That's the imagery Isaiah is using here . . .

God would come again to Jerusalem. Once more His glory would be manifest there as it had been in previous days. So the people needed to prepare, to make a way for the Lord's return. They would do this by straightening the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ things, by bringing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and setting right what was \_\_\_\_\_\_.

***John The Baptist***

What was John's message?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because the Kingdom of God is about to come. The key word was REPENT! That's what making a way for the Lord is all about. Repentance is making our crooked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ straight. It’s leveling out the affairs of our lives so that they are marked by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I*t's repairing the \_\_\_\_\_\_ potholes.

Repentance is a mark and trait of the one who *is* saved who is seeking the glory and power of God in his or her life.

For those who genuinely desire more of God, it is gladly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to. For those who are self-satisfied and content in their own goodness, the call to repentance only angers them because to repent, they must first \_\_\_\_\_ they are not as good as they would like to believe. The \_\_\_\_\_\_ do not repent!

***Five of Seven***

Jesus composed 7 letters to 7 different churches in Asia. To 5 of the 7 He tells them to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_! He doesn’t need to tell the other two to repent because they *already were*!

**CONCLUSION**

***A.  The Spirit Is Speaking***

Jesus is coming again!  The Kingdom of God is at hand! Therefore  ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the way of the Lord.***

How do we do that?  By repentance.

-   by turning \_\_\_\_\_ from selfish, smug superiority

-   by responding to the voice of the Spirit who calls to us to turn from our own \_\_\_\_\_-directed way and points His direction for our lives

***B.  The Need For Revival***

What crooked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ do you need to repent of and make straight?

What area of your life is marked by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and inequity?

What moral pothole needs to be filled with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

What broken relationship needs to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

If the Spirit is speaking to you about something - do it \_\_\_\_, today!

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