Awakenings 6 Living as Awakened People in a Sleepy Land 2Chronicles 36, Ezra 9: June 27/28, 2015

1) God persistently <u>sends</u> a <u>messenger</u>. (2Chron. 36:15-16)

Who has God used in your life as his messenger?

Has God ever used someone to get a hard message through to you? Who was it? What was the message? How did you respond at first?

Have you ever scoffed or mocked at a messenger from God?

Have you ever been scoffed or mocked while trying to deliver God's message? What was that like? Do you refuse to deliver the message because you are afraid of the reaction?

What does it say about the compassion and faithfulness of God to you that he would send message to you when you were in rebellion?

Do you ever feel like our land is beyond remedy? What should you do at that point?

2) God occasionally stirs a king. (2Chron. 36:22-23)

Have you put too much hope in godless "kings"? (Presidents, Supreme Court Justices, Congress, Mayors, etc.)

Read Proverbs 21:1. What hope does this verse give you for those in positions of authority?

Describe what happens in a human heart when God "stirs" it. What kinds of "spoons" has God used to stir your heart or the heart of someone who had no interest in God's commands?

The last word of 2Chronicles is "up". Everyone has a spiritual direction: either up or down. Which direction is our land headed? Which direction are you headed?

3) God always revives a remnant. (Ezra 9:7-9)

God takes his boundaries on marriage very seriously. How did you react when you heard the news that the Supreme Court had legalized so-called gay marriage? Did you grieve like Ezra did in Ezra 9 when the people were messing with God's standards on marriage?

What percentage of the people in our city do you think are Bible-believing Christ followers?

What do you think of when you hear the word "remnant"?

How does it feel to be a part of the minority? Are you willing to hold a minority position if it costs you money, your job, your freedom, or your life?

Though they were still slaves God gave "a little reviving" for the remnant to repair the place of worship. What are you doing as part of the remnant to serve the Lord?

Describe how God has "brightened your eyes" in the six weeks of the Awakenings series.

Additional Scripture

- Psalm 13:3
- Romans 11:5

- Revelation 12:17
- Daniel 9
- Nehemiah 9
- Psalm 85