

7 January 2018: Preached by Preacher Clement Chew

**Topic: Revive Thy Church, O Lord**

Scripture text: Psalm 85:1-13

1. The word "revive" in Hebrew in Psalm 85:6 comes from two words "to live" and "to return". Therefore, it does not refer to being spiritual dead and having to be made alive. The emphasis is to return to the Lord.
2. The psalm is written after the captivity and probably written during the time of Ezra and Nehemiah. They were in captivity because of their sin, rebellion and wickedness. God has been good and gracious to bring them back and to rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple. They are therefore to return to live for the Lord.
3. They were not complacent. They want a full revival to continue to grow and not go back to their old ways. They remembered what the Lord has done in the past. Now, they do not want to sin again but they want to serve God. It means a commitment to God's Word. They are committed to an earnest and continual revival. Likewise, we are to constantly renew our love and reconsecrate our lives to God as a church.
4. With revival, comes joy and contentment in God. It will be a blessed revival where deliverance is sure. There will be mercy and truth, righteousness and peace. We will experience God's loving-kindness and faithfulness. Our desire must be for God to revive us again.