

## REVIVE US AGAIN

### Psalm 119:81-88

(Running on Empty, Eddie Boggess, Gospel Advocate, Nov.2017)

## INTRODUCTION

- A. My first driving experience was with a 1964 Dodge.
  - 1. Push button transmission.
  - 2. Tie the doors shut; see the road through floor board.
  - 3. Got nine miles to the gallon – gas gauge broken – fill every 100 miles.
  - 4. I ran out of gas – siphon pump for Christmas.
- B. Running on Empty, 1977 Jackson Browne.
  - 1. Running on empty, running blind, running into the sun, But I'm running behind.
  - 2. Describes many of us – running behind, trying to keep up, running on empty.
- C. Spiritually, we also can become tired of doing the Lord's will.
  - 1. Growing up, I would get tired of doing the "right" things, especially when others didn't.
  - 2. Encouraged not to become weary.
    - a. Galatians 6:9
    - b. 2 Thessalonians 3:13

## I. RUNNING ON EMPTY.

- A. Moses.
  - 1. Frustrated with the children of Israel.
    - a. Their sin, complaints, and criticisms.
    - b. He had reached the end of his rope.
  - 2. Numbers 11:11-15 – just kill me!
- B. David.
  - 1. Early adulthood trying to survive the persecution of Saul.
  - 2. Psalm 69:1-4, sees himself drowning in deep water – crying for help.
- C. Elijah.
  - 1. Great victory for the Lord at Mt. Carmel.
  - 2. On the run for his life from Jezebel.
  - 3. 1 Kings 19:4, pleads with God to take his life.
  - 4. 1 Kings 19:10, feels all alone in the struggle for the Lord.
- D. Jeremiah.
  - 1. Jeremiah 20:1-2, beaten and put in stocks by the priest, Pashhur.
  - 2. Jeremiah 20:7-9a, decided to never speak the Lord's word to others.
- E. Zeal Grown Cold.
  - 1. Zeal is the strong desire that motivates us to do the Lord's will.
  - 2. Our zeal can run low after facing difficult circumstances.

## II. PSALM 119:81-88

- A. The Message.
  - 1. *I'm homesick – longing for Your salvation; waiting for Your word of hope.*
  - 2. *My eyes grow heavy watching for some sign of Your promise; how long must I wait for Your comfort?*
  - 3. *There's smoke in my eyes – they burn and water, but I keep a steady gaze on the instructions You post.*
  - 4. *How long do I have to put up with all this? How long till You haul my tormentors*

*into court?*

5. *The arrogant godless try to throw me off track, ignorant as they are of God and His ways.*
6. *Everything You command is a sure thing, but they harass me with lies. Help!*
7. *They've pushed and pushed – they never let up – but I haven't relaxed my grip on Your counsel.*
8. *In Your great love revive me so I can alertly obey Your every word.*

B. Running on Empty.

1. The words are so similar to those of Moses, David, Elijah and Jeremiah.
2. The same words that we may share from time to time.
  - a. Discouraged and frustrated.
  - b. Not only with those from the “outside”.
    - i. Immoral, worldly, no time for God.
  - c. But, even from those on the “inside”.
    - i. Lukewarm, wearing the name, but living for the world.
    - ii. 1 Corinthians 3:1-3
    - iii. Hebrews 5:12-13
3. Satan's hand is in the mix.
  - a. 2 Corinthians 4:4
  - b. We are in a battle, Ephesians 6:11-13

### III. LORD, REVIVE ME.

A. How Do We Re-fuel?

1. David felt overwhelmed by Saul's injustice.
  - a. He focused instead on God's justice and goodness.
  - b. Psalm 69:16-18
2. Elijah felt alone and discouraged.
  - a. God's power shown with the still small voice.
  - b. 1 Kings 19:11-18, you are not alone.
3. Moses frustrated with leading Israel.
  - a. God instructed him to get 70 men to help.
  - b. Numbers 11:16
4. Jeremiah constantly opposed.
  - a. Had to be about speaking the Lord's word.
  - b. Jeremiah 20:9b

B. Lord, Revive Me.

1. Continue to serve the Lord.
  - a. Isaiah 40:30-31
  - b. Waiting for the Lord, is to put our hope in the Lord, to trust in Him to deliver.
  - c. It is not waiting around, but rather **actively continuing** to serve Him.
2. Time in God's Word.
  - a. Almost each verse of this psalm stresses the love for God's Word.
  - b. Not merely a reading of the word, but applying to our lives.
  - c. Being obedient to God.
3. Time alone with the Lord.
  - a. Jesus made time to commune with His Father.
  - b. Mark 1:35; Matthew 14:23; Luke 5:16
  - c. We, too, need to spend much time in prayer.