ISSUE

Desiring Revival



oday if I could speak to you face to face and ask, "Are we living in dark days here in America?" the answer {I hope} would be a resounding YES. Sin seems to abound unchecked, the forces of evil seem to come in like a flood. But yet we have been called for such a time as this to make a difference in our land. Have we not read and yearned after how our fathers saw and did great things that changed the course of our land like in the Great Awakenings? Is the Lord's hand waxed short? Do we have the faith to ask God to do that today? How can 120 people in the book of Acts shake the world? Is there not that many today?

I whole-heartedly believe that if we will pray and obey what God wants us to do, we can see God work, not so that we can live a comfortable life here in America, but so that God can be glorified and the world will once again take notice of true Christianity and respond with stones or salvation as in the book of Acts.

"IT WAS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN to preach to other prisoners, as it is in captive nations today. It was understood that whoever was caught doing this received a severe beating. A number of us decided to pay the price for the privilege of

preaching, so we accepted their terms. It was a deal: we preached and they beat us. We were happy preaching; they were happy beating us - so everyone was happy." - Richard Wurmbrand

A Call to Missions

Therefore said he (Jesus) unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. - Luke 10:2

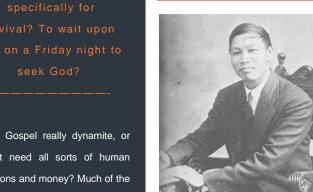
Brethren, pray for us - 1 Thess 5:25

America's Sin in forgetting GOD by Evangelist Joseph T. Larsen (July 1933)

Ancient Babylon, Greece, Rome, Medo-Persia, Assyria, and other empires all forgot God, and have been ruined and forgotten; but only until the judgment!

Oh, citizens of America! Will you ever learn a lesson from past history, from experienced adversity, from former judgments on the nations, that forgetting God does not pay? Can the professing Church of today continue to exist if she joins the world, praises the communists and denies God's divine rulership?

Macaulay, the English historian, writing nearly one hundred years ago, said of America, "She will be pillaged and looted in the twentieth century by vandals, and forces within her will cause her destruction." Indications prove him to be right, and unless something can be done by godly people to stem the tide of lawlessness, communism, modernism and immorality, she will go the way of the ancient nations. Will Christians, will governmental leaders, will its citizens awaken in time or too late?



Watchman Nee (pinyin: Tuòshēng;, 1903 –1972) was a Chinese Christian author and church leader during the early 20th Century. He spent the last 20 years of his life in prison and severely

persecuted by the Communists in China. Together with Wangzai, Zhou-An Lee, Shang-Jie Song, and others, Nee founded the The Church Assembly Hall, later which would be also known as the "Local churches"

Watchman Nee became a Christian in 1920 at age 17 and began writing in the same year. In 1921, he met the British missionary M. E. Barber, who was a great influence on him. Through Miss Barber, Nee was introduced to many of the Christian writings which were to have a profound influence on him and his teachings. Nee attended no theological schools or Bible institutes. His knowledge was acquired through studying the Bible and reading various Christian spiritual books. During his 30 years of ministry, beginning in 1922, Nee traveled throughout China planting churches among the rural communities and holding Chris-

tian conferences and trainings in Shanghai. In 1952 he was imprisoned for his faith; he remained in prison until his death in 1972.

"Why does the Church stay indoors? They have a theology that has dwindled into a philosophy, in which there is no thrill of faith. no terror of doom and no concern for souls. Unbelief has put out the fires of passion, and worldliness garlands the altar of sacrifice with the tawdry glitter of unreality. The Holy Ghost cannot conquer the world with unbelief, nor can He save the world with a worldly Church. He calls for a crusade, a campaign, and an adventure of saving passion. For this enterprise He wants a separated, sanctified and sacrificial peo-

ple." - Samuel Chadwick

"Is the Gospel really dynamite, or does it need all sorts of human institutions and money? Much of the work we have done in the name of Jesus Christ has been, not to perform miracles of the Holy Ghost, but miracles of gold." - David Griffin

The Anointing

"I had an overwhelming experience of the Lord's presence. I felt so powerfully overcome by the nearness of the Holy Spirit that I had to ask the Lord to draw back lest He kill me. It was so glorious that I couldn't stand more than a small portion of it."

- Mordecai Ham

The Believer's Call to Commitment

"No true spiritual progress can be made until with purpose of heart we determine that in everything we shall live in immediate and unceasing dependence upon the power of the Holy Spirit... It is only the soul who lives in entire surrender to and dependence on the blessed Spirit in whom God can effectually carry on His mighty work and accomplish all His blessed purposes."

- Andrew Murray

Kartar Singh, you have disgraced the Sikh religion and your family. Forget this nonsense. Forget about your 'Jesus Christ' and return to the religion of your forefathers, or you are no longer my son! Father, I love you and mother and I deeply appreciated all you have done for me. It pains me to hurt you, but I cannot give up my faith in Jesus Christ. He is my Lord. He is my Saviour. I will serve Him until the day of my death.

Such was the dramatic episode which took peace when it became known to the family of Kartar Singh that their son had become a follower of Jesus.

Little is known about Kartar Singh's youth, but it is quite certain that he was born in the late 19th century and was martyred in the early years of the present century. He was a Sikh, son of a rich landlord in the state of Patiala (now known as Punjab). Since he was the only son and all the hopes of the family were centered upon him, he was brought up in luxury and was given the best education possible. Early in his youth Kartar began to have an insatiable thirst for spiritual truth. He heard about Christianity and began to understand and believe its claims, until finally an unshakable conviction of its truth gripped him. He realized that only Christ could satisfy the longing of his heart, and took the step of openly confessing Him. Kartar's father did everything he could to pressure Kartar into renouncing his new faith, but he could not succeed. Even the beautiful girl who was to have become his wife could not influence him. This was perhaps the severest of his temptations at this point, but though he loved her, he declared that his first love and loyalty was to Christ. This was too much for Kartar's father who in a fit of anger disowned him as a son before all the family members, ordering him to remove his clothes and leave the house immediately. It was a cold night in December, but Kartar had to obey. Removing his clothes and laying them at his father's feet, he said, "Father, the righteousness of Jesus Christ has covered all my nakedness and sin." Naked and rejected, he left the house and went out into the cold night.

In order to earn enough money to but food and clothes he took up the work of a coolie, doing jobs his father's servants would have despised. Very soon, however, Kartar adopted the yellow robe of a sadhu and began preaching among the towns and villages of Punjab State. After some time he felt the call of God to Tibet, which for centuries had been closed to the gospel.

In Tibet, Kartar Singh met with disdain and opposition. He was often bodily thrown out of villages. In spite of such treatment Kartar loved the people and his heart yearned that they might come to know the love of the Heavenly Father. Eventually he was brought before the Lama of Tsingham and charged with unlawfully entering the country and preaching a foreign religion. The death sentence was pronounced upon him. Tibet's manner of execution was that infamous method of sewing up the condemned person in a wet yak (Tibetan ox) skin. As the sun shone upon this skin the hide gradually shrank and tightened about his body, causing his bones to crack. A cruel, mocking crowd stood by to witness and laugh at his misery. On the ground at his side lay the New Testament which had been his only comfort through all his temptations and trials. This slow torture continued for three long days, but the peace and joy of the Lord flooded the soul of Kartar Singh as he lay in physical agony. Waiting for death, Kartar sang songs of praise and prayed for the salvation of his enemies. Finally, on the third day as death drew near, he asked that his right hand might be set free. Probably form curiosity rather than mercy, his request was granted. With his free hand Kartar wrote on the fly-leaf of his New Testament,

"I pray that my love for Him may not be less than that of the Hindu woman who burns along with the corpse of her dead husband (Sati - the practice of burning the widows with their husband). When for the dead husband, who she may not hope to meet again, she does so much, how much more should I do for a living Lord who is moreover the Lord of life?"

Shortly afterwards Kartar Singh died in the yak skin.

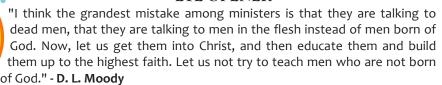
To be continued...

"Before the great revival in Gallneukirchen broke out, Martin Boos spent hours and days and often nights in lonely agonies of intercession. Afterwards, when he preached, his words were as flame, and the hearts of the people as grass." - D. M. McIntyre

Talking about winning souls for Christ and the Holy Spirit`s power

John R. Rice in his book "The Power of Pentecost" says 'No one ever wins souls
through any other power. Not human zeal, not human personality, not scholarship
nor even preaching of the Word of God in human wisdom can save souls. Even of
the Word of God itself we are told, "the letter killeth..."` (2 Corinthians 3:6)

EYE OPENER



In a community true Revival brings stones or salvation, and the focus is on God himself

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. - 1 Corinthians 6:20

Back in the 1800s, a young Englishman traveled to California in search of gold. After several months of prospecting, he struck it rich. On his way home he stopped in New Orleans. Not long into his visit, he came upon a crowd of people all looking in the same direction. Approaching the crowd, he realized that they had gathered for a slave auction. Slavery had been outlawed in England for years, so this young man's curiosity drew him to watch as a person became someone else's property. He heard "sold" just as he joined the crowd. A middle-aged black man was taken away. Next a beautiful young black girl was pushed up on the platform and made to walk around so everyone could see her. The bidding began. Soon the bids surpassed what most slaveholders would pay. As the bidding continued higher and higher, it was apparent that two slave owners wanted her. The miner stood as silent anger welled up inside of him. Finally, one man bid a price that was beyond the reach of the other. The girl looked down. The auctioneer called out, "Going once, going twice..."

Just before the final call, the miner called out a price that was exactly twice the previous bid. An amount that exceeded the worth of any man. The crowd laughed, thinking the miner was only joking. The auctioneer motioned to the miner to come forward and show his money. The miner opened up the bag of gold he had brought for the trip. The auctioneer shook his head in disbelief and waved the girl over to him.

The girl walked down the steps of the platform until she was eye to eye with the miner. She spat straight in his face and said through clenched teeth, "I hate you!" The miner, without a word, wiped his face, paid the auctioneer, took the girl by the hand, and walked away from the still laughing crowd.

He seemed to be looking for something in particular as they walked up one street and down the other. Finally they stopped in front of some sort of store, though the slave girl didn't know what kind of store it was. She waited outside as the dirty-faced miner went inside and started talking to an elderly man. She couldn't make out what they were talking about. At one point, voices got louder, and she overheard the store clerk say, "But it's the law! It's the law!" Peering in, she saw the miner pull out his bag of gold and pour what was left on the table.

With what seemed like a look of disgust, the clerk picked up the gold and went into a back room. He came out with a piece of paper and both he and the miner signed it. The young girl looked away as the miner came out the door. Stretching out his hand, he said to the girl, "Here are your manumission papers. You are free."

The girl didn't look up. He tried again. "Here. These are papers that say you are free. Take them."

"I hate you!" the girl said, refusing to look up. "Why do you make fun of me?" "No, listen," he pleaded. "These are your freedom papers. You are a free person." The girl looked at the papers, then looked at him, and looked at the papers again. "You just bought me...and now you're setting me free?"

"That's why I bought you. I bought you to set you free." The beautiful girl fell to her knees in front of the miner, tears streaming down her face. "You bought me to set me free! You bought me to set me free!" she said over and over again.

The miner said nothing. Clutching his muddy boots, the girl looked up at the miner and said, "All I want to do is serve you -- because you bought me to set me free."

"A readiness to believe every promise implicitly, to obey every command unhesitatingly, to stand perfect and complete in all the will of God, is the only true spirit of Bible study." - Andrew Murray

C.H. Spurgeon

There was a dreadful dream which a Christian mother once had, and she told it to her children. She dreamed the judgment day had come. The great books were opened. The people all stood before God. And Jesus Christ said, "Separate the chaff from the wheat; put the goats on the left hand, and the sheep on the right." The mother dreamed that she and her children were standing right in the middle of the great assembly of people. And an angel came, and said, "I must take the mother, she is a sheep: she must go to the right hand. The children are goats: they must go on the left." She thought as she went, her children clutched her, and said, "Mother, do we have to part? Must we be separated?" She then put her arms around them, and seemed to say, "My children, I would, if possible, take you with me." But in a moment the angel touched her; the tears on her cheeks dried, and now, overcoming natural affection., she said, "My children, I taught you well, I trained you, and you abandoned the ways of God; and now all I have to say is, Amen to your condemnation." They then were snatched away, and she saw them in perpetual torment, while she was in heaven;

Men of Prayer Needed - E. M. Bounds

WE are constantly on a stretch, if not on a strain, to devise new methods, new plans, new organizations to advance the Church and secure enlargement and efficiency for the gospel. This trend of the day has a tendency to lose sight of the man or sink the man in the plan or organization. God's plan is to make much of the man, far more of him than of anything else. Men are God's method. The Church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men. "There was a man sent from God whose name was John." The dispensation that heralded and prepared the way for Christ was bound up in that man John. "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given." The world's salvation comes out of that cradled Son. When Paul appeals to the personal char-

acter of the men who rooted the gospel in the world, he solves the mystery of their success. The glory and efficiency of the gospel is staked on the men who proclaim it. When God declares that "the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him," he declares the necessity of men and his dependence on them as a channel through which to exert his power upon the world. This vital, urgent truth is one that this age of machinery is apt to forget. The forgetting of it is as baneful on the work of God as would be the striking of the sun from his sphere. Darkness, confusion, and death would ensue.

What the Church needs to-day is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use -- men of prayer, men mighty in prayer. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men -- men of prayer.

America's survival depends on the Church's Revival - Leonard Ravenhill

A Promise of Revival

"BEHOLD THE DAYS COME, saith the Lord, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt" (Amos 9:13, KJV). The harvest is to be so great that, before the reapers can have fully gathered it in, the plowman shall begin to plow for the next crop. We read of such marvelous revivals a hundred years ago, but we have since seen a season of lethargy and soul-poverty among the saints. Now I believe God is about to send times of surprising fertility to His church. In these modern times, if one sinner is converted, we rejoice with surprise. However, where we have seen one converted, we may yet see hundreds. Where the Word of God has been powerful to hundreds, it shall be blessed to thousands, and even nations shall be converted to Christ.

There is no reason why we should not see all that God has given to us multiplied a hundredfold. There is sufficient life in the seed of the Lord to produce a far more plentiful crop than any we have yet gathered. God the Holy Ghost is not limited in His power. I believe that our harvest will be so heavy that while we are taking in the harvest, it will be time to sow again. Prayer meetings will be succeeded by the inquiry of souls as to what they shall do to be saved, and before they are finished,

it will be time again to preach and again to pray. We

Books on Revival

Leonard Ravenhill

Why Revival Tarries

-RAVI ZACHARIAS

never can be contented with going on as the churches have been for many years. Even if God sends revival, it will not exonerate us from the awful guilt of having been idle. Let all be saved who live now, but what about those who have been damned while we have been sleeping? Who shall answer for the blood of those men who have been swept into eternity while we have been going on in our

x religious fashion, content to go along the path of propriety, and walk around the path of dull routine, but never weeping for sinners, never agonizing for souls? Revival has not come before it was much needed.

- C.H. Spurgeon (1834-1892)

desiringrevival.org