

# Desiring Revival

APR - JUN 2017

(Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee? - Psalm 85:6)

VOL 3 - ISSUE 2

*From Desiring Revival,*

*In 1519 Hernán Cortés, landed on a vast inland plateau called, Mexico. He was against insurmountable odds with only 600 men against a vast empire. After the landing, when they were ready to move inland to start the conquest of the land, a feat that no one else was able to do for 600 years, he gave the momentous order to "Burn the Boats". Cortés was determined that there was no turning back. It was either fight or die. And they won.*

*In our day we are faced with insurmountable odds, an evangelical Church that is bankrupt, false professions and "decisions" abound, the name of Christ blasphemed and the Church happy in her sleep of death. Those who are burdened for revival need to realize that it either fight or die. Seek God for revival or die trying. Is God not worthy? Is the cause not worthy? Are our Children not worth the fight? Awake from complacency, awake from pointing the finger, rise up and seek God in agony of soul and tears. Go to a lost Church and world and declare "Thus saith the Lord". Brethren, it is not "Can God use you?" or "Can we see revival?", the hour is now when we have to ask "Am I willing to pay the price?"*

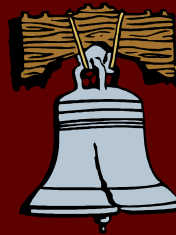
*We need to cry out, not "God bless America" but "God help America." - Sumner Wemp*

## Heroes of the Faith

David Livingstone (1813 - 1873) was born the son of deeply religious but humble parents, who lived near Glasgow, Scotland. He studied medicine and theology at the University of Glasgow. Livingstone tried to go to China as a missionary in 1838, but when the Opium War in China closed the doors, he went to South Africa. He had been challenged by Robert Moffat, a missionary to that country, who said, "On a clear morning the smoke of a thousand villages could be seen where the name of Christ had never been heard." He joined Moffat and married his daughter.



Livingstone pushed two hundred miles north of Moffat's assigned station and founded another mission station, Mabosta. Livingstone continued on the mission field and advanced fourteen hundred miles into the interior in spite of the hardships. His purpose was to open the door of Africa to the Gospel. He was attacked and maimed by a lion, his home was destroyed during the Boer War, his body was often racked by fever and dysentery, and his wife died on the field. One morning in May, 1873, a faithful native found Livingstone by his bed, kneeling and dead. The natives buried his heart in Africa as he had requested, but his body was returned to England and buried in Westminster Abbey.



### Inscription on a Tombstone

*Consider man as you pass by, you are now so once was I. As I am now soon you will be. Consider Man Eternity.*

Many felt no single African explorer had done so much for African geography as Livingstone during his thirty years' work. His travels covered one-third of the continent, from the Cape to near the Equator, and from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean. Livingstone was no hurried traveler; he did his journeying leisurely, carefully observing and recording with the eye of a trained scientific observer. His example and his death acted like an inspiration, filling Africa with an army of explorers and missionaries, and raising in Europe so powerful a feeling against the slave trade that through him slavery may be considered as having received its death blow.

Mrs. J.H. Worchester writes in her book, David Livingstone: First To Cross Africa With The Gospel, that "as a missionary explorer, [Livingstone] stood alone, traveling 29,000 miles in Africa, adding to the known portion of the globe about a million square miles, discovering lakes N'gami, Shirwa, Nyassa, Morero and Bangweolo, the upper Zambesi and many other rivers, and the wonderful Victoria Falls. He was also the first European to traverse the entire length of Lake Tanganyika, and to travel over the vast watershed near Lake Bangweolo, ..."

After hearing of his death, Florence Nightingale said: "God has taken away the greatest man of his generation . . ."

### A Quote to Ponder

*I'm sick to death of the so-called Christianity of our day. What's supernatural about it? When do people come out of the sanctuary awed and can't speak for an hour because God has been in glory there? Dear God, as soon as they get out, they're talking football, or sports or something or there's going to be a big sale downtown or somewhere. We are not caught up into eternity!*

- Leonard Ravenhill



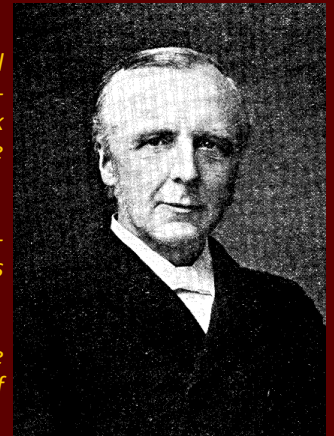
ELISHA, TARRY HERE, I pray thee. 2 Kings ii. 2, 4, 6.

Thrice Elijah spoke thus to his friend and disciple, to test him. Perseverance, tenacity of purpose, a refusal to be content with anything short of the best, are indispensable conditions for the attainment of the highest possibilities of experience and service. And perpetually in our life's discipline these words come back on us, Tarry here! Not that God desires us to tarry, but because He desires each onward step to be the choice and act of our own will.

Tarry here in Consecration; "You have given so much; is it not time that you refrained from further sacrifices? Ungird your loins, sit down and rest, forbear from this strenuous following after. Spare thyself; this shall not come to thee."

Tarry here in the Life of Prayer.; "It is waste time to spend so much time at the footstool of God. You have done more than most, desist from further intercession and supplication." Tarry here in the attainment of the likeness of Christ; "It will cost you so much, if all that is not Christlike is to pass away from your life."

Such voices are perpetually speaking to us all. And if we heed them, we are at once shut out of that crossing the Jordan, that rapturous intercourse with heaven, that reception of the double portion of the Spirit, which await those who have successfully stood the test. The law of the Christian life is always Advance; always leaving that which is behind; always reckoning that you have not attained; always following on to know the Lord, growing in grace and in the knowledge of the blessed Saviour, and saying to the Spirit of God, as Elisha to Elijah, I will not leave thee.



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### No Heartbeat? Don't Worry!

I Chronicles 16:24 - Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations.

Evolutionists say that an animal's unique features developed because the unique feature gives the animal some survival benefit. Just what that benefit might be is open to interpretation, and sometimes the explanation is a little fuzzy. Sometimes the explanation just doesn't work.

Such is the case with the marine iguanas of the Galapagos islands. These iguanas are excellent swimmers and search underwater for much of their food. However, when they are underwater they are vulnerable to the marine food chain. Sharks find the marine iguanas very tasty. With their sensitive hearing, these predators can hear the heartbeat of a hiding iguana 12 feet away. So part of the iguana's defense is to stop its heartbeat voluntarily. Amazingly, the iguana can keep its heart stopped for up to 45 minutes without suffering any ill effects.

Evolutionists explain that this ability evolved because it gives the iguana a survival advantage in shark-infested waters. Obviously, a creature's ability to stop its heart for this long requires some major internal modifications. To believe that the iguana knew all the changes it needed to intentionally stop its heart for 45 minutes without death requires quite a leap of faith! However, this evolutionary explanation just doesn't work. The Komodo dragon can also stop its heart. For the Komodo this ability provides no survival advantage, for these huge lizards have no natural enemies.



These lizards received their special abilities from their wise Creator. Their special abilities glorify Him, not mindless evolution.

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### Humility - A. W. Tozer

I have met two classes of Christians; the proud who imagine they are humble, and the humble who are afraid they are proud! There should be another class: the self-forgetful men and women who leave the whole thing in the hands of Christ and refuse to waste any time trying to make themselves good. They will reach the goal far ahead of the rest. The truly humble person does not expect to find virtue in himself, and when he finds none he is not disappointed. He knows that any good deed he may do is the result of God's working within him.

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### Spirit fullness for Soul-Winning Power - Dr. John R. Rice

For further study on this topic please refer to John R. Rice book on **The Power of Pentecost** available from Sword of the Lord Publishers.



## The 1859 Ulster Revival - by Keith Malcomson (continued from the previous newsletter)

### Vessels Chosen and Prepared

The beginning of this revival can be traced to the parish of Connor in Co. Antrim. Here not far from Ballymena is a small village called Kells God found Himself four weak, foolish, despised vessels to work through. He bypassed the great religious establishments as well as the ministers of religion and found four sinners that He would save and fill with faith and a spirit of prayer for revival. The first was James McQuilkin who overhearing a Mrs Colville (a Baptist missionary from England) talk to a lady about knowing she was saved, and feeling this lady had a lack of theological learning quizzed her if she was a Calvinist. She responded by saying "I do not care to talk on mere points of doctrine. I would rather speak of the experience of salvation in the soul. If one were to tell me what he knows of the state of his heart towards God, I think I could tell him whether he knows the Lord Jesus savingly."

All this led to him falling under deep conviction of sin. He was cut to the heart and led into long weeks of agony as he wrestled over his spiritual condition before God. Finally he found Christ, salvation, peace and forgiveness. Immediately he began to witness to others around him and the news spread in Kells that this man who was once known for his love of this world now loved Christ and His Word. One of his friends Jeremiah Meneely (or Jerry as he was well known) who was a faithful church goer but lacked a sure knowledge that his sins were forgiven sought out James. After a long conversation Jerry found himself in a state of seeking God. As he read the Bible one day wrestling over these things and confused in mind the Spirit spoke clearly a scripture to his heart. He slapped his knee exclaiming, "I see it now" and arose assured of his sins forgiven and of his name written in heaven. Around the same time McQuilkin led two other young men to Christ, Robert Carlisle and John Wallace. And so here was God's raw material to work with.

James McQuilkin sent off for a first edition of George Mullers narrative of his life and labours called Life of Trust. This had a profound effect upon him in starting the prayer meetings. Also The Life of McCheyne and Finney's Lectures on Revivals sowed deep seeds of hunger for genuine heaven sent revival. Beginning in September 1857 these four banded together in a bond of fellowship to meet weekly for prayer and Bible study. Their sole desire was their own edification and the salvation of others around them. The simple place they chose to meet was the Schoolhouse at Kells. "During the long winter of 1857-1858 every Friday evening, these young men gathered an armful of peat each, and taking their Bibles made their way to the old schoolhouse. There they read and meditated upon the Scriptures of truth and with hearts aflame with a pure first love, poured out their prayers to the God of heaven." Everything that they steadfastly held to over the next year centred around three great fundamental truths of scripture, these were "the Sovereignty of the Holy Spirit, the Sufficiency of the Holy Scripture, and the Secret of Holy Supplication."

This not only marked those small fervent prayer meetings but soon covered the whole land in living manifestation as God stepped down and marched through the land. These prayer meetings continued with no visible results for three months, but on New Years day 1858 the first convert was brought in. After that others were born from above and now joined the prayer meetings. By the end of the year about 50 men were meeting with them to wrestle and prevail in prayer. The one cry and burden of all their prayers was for an outpouring of the Spirit upon themselves and the surrounding area. They were hungry and determined to pray through to God. Many of the local church people ridiculed, mocked and opposed this type of praying. They were happy to rest back and do nothing saying 'the Holy Spirit was given at Pentecost and so we don't need to pray for the Holy Ghost.' Such stagnant attitudes never bring Revival.

Continued on next page ...

### Prayer - A Divine Necessity by Watchman Nee

"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;" Col. iv. 2.

THE GREAT THING THAT MAKES the difference is not the service, not the life, but God's touch upon them. God always needs human agency. He must have someone to use always. The greatest thing anybody can do is to pray, but it is not the only thing, but it is the first thing, and the chief thing.

If God can do things without prayer in the church, why does He not carry them out in His own time instead of delays and hindrances?...And why does God lay a complaint against the church that she does not pray?...Why did Christ say, "Pray ye the Lord of the Harvest to send forth labourers?" Why did He not send them apart from prayer? There is value in the expression of prayer. What is the meaning of "Ye have not because ye ask not"? Is it God's unwillingness—i.e., you shall not "get" if you do not ask? Or is it that God sees the need, and He cannot meet the need, until the prayer is made?

The cycle of prayer moves in this wise: (1) God wants a thing done; (2) He moves the believer to pray that that thing might be done; (3) God does it in answer to that prayer....There is a thought abroad in the church: "Oh! God works so slowly." He does not. HE WORKS ACCORDING TO THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH, and according as there is co-operation with Him. Did God work very slowly in Egypt in delivering the bound nation? He did not. He worked for a prolonged season in getting the instrument ready in the wilderness - forty years....God's work is rapidly done when the instruments see to it that the divine conditions are fulfilled. There must be conformity to the laws of God before God can work; and according to the absolute conformity to God's will and laws there is a fullness of operation.

## On 2 Corinthians 3:2

When God blessed Andrew Murray and the Dutch Reformed church in the Cape province with a revival and worked mightily in that area, Murray had much opposition. ..., some people claimed, "Andrew Murray teaches false doctrines, he is too extreme and eccentric. We are all sinners, nobody can live the way he preaches." They then chose two people to go and visit Murray and stay with him for two weeks. After those two weeks they came back and reported the following: "Friends, he doesn't preach half of what he lives. If you had been there with him and the people around him, and had seen how they live and behave, then you could only say: they don't only preach, they live accordingly."



"We need to remember that it is possible to have some kind of external religious experience that immunizes you to the new birth, and puts you where you will never be born again, because you think you are already born again."

- A. W. Tozer

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But the small band prayed on determinedly, unmoved by the theories and theologies of man. The woman did not attend these initial despised meetings because of the reproach. Soon they were holding cottage meetings until no cottage was big enough. Also they held open-air meetings. And so slowly and quietly the work of God was carried on. James McQuilkin came forth in the midst of the revival as a most powerful preacher, later in 1859 he would travel to other towns to preach in churches and the open-air to great crowds and seeing a beautiful harvest.



#### **Faithful Minister**

Rev. Hamilton Moore who was the minister since 1840 of the local Presbyterian Church in Connor to which most of these men belonged encouraged these prayer meetings. His own preaching was simple, direct, lacking great eloquence but certainly having spiritual power in the conversion of sinners. He preached both the terrors of the Lord against sin as well as the mercy of God towards sinners. He preached hell as well as heaven, his was not half a message as most today. His grasp of Gods truth was full and solid, his voice loud and clear, his heart soft and warm. He never talked about numbers but only the souls of men. He sought not after ministry or fame but to honour God and reach hearts. He was destined to be a leading light in this forward Movement of God in the land. His local efforts to stir his people to prayer over previous years seemed almost futile. Its lowest point was reached when only two could be found attending regular united prayer.

But then came the stirring. The prayer meeting was full, other new ones were started, the people realised a hunger for prayer and the power of prayer as lives were changed. Reports of a stirring in this area began to spread and so that same year at the General Assembly he was asked to bring a report to the other ministers of this work of the Spirit of God. At the same time reports were being received from America that a great stirring was taking place there. The Assembly appointed two ministers, Dr. William Gibson and Rev. William McClure to go to America and to report back. Amazingly it had also started there in September 1857 with one man then a few then many praying for revival. This did not begin with preachers but the normal rank and file of believers most of whom were business men. By this time there were 12'000 men praying in New York City for a move of God. Reports came about ministers who had laboured long and hard without results now having packed congregations and prayer meetings. Believers in Ulster did not flood to America for a blessing but turned to God in prayer.

Over into 59 saw the church in Connor leading the way as a testimony to Gods Mighty Reviving work. Now there were some 100 separate prayer meetings a week, these were held in homes, barns, schoolrooms and work places. These were mostly run by normal church members, one being a butcher who was only saved two years before and was now on fire for God. Another prayer meeting was held in a mill made up of about 500 people with the preachers at it being local farmers. The church was never empty and the 1000 families that made up the church were seeking God, and souls were being saved on every side. The meetings were solemn, the people earnest with many being moved to tears. This was Revival.

#### **National Revival**

The revival spread out across the whole land family by family, village by village, and town by town. Within weeks 10'000 were converted. When this Revival hit Ballymena it was dramatic and sudden. One minister who was away for only two days from the town returned to find a great stir. Many families had not gone to bed for two or three days. Everything seemed at a standstill and the noise of people crying for mercy or the singing of praise came from many homes night and day. One Minister said that "The difficulty used to be to get the people into the church, but the difficulty now is to get them out." Large open air meetings were held everywhere. God was raising up a humble army of new converts ablaze with His Spirit to witness again to Christ's resurrection.

In Londonderry a daily prayer meeting of 5'000 was held and at least several meetings daily. In Coleraine united meetings of Churchmen, Presbyterians, Methodists, Independents and Baptists were held, working together with one heart and soul. One said of this place "For the last three weeks it has been one continual Pentecost." Almost every street in Belfast brought forth repentant sinners. The most notorious sinners, drunkards and prostitutes in the city were saved. Large open air meetings of about 25'000 were held.

A couple of the great Evangelists used at this time were H.G. Guinness and Brownlow North of Scotland. One unusual physical manifestation was the prostrations, when men and women, sometimes as great multitudes, would be struck down under the conviction and power of God crying out in agony of soul and would rise up again born of the Spirit, redeemed and forgiven. ... The testimonies of the reaper overtaking the sower in the towns of Ulster would need a great volume but this is a partial witness of Gods great visitation in that year of grace to just a few places.



The life changing and society changing results were very evident. A great blow came to the drinking houses of the land as drunkards were convicted and saved. Even whole distilleries were closed. Crime dropped by half within months as the land came under the influences of Gods workings. The Catholic Church sold Holy Water to protect their people from this strange work or as they called it a "revival devil...new work of the devil...an alarming contagious disease." But they did warn their people that even this holy water could not protect them if they dared to venture into any of these meetings. ... Reliable eyewitnesses testified that more Catholics were converted in 1859 than in the previous 50 years.

The Revival of 1859 brought 100'000 converts into the churches across the land. One minister said "It were worth living ten thousand ages in obscurity and reproach to be permitted to engage in the glorious work of the last six months of 1859." Opposers of the Revival called it "The Year of Delusion" and "a corrupt revival." Wales also saw 100'000 converts added to the church (one tenth of the total population). In Scotland a harvest of 300'000 souls came in. Then in England a greater harvest still. Across Britain God raised up out of this harvest soul winners, evangelists and missionaries to carry forth the Gospel both at home and abroad.



*Please Lord, Do it again...*

## The Devil's drink



There probably has never been a franker advertisement in the world than that which was made by one James M. Lawrence, who opened "The Naked Truth Saloon" in Boise, Idaho on February 24, 1886, and who ran an advertisement in the Boise Democrat of that date as follows:

"Friends and Neighbors: Having just opened a commodious shop for the sale of liquid fire, I embrace this opportunity of informing you that I have commenced the business of making drunkards, paupers and beggars for the sober, industrious and respectable portion of the community to support. I shall deal in family spirits which will incite men to deeds of riots, robbery and bloodshed, and by so doing diminish the comfort, augment the expenses, and endanger the welfare of the community.

I will on short notice, for a sum, and with great expectations, undertake to prepare victims for the asylums, poor farms, prisons and gallows.

I will furnish and article that will increase accidents, multiply the number of distressing diseases and render those who are harmless incurables.

I will deal in drugs which will deprive some of life, many of reason, most of property, and all of their peace, which will cause fathers to become fiends and wives widows and children to become orphans and all mendicants.

I will cause many of the rising generation to grow up in ignorance and prove a burden and a nuisance to the nation. I will cause mothers to forget their offsprings, and cruelty to take the place of love.

I will sometimes corrupt the ministers of religion, define the purity of the Church, and cause temporary spiritual and eternal death; and if any be so impertinent as to ask me why I have the audacity to bring such accumulated misery upon the people, my honest reply is Money. The spirit trade is lucrative, and some professing Christians give their cheerful countenance.

From the U.S. government I have purchased the right to demolish the character, destroy the health, and shorten the lives and ruin the souls of those who choose to honor me with their custom.

I pledge myself to do all that I have promised. Those who wish any of the evils before specified brought upon themselves or their dear friends, are requested to meet me at my bar where I will for a few cents furnish them with the certain means of doing so."

"Apart from the mighty endowment of the Spirit of Pentecost, all our Gospel services will be in vain. The natural, unregenerate man cannot comprehend the things of the Spirit. His darkened mind can only be enlightened by the divine intervention of God, the Holy Ghost. He cannot be argued, fascinated, bullied or enthused into accepting Christ as Savior. It is not enough that we clearly expound the Gospel. It must be given in the demonstration and power of the Spirit and then applied by Him." - **J. A. Stewart**

*"The Flesh" is a man who lives and works, inwardly and outwardly, in the service of the flesh's profit and of this temporal life; "the Spirit" is the man who lives and works, inwardly and outwardly, in the service of the Spirit and the future life.*

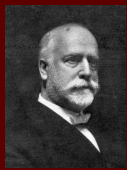
- Martin Luther (Preface to Romans)

## Notes from the Hebrides Revival - Donald: The Boy Who Prayed

Among those converted the following night was a fifteen-year-old boy who became an outstanding helper in the revival. This lad became a "frontline" prayer-warrior. Duncan called at his home one day and found him on his knees in the barn with the Bible open before him. When interrupted he quietly said: "Excuse me a little, Mr. Campbell, I'm having an audience with the King." Some of the most vivid outpourings of the Spirit during the revival came when he was asked to pray. In the police station in Barvas he stood up one night, simply clasped his hands together, and uttered one word - "Father." Everyone was melted to tears as the Presence of God invaded the house. In Callenish, he prayed until the power of God laid hold on those who were dead in sins transforming them into living stones in the Church of Jesus Christ. But the most outstanding example of God's anointing upon him was in Bernera, a small island off the coast of Lewis. Duncan was assisting at a Communion service; the atmosphere was heavy and preaching difficult, so he sent to Barvas for some of the men to come and assist in prayer. They prayed, but the spiritual bondage persisted, so much so that half way through his address Duncan stopped preaching. Just then he noticed this boy, visibly moved, under deep burden for souls. He thought: "That boy is in touch with God and living nearer to the Saviour than I am." So leaning over the pulpit he said: "Donald, will you lead us in prayer?" The lad rose to his feet and in his prayer made reference to the fourth chapter of Revelation, which he had been reading that morning: "Oh God, I seem to be gazing through the open door. I see the Lamb in the midst of the Throne, with the keys of death and of hell at His girdle." He began to sob; then lifting his eyes toward heaven, cried: "O God, there is power there, let it loose!" With the force of a hurricane the Spirit of God swept into the building and the floodgates of heaven opened. The church resembled a battlefield. On one side many were prostrated over the seats weeping and sighing; on the other side some were affected by throwing their arms in the air in a rigid posture. God had come!



## Never a Revival Without Mighty Praying - R. A. Torrey



Prayer will do more to bring a deep and lasting and sweeping revival, a revival that is real and lasting and altogether of the right sort, than all the organizations that were ever devised by man. The history of the Church of Jesus Christ on earth has been largely a history of revivals. When you read many of the Church histories that have been written, the impression that you naturally get is that the history of the Church of Jesus Christ here on earth has been very largely a history of misunderstandings, disputes, doctrinal differences and bitter conflicts. But if you will study the history of the living Church, you will find it has been very largely a history of revivals. Humanly speaking the Church of Jesus Christ owes its very existence today to revivals. many times the Church has seemed to be on the verge of utter shipwreck, but just then God has sent a great revival and saved it.

Every real revival in the Church has been the child of prayer. There have been revivals without much preaching; there have been revivals with absolutely no organization; but there has never been a mighty revival without mighty praying.

What we need more than anything else today in our own land and in all lands, is a real, mighty outpouring of the Spirit of God. The most fundamental trouble with most of our present-day so-called revivals is, that they are man-made and not God-sent. They are worked up by man's cunningly devised machinery-not prayed down. Oh, for an old-time revival, a revival that is really and not spuriously of the Pentecostal pattern, for that revival was born of a fourteen days' prayer-meeting. But let us not merely sigh for it. Let us cry for it, cry to God, cry long and cry loud if need be, and then it will surely come!...

