Desiring Revivas

A burning desire for the Revival of our Nation

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"Jesus did not come to make bad men good, He came to make Dead men Live."

- Leonard Ravenhill

The Doctrine of Repentance

"There are men in hell because they wasted too much time in trying to find out where Cain got his wife" - Billy Sunday

"The Church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men. 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."

- E. M. Bounds



The cost of knowing God has always been the same. One cannot attain any spiritual depth with carnal methods, nor with shallow and half hearted seasons of seeking after God. Sometimes people have a vague sense of desire that they need God to revive them, or for the anointing of God; but there is no depth in letting those desires manifest itself in longing after God, to fast and pray, to make changes to their lives and discipline themselves to be able to spend time with God on a consistent basis

It is the same with revival. Sometimes you hear in the pulpit that we need to pray for the revival of our nation and it ends there. There is no burden that those statements are followed by an action to call the Church for prayer, to come on Friday nights and pray for revival, to have a proper vision on what revival really means, and what the ask is. With this vagueness we can ease our conscience that at least we are asking God for revival, but in eternity it will not stand the fire of God who will not only will judge our works according to truth, but also our motives on why we prayed or not prayed for revival.

Time in history - Charles G. Finney



Charles G. Finney ministry was largely conducted in local revival campaigns in New York State in the years of 1824-1832. They were in small towns by today's standards, most being less than a

thousand in population. The Revival in Rochester in 1842 was the exception. In a population of 10,000 people, around 1,200 were converted, mostly from the educated classes. The character of the entire town changed and forty of the converts became ministers of the gospel.

Can God send revival? Yes, but not at our convenience and schedules. Revival always comes with a price tag. There is not other way. Either pay the price for revival or continue to live your mediocre and powerless Christian religion.

Focus on Ministry - Sunday School -

Probably the most influential ministry among Children in our day and age is the Sunday School Ministry. A man greatly used of God, D. L. Moody was led to Christ by his Sunday school teacher Mr. Kimball. Many children who come into the doors of this ministry learn of Christ for the very first time. Many have never heard the Gospel.

Moody recalls "I used to attend a Sunday school class, and one day I recollect my teacher came around behind the counter of the shop I was at work in, and put his hand upon my shoulder, and talked to me about Christ and my soul. I had not felt that I had a soul till then. I said to myself This is a very strange thing. Here is a man who never saw me till lately, and he is weeping over my sins, and I never shed a tear about them.' But I understand it now, and know what it is to have a passion for men's souls and weep over their sins. I don't remember what he said, but I can feel the power of that man's hand on my shoulder tonight. It was not long after that I was brought into the Kingdom of God."

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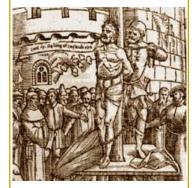
- Martin Luther

The Reformation began on October 31, 1517, when German monk Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the Castle Church door in Wittenberg,

Germany. When he was commanded to appear before Emperor Charles V to answer for his writings, Martin Luther gave this fearless reply: "I cannot submit my faith either to the Pope or to the Councils, because it is clear as day that they have frequently erred and contradicted each other. Unless therefore, I am convinced by the testimony of Scripture ... I cannot and will not retract ... Here I stand, I can do no other. So help me God." Amen."

A Trial of Faith

"Don't let your Salvation be a Theory, Let it go to Work" - Lester Roloff



William Tyndale before he was strangled and burnt at the stake in 1536 said "Oh Lord, open the King of England's eyes"

And can it be that I should gain, An interest in the Savior's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain. For me, who Him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be, That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amazing love! How can it be,That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? - Charles Wesley

Our God's Fingerprint

Eyes are the most complex organs you possess except for your brain. Eyes are composed of more than two million working parts. Eyes can process 36,000 bits of information every hour. Under the right conditions, can discern the light of a candle at a distance of 14 miles. Can instantaneously set in motion hundreds of muscles and organs in your body. The external muscles that move the eyes are the strongest muscles in the human body.

Men of Fire - Herces of the Faith

Who are these Men of Fire? Why did God use them? Can God use someone today the same way in this day and time as He did in times of past? These are some questions that may arise in our thoughts when we see the lives of these Men of Faith such as Moody, Finney or Booth, and God's power on their lives. But God always has a pattern for His servants. As we read through the lives of these Men or others who were mightily used of God, we see God's clear hand on their lives. But at some point of time in their lives they made some changes in that they presented themselves as clean vessels to God Almighty. This is what God desires. D.L. Moody said "God doesn't seek for golden vessels, and does not ask for silver ones, but He must have clean ones." I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. - Romans 12:1

We see in the Bible how God mightily used Elijah who the Bible says was a man of like passions and yet he prayed and God sent fire from heaven and consumed the sacrifice. God also used him to stop the rain for a space of more than 3 years as a Judgment from God. "Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months." - James 5:17. Some of God's requirements can be seen through the Bible and when we pay the full price for being a tool of God then God can use us in ways that are impossible to man's eyes.

1. Availability

God can use his children in ways that seem mysterious at times but ultimately fulfilling the great commission to preach the gospel for the salvation of souls. Many times people are looking for God to ask for something great but the first simple requirement is availability. Can God depend of you to be available at any time that He wants to use you? Many a vessels have been made unfit because while they were willing in other areas of their lives they were not simply available at any time that God wanted to use them. Maybe they have an agenda saying God use me I am available as long as I get Saturdays off. I have other things planned out for that day and I cannot serve God that day. That shows an unsurrendered life. We are willing as long as it is within the boundaries of our conditions. We need to be available on God's conditions.

Availability is not based on our Timetable but one God's timetable. God has to be the priority in our lives before He can use us. He must increase and we must decrease "And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence." - Colossians 1:18. God should have all the preeminence, He should be the first priority in our lives, not your family, your wife, your money, your job, your kids, your parents, nothing... BUT GOD. Are you willing to be available on God's timetable? Availability is not a time / place factor, but a heart factor. Availability is not tied down with time where there is a particular time I can work within one's boundary. Availability is also not based on a place. If God calls you to work in the Bus Ministry then great, But if he calls you to be a missionary in Africa among the tribes without proper transportation, danger of war, no proper shelter and so on, then what will your response be? You should be as willing as working on a Bus route as working in the jungles of Africa like David Livingston. Also the safest place you can be is being in the center of God's will. Are you available for God to use you?

2. Accountability

Every time God called someone He requires them to be accountable. They will bear in their bosom the burden that they have to answer to God for their area of service that God has called them to. It maybe in the area of sweeping the floor in the church or preaching the gospel to a thousand. With accountability also comes truth. You are accountable for the truth as much as lies. If you preach the truth, God will honor that and use you but if you live a lie then God will pull you down. God cannot choose a man to preach the gospel and compromise the truth or preach a false gospel and teach a lie. We cannot have God having part truth but also allowing lies to be practiced. "For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee." - Psalms 5:4. God does not take pleasure in wickedness and God cannot have sin with holiness

This is the gospel message that because of man's sin we cannot enter into His presence, so Christ died on the cross to pay the price to redeem us unto Himself. People who reject it will be cast into a devil's Hell. If we want God to use us we need to be able to preach the gospel without any compromise. We need to preach the truth in love. Just as everyone likes to hear about Heaven we also need to warn about Hell. So we need to be accountable to God for the whole counsel of God's word. Then God can use us.

3. Accessibility

One of the greatest enemy of the believer is self. The sin nature that lives within us and war's against the Spirit of God, which has been given to us at the time of salvation. One of the greatest tool of this enemy is pride. If we are going to be used of God in any way, we need to be accessible to others as a servant of God. We need to kill this enemy 'pride' daily. We need to die to self because God says that He does not honor a prideful person. "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble." - James 4:6. We all need God's grace to be used of Him because only He can do the work through us. So we need to be humble, then God will lift us up. When God does a mighty work through us we should always have the mindset 'to God be the glory great things He hath done'. Accessibility also means that we do not do the work of God for money. God will provide all our needs as He has promised. "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19. Our total dependence has to be on Him alone. We should be willing to be used of God working in a poor slum as well as in the richest church in town. We should not have the impression that we can do something for God only if it involves certain financial gain or if recognized in a certain way etc... God will not use us if we are making merchandise of His calling. Are we accessible to others, can others come to us for a small need or for a great request? Just be faithful to God and He will take care of you and

Continued ...

use you for His glory.

WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR AMERICA YOU SAY?





Asleep on the Tracks

A preacher once said to a group: "One day I came upon a drunken man asleep on the railway tracks and the express was due. What would you have done?" Each answered quickly, "I would have dragged him off the track in a hurry!" "Well," said the preacher, "that is the state of every unsaved person in the world asleep on the tracks and God's Judgment Express almost due." Are you doing anything about your friends who are "asleep on the tracks"? - From *Hi Call*



<u>Finishing the Course</u>

"If this is death, there is no valley. This is glorious. I have been within the gates and I saw the children, Dwight and Irene" (his two grandchildren who had died). "Earth

is receding. Heaven is approaching. God is calling me." - **Dwight L. Moody at his Death**

A Trial of Faith

"Some want to live within the sound of church or chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell" - **C.T. Studd**



Men of Fire - Heroes of the Faith

Continued ...

4. Authentic

God's work requires a lot of preparation and dedication just like anything in life. If you want God to use you, you need to have the right kind of preparation, whether for preaching or for studying the Word of God and dedication where we are totally dependent on the master.

But above all we need God's power to rest upon our lives. Holy unction from above has to be on us for God to move mountains and split valleys. A person to be used of God must have a personal relationship with the Father through Jesus Christ. So we need true salvation. Many times we see many so called professing Christians are really not Christians because they have not had the regeneration of the Holy Spirit done on their lives. Salvation is the foundation for God to work, God cannot work using unbelievers as a general pattern.

Just as salvation must be real, faith in God must be real. Are we willing to ask by faith, believing that God will bring His promise true? Are we willing to lay our lives on the line for the cause of Christ. One has to be authentic in-season and out-of-season to be greatly used of God. A counterfeit is a wolf in sheep's clothing who seeks to destroy, and God cannot use him. He or She should also have a genuine heart for the lost. We should come to God with a broken and a contrite heart for God to hear. "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise." - Psalms 51:17 Ask God for a tender heart to weep for sinners, to weep for our nation for revival, to seek God's face for our loved one's for salvation. When we don't do it for a show so that other's can see it, but rather seek God secretly in a closet then God will reward openly.

Also there has to be an authentic filling of the Holy Spirit, the power from above. In Acts 2 we see the disciples being definitively filled with the Holy Spirit. This does not mean that one does not receive the Holy Spirit in salvation, because in John 20:22 the disciples already received the Holy Spirit "And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:" - John 20:22. Everyone who gets saved receives the Holy Spirit at the time of salvation. This filling simply means that God empowered them with His power to fulfill the great commission, to preach the Gospel. Also God during Pentecost empowered them to speak in many

known languages. These languages were spoken by other nationalities and we call this the gift of tongues. If we carefully study the word of God, tongues was a known language that was given to preach the Gospel in other countries when they did not have the means to learn their languages in the period that the Gospel was to be propagated. So we need to seek God for the power from above to rest upon our lives for God to use us.

May GOD give some Christians who are authentic, with unction from above and a burden in their heart.

5. Active

Finally, God does not use lazy people. God needs real men and women to shake this world upside down. Paul in the Bible was shipwrecked, beaten, stoned, put in prison, and so on for the cause of Christ, he was not sitting still waiting for God to do everything. He trusted God in all he did, but also he did what God commanded him to do. Are you willing to wake up early in the morning to seek God's face in prayer, to get a hold of the throne of grace? Are you willing to spend your time reading the Bible, meditating on it, studying it and seeking God's with the guidance of the Holy Spirit?

This also means that we submit ourselves to God completely. We need to be active for God and depend on Him fully. Christ said that without Him we can do nothing. "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." John 15:5. We need to realize that as we work for Him and do our part, that victory only comes from Him. We need to be waiting on the Lord to reveal His will for our lives and do it. This does not mean that we sit idle till God's shows us the way. We already know many of God's will for our lives like witnessing, holy living, keeping ourselves pure, being faithful to God's house and so on... so while doing those revealed commands we need to be waiting on God to speak to our hearts on any definitive direction that we are seeking Him for. Let us not be weary in well doing but be busy for the Lord with a cheerful heart counting it a privilege to work for the Master.

There are many more characteristics that we can see in these heroes of the faith but God is seeking some men and woman who have what it takes to be a giant for God (2 Chronicles 16:9a). Will you be a hero of the faith for this generation?

"Perhaps the greatest barrier to revival on a large scale is the fact that we are too interested in a great display. We want an exhibition; God is looking for a man who will throw himself entirely on God. Whenever self-effort, self-glory, seeking or self-promotion enters into the work of revival, then God leaves us to ourselves." - Ted S. Rendall

Depend on it! God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply.

There is a living God. He has spoken in the Bible. He means what He has says

and will do all He has promised.

- J. Hudson Taylor

Prosperity is the enemy of Revival. The poor soul looks to God for mercy while the self-satisfied has no need or desire for God. Worldly wise but spiritually bankrupt.

Shallow Christianity

Has Hell changed the perspective of life and souls around you? Has the reality of Hell took you to your knees in prayer and tears or is unbelief the reason for your spiritual barrenness and indifference. Does a lost Hell bound sinner in a pagen land have

Hell-bound sinner in a pagan land have more zeal and fervor than you?

Do you really believe in a literal burning HELL?

The GREAT Danger

"In answer to your inquiry, I consider that the chief dangers which confront the coming century will be religion without the Holy Ghost, Christianity without Christ, forgiveness without repentance, salvation without regeneration, politics without God, and heaven without hell."

- William Booth

Paying the price for a nationwide Revival

A right reverence to GOD "God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him." - Psalm 89:7

A broken heart over lost souls and a broken nation "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise." - Psalm 51:17

Weeping before God for revival "Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar" - *Joel 2:17a*

Waiting on GOD in prayer "Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD." - Psalm 27:14

True holiness "For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness." - 1 Thessalonians 4:7



America's king and queen

Sports and Entertainment



"I sought for the greatness of America in her harbors and rivers and fertile fields, and her mines and commerce. It was not there. Not until I went into the churches and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the greatness of her power. America is great because she is good; and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great." - Alexis De Tocqueville (1805-1959)



"The time factor in prayer is very important. In the exercise of prayer God is not tied to our clocks. Neither is He at the other end of the phone to receive and answer our two-minute calls. It takes time to know the mind of God, to shut out the material things of earth and to be wholly abandoned." - Hugh C. C. McCullough

"Whole days and weeks have I spent prostrate on the ground in silent or vocal prayer." - George Whitefield

Revival defined - Duncan Campbell

First, let me tell you what I mean by revival. An evangelistic campaign or special meeting is not revival. In a successful evangelistic campaign or crusade, there will be hundreds or even thousands of people making decisions for Jesus Christ, but the community remains untouched, and the churches continue much the same as before the outreach. In revival, God moves in the district. Suddenly, the community becomes God conscious. The Spirit of God grips men and women in such a way that even work is given up as people give themselves to waiting upon God. In the midst of the Lewis Awakening, the parish minister at Barvas wrote, "The Spirit of the Lord was resting wonderfully on the

different townships of the region. His Presence was in the homes of the people, on meadow and

moorland, and even on the public roads." This presence of God is the supreme characteristic of a God-sent revival. Of the hundreds who found Jesus Christ during this time, seventy-five per cent were saved before they came near a meeting or heard a sermon by myself or any other ministers in the parish. The power of God, the Spirit of God, was moving in operation, and the fear of God gripped the souls of men - this is God-sent revival as distinct from special efforts in the field of evangelism.

Denying the Truth cannot negate the fact that Truth exists. Opinions may change but Truth cannot change or it ceases to be Truth. Sincerity cannot override Truth for one can be Sincerely wrong.

A Quote to Ponder

I am only a wick... It is only when the wick is soaked in oil that it can burn... If people begin to talk about the wick, there is generally something wrong with the burning. - D. H. Dolman

