

Desiring Revival

A burning desire for the Revival of our Nation



From Desiring Revival,

Dear brethren, as we step into another year, we are reminded of the fleeting nature of time. We desperately need to have a heaven sent, Holy Ghost revival. We simply cannot exist as we are without God's power manifested in seeing communities changed for God. All we know about revival is a week of meetings. How can we pass the torch to the next generation? We have seen rockets sent to space, snapchat's and facebook, but we have never seen a community affected by God such that the fear of God grips the community and the terror of the Lord is upon the people.

How can we quote scriptures such as "greater works than these shall he do;" and yet not see the truth of those scriptures manifested among us; but still go on as if everything is ok. How long are we planning to come to Church and leave the same way year after year with no awe of having met God, or leaving in silence lest we disturb the moving of the Spirit. Could we beg God for 2017 to be the year of revival? Are you willing to pay the price to start a prayer meeting in your community every Friday night from 7:00 PM to wait upon God, sing hymns and pray for revival? Unless we take drastic measures, pay the price of intercession, nothing is going to happen!

Psalm 85:16



A Quote to Ponder!!!

God's program for reviving His people is definite and clear. First Elijah repaired the altar of Jehovah that was thrown down. That is the place to begin. All the ruin that sin has wrought must be cleared away by confession. Things must be made right with God; restitution must be made where it is due. Unless this is done definitely and thoroughly, prayer for reviving is vain. Too many are praying today without repairing the altar by confession of sin, without digging a trench of separation from the world and without a surrender that is even unto death. No wonder such prayer is fruitless.

- Andrew Gih

Let your life be by His Grace and for His Glory (Rev 4:11)

Heroes of the Faith

Not many women have their faith tested like Sabina Wurmbbrand. Her husband, Pastor Richard Wurmbbrand, was imprisoned and tortured for his faith for fourteen years. Many times the communists told her, "Divorce him, he is dead". But Sabina listened to the still small voice of God, knowing her husband was alive. During that time, Sabina selflessly helped other Believers of the Underground Church they had started together while struggling hard for her own and her little son's survival. Sabina was subjected to



unbelievable hardships and suffering. The Nazi's murdered her parents, 4 siblings, and 5 adopted children, yet she never became bitter or resentful but continued to show love to all. Sabina never relented in her endeavors to continue the work her husband had begun, to unite the Underground Church. Living in daily fear of discovery, her faith was tested to the limit and held firm to her love of the God of Israel. She herself was arrested for subversive evangelism in 1948 in Romania and spent three years as a slave laborer on the never completed Danube Canal. Nevertheless, she survived to tell her story.





Today I ask you a question, "Have you been filled with the Spirit?" There is a plain command of God in Ephesians 5:18, "Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit." Acts, chapter 19, tells us that Paul came to Ephesus. There were some men there who had been converted; Apollos had preached there and they had been converted and baptized. Paul said unto them, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" They said, "We don't know about the Holy Spirit." They had been converted but had not been taught on that. And they needed to be filled with the Spirit. So Paul said, "When you were baptized, did you understand this to be the death of the old man, and that you now set out to live a new life in the power of God?" They did not understand that. So they were baptized again and were filled with the Spirit of God. And I am sure they set out to witness for Him.

1. Normal New Testament Christians Were Spirit-Filled

Now I ask you the question: "Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed?" If it was right for Paul to ask it, it is right for me to ask it, also. In New Testament times, it was a normal thing for Christians to be filled with the Spirit. In the first chapter of Luke, we find that John the Baptist was filled with the Holy Ghost even from his mother's womb. Elisabeth, the wife of Zacharias, who was to be the mother of John the Baptist, was filled with the Spirit and witnessed for Christ. After John was born, the father, Zacharias, was filled with the Spirit. Jesus, before He began His ministry, came to be baptized of John in the Jordan River and was baptized, and praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Ghost came upon Him in form like a dove and He began His ministry (Luke 3:21,22). He had never before preached a sermon, never worked a miracle, never won a soul. He lived a perfect, sinless life; but now He was filled with the Spirit. We find that as they come before Pentecost, Jesus told the disciples, "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high" (Luke 24:49).

In Acts 1:4,5,8, we read: "And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. (They said, 'You are talking about the second coming?' Jesus said, 'No.') But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Now there is just one Holy Spirit but there are many ministries of the Spirit. To convict is one of His works. Then when the sinner repents, is born again, that is the regeneration work of the Spirit. Then the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in the Christian. He is called the Comforter. He can guide us into truth. He is a Prayer-Helper. We know not what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit prays for us in groanings which cannot be uttered. The blessed Holy Spirit has many, many ministries, now living in the body of a Christian.



But there is one additional ministry, the greatest of all after salvation, and that is that now a Christian can be filled with the Spirit for Holy Spirit power, witnessing power. I have already discussed the matter of the Holy Spirit as a Person who now dwells in the body of every Christian, since the day Jesus rose from the dead. I told you that His wonderful work in the Christian means that He is the Comforter, He is a Guide, He is a Reminder of the will of God. He helps us to pray, He gives certain gifts of the Spirit to all Christians in some measure or other. Yet there is one additional matter: He comes to fill us with Holy Spirit power. Here is a direct command from God: "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit."

2. An Enduement of Power for Soul Winner

Now what does this fullness of the Spirit mean? It means to be endued with power from on high. That is what Jesus said in Luke 24:46-49. Listen carefully.

"... And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." A Christian ought to have the power of the Holy Spirit, and can have it, to witness for Jesus. We are not talking about some joy, nor about some sign, nor about various gifts of the Spirit. We are talking about the Spirit Himself who comes in fullness, and it is called "endued with power from on high." That is exactly what the Lord said again in Acts 1:8: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Now where? What is to come? You are to receive power for witnessing. Notice that, power for witnessing. The Lord didn't say, "Stay until God starts the church." He didn't say, "Tarry here until you get to talking in tongues." He didn't say, "Stay here until you are sanctified." He said, "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." A Christian needs an enduement of power to witness for Jesus.

As Mr. D. L. Moody said so well, "It is foolish to try to do God's work without God's power." It is foolish to try to work miraculous, wonderful works of God without the power of God. So a Christian needs an enduement of power from on High. You may say that wasn't the way you heard it. Then you had better come back to the Bible, because God is going to hold you accountable as to whether you obey the command, "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit."

to be continued...

Some Intercessors of the Hebrides Revival of 1949

Off the west coast of Scotland is a small group of islands called the Hebrides. Between 1949 and 1952 a wide spread revival swept through these islands in answer to the prayers of God's people. Instrumental in this revival was the evangelist Duncan Campbell. He came to the Isle of Lewis to conduct a two week evangelistic campaign and ended up staying two years. The following accounts are testimonies of the power of intercessory prayer during this mighty move of God.



Peggy & Christine Smith: They Prayed A Promise

In a small cottage by the roadside in the village of Barvas lived two elderly women, Peggy and Christine Smith. They were eighty-four and eighty-two years old. Peggy was blind and her sister almost bent double with arthritis. Unable to attend public worship, their humble cottage became a sanctuary where they met with God. To them came the promise: "I will pour water upon him that is thirsty and floods upon the dry ground," they pleaded this day and night in prayer. One night Peggy had a revelation, revival was coming and the church of her fathers would be crowded again with young people! She sent for the minister, the Rev. James Murray MacKay, and told him what God had shown her, asking him to call his elders and deacons together for special times of waiting upon God. In the same district a group of men praying in a barn experienced a foretaste of coming blessing. One night as they waited upon God a young deacon rose and read part of the twenty-fourth Psalm: "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord." Turning to the others he said: "Brethren, it seems to me just so much humbug to be waiting and praying as we are, if we ourselves are not rightly related to God." Then lifting his hands toward heaven he cried: "Oh God, are my hands clean? Is my heart pure?" He got no further, but fell prostrate to the floor. An awareness of God filled the barn and a stream of supernatural power was let loose in their lives. They had moved into a new sphere of God realization, believing implicitly in the promise of revival.

But before leaving Peggy and her sister, another story must be told which further illustrates the holy intimacy of this woman with her Lord. When the movement was at its height Peggy sent for Duncan, asking him to go to a small, isolated village to hold a meeting. The people of this village did not favor the revival and had already made clear their policy of noninvolvement. Duncan explained the situation to Peggy and told her that he questioned the wisdom of her request. "Besides," he added, "I have no leadings to go to that place." She turned in the direction of his voice, her sightless eyes seemed to penetrate his soul. "Mr. Campbell, if you were living as near to God as you ought to be, He would reveal His secrets to you also." Duncan felt like a subordinate being reprimanded for defying his general. He humbly accepted the rebuke as from the Lord, and asked if he and Mr. MacKay could spend the morning in prayer with them. She agreed, and later as they knelt together in the cottage, Peggy prayed: "Lord, You remember what You told me this morning, that in this village You are going to save seven men who will become pillars in the church of my fathers. Lord, I have given Your message to Mr. Campbell and it seems he is not prepared to receive it. Oh Lord, give him wisdom, because he badly needs it!" "All right, Peggy, I'll go to the village," said Duncan when they had finished praying. She replied, "You'd better!" "And God will give you a congregation." Arriving in the village at seven o'clock they found a large bungalow crowded to capacity with many assembled outside. Duncan gave out his text: "The times of this ignorance God winked at, but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent." When he had finished preaching, a minister beckoned him to the end of the house to speak again to a number of people who were mourning over their sins - among them, Peggy's seven men!

John: He Challenged God in Prayer

Opposition to the revival was being raised in other parts of the island. An evening was given to waiting upon God in the home of an elder. Around midnight Duncan turned to the local blacksmith: "John, I feel the time has come for you to pray." With his cap in his hand John rose to pray, and in the middle of his prayer he paused, raised his right hand to heaven, and said: "Oh God, You made a promise to pour water upon him that is thirsty and floods upon the dry ground, and, Lord, it's not happening." He paused again and then continued: "Lord, I don't know how the others here stand in Your presence; I don't know how the ministers stand, but, Lord, if I know anything about my own heart I stand before Thee as an empty vessel, thirsting for Thee and for a manifestation of Thy power." He halted again and after a moment of tense silence cried: "Oh God, Your honor is at stake, and I now challenge You to fulfil your covenant engagement and do what you have promised to do." Many who were present witnessed that at that moment the house shook. Dishes rattled in the sideboard, as wave after wave of Divine power swept through the building. A minister standing beside Duncan turned and said: "Mr. Campbell, an earth tremor!" But Duncan's mind, however, was in the fourth chapter of Acts, where the early Christians were gathered in prayer and, we read: "When they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost."





David Hume, who was a Deist, didn't believe in any inspiration or revelation or the Son of God or in the Bible. About five o'clock one morning, he was going down the street in London. He came around the corner and went straight into the hands of another man who said, "Why aren't you David Hume?"

"Yes."

"Where are you at this early hour?"

"I'm going to hear George Whitfield preach," replied Hume.

"You don't believe a word Whitfield preaches," said the man.

"No," Hume answered, "but he does!"

Repentance and Salvation - C. H. Spurgeon

"Just now some professedly Christian teachers are misleading many by saying that 'repentance is only a change of mind.' It is true that the original word does convey the idea of a change of mind; but the whole teaching of Scripture concerning the repentance which is not to be repented of is that it is a much more radical and complete change than is implied by our common phrase about changing one's mind. The repentance that does not include sincere sorrow for sin is not the saving grace that is wrought by the Holy Spirit. God-given repentance makes men grieve in their inmost souls over the sin they have committed, and works in them a gracious hatred of evil in every shape and form. We cannot find a better definition of repentance than the one many of us learned at our mother's knee: 'Repentance is to leave the sin we loved before, and show that we in earnest grieve by doing so no more'"

The 1859 Ulster Revival - by Keith Malcomson

Edwin Orr noted that this Revival made a greater impact on Ireland than anything known since Patrick brought Christianity there. Through the work of God in the hearts of four new converts who were moved to seek God in prayer, 100'000 souls came to Christ in one year. This is the extraordinary story of this stirring, reviving and outpouring of the Spirit of God that came to be known as 'The 1859 Ulster Revival.'

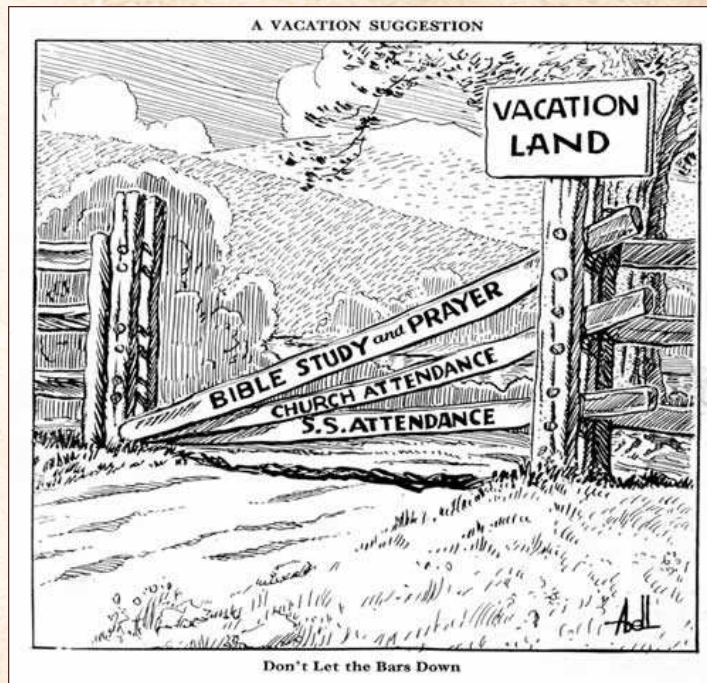
Before this Revival there was **little to encourage** genuine believers who had prayed and laboured hard for many years with little result or change to the spiritual condition. Many ministers were discouraged with a seeming fruitless ministry. This can well be seen by the experience of three such ministers.

"Hitherto, our condition was deplorable. The congregation seemed dead to God, formal, cold, prayerless, worldly, and stingy in religious things. Twice I tried a prayer-meeting of my elders, but failed; for after the fifth or sixth night I was left alone. All along I believed that the faithful use of the means of grace would be followed by their effects, as certainly as the tillage of a field is followed by a good crop, or as diligence in any profession is attended with success; and great was my disappointment, as year after year passed, yet still no fruit; no outpouring of the Spirit. I wondered and was grieved at what seemed so mysterious. What alarmed me most was the indisposition, almost hostility, of the people to meetings for prayer. They seemed mostly to think that they were well enough, and that I was unnecessarily disturbing them. I had never been so desponding or distressed as during the weeks immediately preceding the awakening. I had almost ceased to hope. I felt as if I was almost alone, no one mourning or praying with me; and I told my people I was appalled at their determination to have no prayer-meetings, and that we would not have a drop of the shower of grace which was going round, but would be left utterly reprobate."

Another reported "There seemed, great coldness and deadness. I had preached the gospel faithfully, earnestly, and plainly, for eleven years; yet it was not known to me that a single individual had been converted." And a third, "The congregation, was in a most unsatisfactory state; in fact, altogether Laodicean."

This paints a depressing and hopeless picture of the spiritual state of the land. Even amidst such darkness there was still those scattered across the land who prayed faithfully for a mighty work of the Holy Ghost. The famed Methodist preacher William Arthur wrote a book in 1856 called *The Tongue of Fire* about the true power of primitive Christianity. In its first three years it went through 18 re-printings which shows that there was a real hunger for true powerful New Testament Christianity.

to be continued...



A Quote to Ponder:

Prayer is pre-occupation with our needs; Praise is pre-occupation with our blessing; Worship is pre-occupation with God Himself. - L. Ravenhill



One thing that really crushes me is when I think that America has 500 evangelists and not one revivalist; not one that can shake a city. - Leonard Ravenhill