



DESIRING *Revival*

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From Desiring Revival

Tertullian is credited with the quote, "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church." Such were the times that the Church found herself to be the most vibrant in representing her Lord and Saviour. In the refiners fire is the metal made pure and the brightest of saints in God's kingdom shone during the darkest of night. The rich man who came to Christ was unwilling to let go of his god of gold, for it made him self-reliant. Prayer is the language of the poor and when the Church feels like she is rich, she never ventures to kneel work. Such work is hard for the flesh and demands sacrifice.

During the imprisonment of Richard Wrumbrand behind the Iron Curtain, at the beginning of his time in prison, Richard recounts how many of those who were put in prison had great regrets. Their life of ease would not afford them to go the extra mile in reaching a need, but when they found themselves under great oppression, what they were forced to do was much more demanding than where they would have stopped in freedom.

We are at a time of ease where the future of America seems to be in the apathy of what "we" were able to accomplish in electing a new President. In our willingness to compromise we have chosen the lesser of two evils. Now we can sit in our easy chair while singing the Hymn, "Marching to Zion." The true health of a Church is not determined by the financial abundance, decisions, or people thanking the Preacher for a great message. The true health of a Church is determined by, One: Eyes to see the coming Judgment and prepare for it. Do we really believe in a literal Hell that burns forever and ever? When was the last

time you heard a message on Hell, with a Preacher who wept as he preached? Two: Ears to discern the strange sounds. The Church, which is alive, is militant in its outlook of its commission. Doctrine and contending for the faith keeps the Bride pure. With the influx of good being called evil and the world in distress, the need is to declare the qualities of the Goat vs the Sheep. Third: The ability to produce life by the power of the Spirit, not just decisions. Life manifests itself by the dramatic change it makes, the ability of that early church to see God work where the only outcomes were Repentance, Revolt, or Revival that affected the community. Four: The Fear of God and the response to the holiness of God seen in the way we worship week after week, instead of the glib services that we are confronted with. Does one sense the magnitude of what it means to meet with God during our services, or do they come home after having a "good time?" Five: The active work of prayer is ingrained into the life of the Church. Any Church that operates without a dedicated weekly nights of corporate prayer is backslidden. This would be beyond our normal services, such as Friday nights from 9 pm until midnight or later.

We could call out more, but these are fundamental. From such a life comes zeal in outbursts of evangelism, sacrifice, tears, and such that would be seen. The Laodicean Church had everything going for them, but God, and God saw through it. I tremble for what lies ahead in 2025. Irrespective of fundamental, contemporary, Bible-believing, the need of our day is to repent. May God grant us favor to awaken us from our dead condition so that He alone may be glorified.



Why there is no Revival

Excerpts from a sermon by Al Whittinghill

Surely every honest person in the church of the Lord Jesus today must have a deep inner awareness that something is wrong! Isn't it true that there is an ominous sense of danger as one considers the Biblical characteristics of the New Testament church and then compares them to the state of the church in our day? Contradictions abound! We may try to cover this uneasiness in many ways - humor, amusement, busyness, keeping a positive attitude, distracting ourselves from acquiring the trinkets of time, new building programs, and creating successful religious organizations; but the symptoms of Divine displeasure saturate our nation on every level. There seems to be a rumor from the Lord that is letting His people get the sense of impending trouble if we do not have a serious change in the attitudes of our hearts. God is seeking to get the attention of the nation, beginning with His church. Will we not listen to Him before it is forever too late? Just think of what the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ would be like in our day if God had His way! No one wants revival in the church more than He Who died to purchase her and make her His very own precious, holy Bride!

10 reasons why we have no Revival

1. An attitude of wrong priorities: Revelation 2:4-5 makes it clear that the Lord desires that loving intimacy with HIM be the center of everything. Most people are so worn out by their work that they have nothing left for Jesus. Someone once said, "Most Americans worship their work, work at their play, and play at their worship." Some, who cannot bear a long worship service, feel cheated if the sports match is short.
2. An attitude of complacency: Complacency is our state when we are self-satisfied and have a casual approach to God. The church of Laodecia in Revelation 3:15-17 shows the attitude of those who become content in lukewarm living and become blinded to their true condition. Why do we need revival? After all, God is blessing us! Revival will come only to a desperate church, not a contented one.
3. An attitude of resignation: Some Christians say, If God wants to send revival, He will. This negates our responsibility as a church to seek His face! Others might say, We already have revival just claim it. This self-deceived approach hardly bears comment.
4. An attitude of prejudice, or misconceived notions about revival: We say that we are open to God, but we really mean as long as He works within our expectations or preconceived terms of reference. It must be traditional, respectable, and rational with no out-of-control display of emotions, (This might even be the same one who goes to the ball game and paints himself and shrieks for his team.) We want order! The mysterious, irrational, or supernatural has always tended to make the carnal mind nervous.
5. An attitude of loving comfortable truth: The Bible warns us that in the last days, men will have itching ears. It is a necessity that preachers NOT scratch them. Preach love to us not all that stuff about self-denial and suffering. "We don't want to offend anyone."
6. An attitude of the love of reputation: This really is just the fear of man or pride (see John 12:42-43 for a glimpse of it). We have a great fear of losing our dignity.
7. An attitude of ignorance of God's Word: Psalm 11:3 states, If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do? Hosea tells us that God's people are destroyed because of a lack of knowledge of God. Jesus said to the Pharisees in Mark 12:24, Do you not therefore err because you do not know the scriptures, neither the power of God? All throughout the Bible and history, revival has come only as God's people begin to take His word and His promises seriously. Search the scriptures, and let them search you!
8. An attitude of disunity: Factions in the body are proof of carnality. This grieves and quenches the Holy Spirit greatly. Discord is the very opposite of the one accord that we read of in the book of Acts that made her such a mighty vessel of God. Unforgiveness hidden in the church is like a bullet left in the body! Are we more concerned about our opinions and interests than we are about the honor of God?

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"The church is so subnormal,
if we became normal, it
would amaze us."
- Leonard Ravenhill



Regeneration

Jesus stated, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." - John 3:3. In religious America, where the Bible is commonly quoted, the question of what is the fundamental nature of a true born-again Christian must be addressed. To those who claim their access to God through Christ because of a decision they made or pronounced by their denomination as a Christian, the question is:



"You say you believe, but why? Is it because you were told what to believe, or is it the reality of the Person who was revealed that made you believe?"





Quotes to Ponder

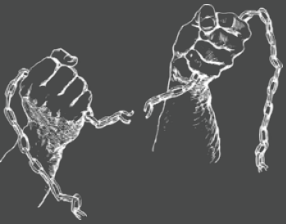
A necessary precursor of any great spiritual awakening is a spirit of deep humiliation growing out of a consciousness of sin, and fresh revelation of the holiness and power, and glory of God.

- John R. Moff

Path to Victory

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

- 1 Corinthians 10:13.



The path to victory is not made of a checklist that one can follow in a mechanical way, it is a way of life to be applied based on the context of the temptation. Below are some ways to actively engage with the enemy, and effective combat is the combination of many when facing temptation.

- Reckoning of our Position in Christ, abiding in Him (Romans 6)
- Battle of the mind to reject the thoughts of the old man (1 Peter 1:13)
- Resisting the enemy on the ground of the blood of Christ (James 4:7)
- Truth of the word of God and the God of the word (Matthew 7:24-27)
- Faith in the ability of God to uphold His word (Hebrews 11:6)
- Putting on the whole Armor of God and resisting steadfast in faith (Ephesians 6)
- Accountability with others and personal testimony (1 Corinthians 9:27)
- Being above board in what you see, who you are alone with, willing to be corrected, being humble, etc. (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- Self-evaluation of any seeds of the enemy that are sown, or weeds that are growing, before they become a tree that cannot be easily moved (Romans 12:21)
- Discerning the voice of Satan and the thoughts he puts, and to reject it, claiming His victory on the Cross (Philippians 3:13)

There is a growing conviction everywhere, and especially among thoughtful people, that unless revival comes, other forces will take the field, that will sink us still deeper into the mire of humanism and materialism.

- Duncan Campbell

When sinners are careless and stupid, and sinking into hell unconcerned, it is time the church should bestir themselves.

It is as much the duty of the church to awake, as it is for the firemen to awake when a fire breaks out in the night in a great city.

- Charles G. Finney



The four great tenets of Evan Roberts at the dawn of revival at Loughor, Wales.

- (1) Confessing openly and fully to God any sin not confessed to Him before
- (2) doing away with anything doubtful in ourselves
- (3) giving prompt obedience to the influences of the Holy Spirit in the heart
- (4) confessing Christ openly and publicly before the world



Why there is no Revival

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9. An attitude of compromise: Proverbs 14:14 says, The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways. Compromise never happens because of ignorance. It is a sin against light! It is a going back on what God has shown us to our own ways. He whispered; we were stirred; yet we forgot, ignored, suppressed, or disobeyed the truth. We can rationalize our unwillingness to obey God in many ways, but none of them is valid!

10. An attitude of prayerlessness: Real revival is always transported to earth on the wings of the desperate, believing prayers of God's people. God will not do, apart from prayer, what He has promised to do in answer to prayer. He will wait until we come to Him with humble, repentant, believing hearts. The greatest moves of God always follow prayer.

God is faithful to His word. Nobody wants a revived church more than He does. If we will remove the hindrances to real fellowship with Him and seek Him as He longs to be sought and found, then He will surely pour out His glorious life-giving Spirit on us. Why is there no revival? It is only because His church has been content to try to live without it. Turn us again, O God of hosts, and cause Thy face to shine, and we shall be saved.



Revival in N. Ireland. 1859

By John Edgar, D.D., Professor of Divinity, Belfast.

THE origin of the present revival in Ireland can be clearly traced to one congregation, and one man, a plain, honest, faithful, and laborious Presbyterian minister, who uses wisely and powerfully God's own means, and no other means, for effecting reformation. The work of revival had been making steady and large progress under his ministry before public attention was arrested; and by agents of his training, the good work of the Lord was prosperously and widely spread. Wherever it was spread, God honoured His own means; and His blessing accompanied the faithful application of His own truth to the understanding and heart.

HOW THE REVIVAL BEGAN.

I now proceed to show how the blessed revival came. One of the three congregations which I have taken as samples, had enjoyed, in succession, the services of three faithful ministers; and a church discipline of considerable strictness had kept it comparatively pure; yet its pastor was so deeply impressed with their want of spirituality, that, on the Sabbath before the commencement of God's great work among them, he told them all his mind regarding their lifeless state, and his want of success. He felt deeply himself, and his people felt too. This led to much prayer and searching of heart before God; and on the Thursday after, at the prayer-meeting, the revival showed itself plainly, and one person was so deeply affected as to cry aloud for mercy. "I knew," says the minister of another of these congregations, "that there were always a few praying people in the neighbourhood, and there were always attempts to keep up prayer-meetings among us; but till the very week of the revival there appeared no general desire for them, and scarcely any better attendance on them, nor helpers to my ministry raised up, except that the Sabbath-school had been gradually increasing in scholars and teachers, and attendance on public worship had been a little improved."

On Sabbath, June 19th, a prayer-meeting was held, at which more people than usual attended, and their pastor thought he saw a shaking among the dry bones. Before the dawn of next morning he was raised from bed, to visit a family who had been praying all night. Another prayer-meeting was held on the following Tuesday, larger than had ever been seen in the neighbourhood for any religious purpose, at which two persons screamed, and were carried out. Their pastor, before going to bed, was sent for to see a third, whose cries to Christ were piercing and loud. Another, and much larger, meeting was held on the following Thursday evening, which continued till daylight; after which, for five weeks, without interruption, a large meeting was held every evening, the house of worship being sometimes too small to receive them; while at the manse, by ten o'clock forenoon, crowds assembled, in deep spiritual anxiety. Some days every room in the house had an awakened one in it, surrounded by groups of praying friends; no bustle or noise—all calm, solemn, prayerful, reading God's Word, or singing psalms. Thus the work went on; and it is remarkable, that the very first day the congregation met really to pray for the outpouring of the Spirit, that day they got it, most copiously and gloriously.



Jesus, wherever Thy people meet
- William Cowper

1 Jesus, where'er your people meet,
there they behold your mercy seat;
where'er they seek you, you are found,
and ev'ry place is hallowed ground.

2 For you, within no walls confined,
are dwelling in the humble mind;
such ever bring you where they come,
and going, take you to their home.

3 Dear Shepherd of your chosen few,
your former mercies here renew;
here to our waiting hearts proclaim
the sweetness of your saving name.

4 Here may we prove the pow'r of pray'r
to strengthen faith and sweeten care,
to teach our faint desires to rise,
and bring all heav'n before our eyes.

5 Lord, we are few, but you are near;
nor short your arm, nor deaf your ear;
O rend the heav'ns, come quickly down,
and make a thousand hearts your own.

What Happened in N. Ireland?

Compiled from ukwells.org

September 1857 was the month when Jeremiah Lamphier began to pray during lunchtime in New York. This time of prayer grew from one person to thousands, and a great revival spread across the eastern side of America.... many events continued that affected Ireland, and...

In December 1858 the move of God reached nearby Ahoghill and from then on it spread over the whole of Ulster and then to Wales, Scotland and England, becoming the greatest revival the UK has known since at least the Great Awakening of 1735, with around one million coming to know Jesus as their Saviour. Unlike the rest of the UK the revival in Ulster was spread through converts from Connor and elsewhere, giving their testimonies, and as they did so the revival spirit poured out. There were no well known revivalists in Ulster, the revival came through word of mouth and through ministers visiting areas of revival and then bringing it back to their churches. Around 100,000 were saved in Ulster during 1859.

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

<https://desiringRevival.org>

