

Desiring Revival

*From Desiring Revival*

In John chapter 21, "Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?", when we think of the need of the Church, the plight for the lost, the condition of our nation, the powerlessness of our witness, we pause and ask "Why God?, why has all this befallen us?" Can you hear God asking us the same question as He did to Simon Peter nearly 2000 years ago?

The primary focus of a Christian is not love for people, love for their Church, love for the Bible or even a love for the lost. The primary need of a Christian in the 21st century is a love for God. When I say this, I do not mean of what we hear or sing about in our churches of how much we love God. It is in the truest sense being "in Love" with God. The Psalmist said "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God." The Psalmist was longing after God Himself and not anything about God or what God can do. God the person was enough.

When someone is in love with God they are consumed with Christ, and at some point this love consumes them and it becomes worship. Everything else flows from it and 1 Corinthians 13 becomes a reality from which flows the rivers of living water. Dear friend, learn to sit at the feet of Jesus, confess your sins before Him, desire the gift of repentance, desire to be Holy, wait on Him and fall in love with Him. Then God can use us to revive His people, His Church, our land.

"This Generation of Christians is responsible for this generation of Lost people"

- Leonard Ravenhill

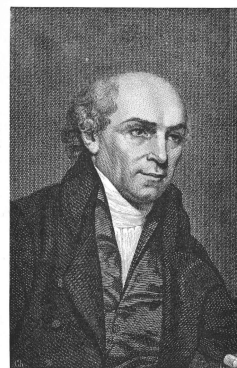
Revival?

Revival is the only hope for America. True Revival cannot happen because of a Denomination but because of GOD. "Real Revival comes only from GOD. He alone is the Fountainhead. A Spiritual Awakening cannot be Scheduled, Worked up or humanly engineered" - Lewis Drummond

A Quote to Ponder

"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

A page from History

William Carey (August 17, 1761 – June 9, 1834) was an English Protestant missionary and Baptist minister, known as the "father of modern missions." Carey was one of the founders of the Baptist Missionary Society. As a missionary in the Danish colony, Serampore,

India, he translated the Bible into Bengali, Sanskrit, and numerous other languages and dialects. He also has at least four colleges named after him, William Carey International University (Pasadena, CA), Carey Theological College, Carey Baptist College, and William Carey University (Hattiesburg, Mississippi).

**Has God turned His back on us?**

We have turned from the living Christ to decisions, from the Spirit's inner witness to our interpretations according to the Bible, from conviction by the Spirit to convincing by human wisdom, from experimental Christianity to trusting in a text of Scripture, from a person to intellectual assent, from Holy Ghost anointing to dispensational theories, from prayers in blood, sweat and tears to dignified religion, from the reality of Christ to the theory of Christian truths, from being in love with Christ as the reason for missions to being driven by the great commission, from a high view of God to explanation of theology, from Biblical book of Acts Christianity to Americanized Christianity, from God being the focus on our services to being centered on the word of God. Since we have turned away from our God, God has turned His back on us.

**DON'T JUST TALK. DO
SOMETHING FOR GOD**

Mighty to Save

GOD HAD GIVEN ME the joy of winning souls before, but not in surroundings of such special difficulty. With God all things are possible, and no conversion ever takes place save by the almighty power of the Holy Ghost. The great need, therefore, of every Christian worker is to know God. Indeed, this is the purpose for which He has given us eternal life, as our Saviour Himself says, in the oft misquoted verse, John 17:3: "This is [the object of] life eternal, [not to know but] that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent." I was now to prove the willingness of God to answer prayer for spiritual blessing under most unpromising circumstances, and thus to gain an increased acquaintance with the prayer answering God as One "mighty to save."

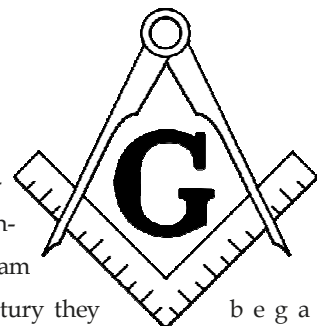
The family with whom he lived were Christians, and from them I learned that he was an avowed atheist, and very antagonistic to anything religious. I could not get the poor man out of my mind, and very often through each day I pleaded with God, by His Spirit, to save him ere He took him hence. Within a few days he definitely accepted Christ as Saviour. Oh the joy it was to me to see that dear man rejoicing in hope of the glory of God! He told me that for forty years he had never darkened the door of church or chapel. I have often thought since, in connection with this case and the work of God generally, of the words, "He that goeth forth weeping, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Perhaps if there were more of that intense distress for souls that leads to tears, we should more frequently see the results we desire. Sometimes it may be that while we are complaining of the hardness of the hearts of those we are seeking to benefit, the hardness of our own hearts and our own feeble apprehension of the solemn reality of eternal things, may be the true cause of our want of success.

- J. Hudson Taylor (1832-1905)



Focus on CULTS

FREEMASONRY



Freemasonry is a "secret society," a global brotherhood or fraternity upholding the principle "Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth." First established in London in 1375, the Masons were at first mostly craftsmen who were able to roam from projects to projects with their skills. But during the Seventeenth Century they admitting honorary members who had nothing to do with stoneworking. And on June 24, 1717 the United Grand Lodge of England was set up as a governing body supervising their transition from a guild of craftsmen into a social movement. From then, the rites and rituals performed when they meet as a Lodge in "Masonic Temples" (also called "Masonic Centers") were regulated. Now, they accept members from almost all religions usually requiring the belief in a "Supreme Being" which they call the "Grand Geometrician," the "Great Architect of the Universe" or the "Creative Principle."

A Secret Society.

One of their symbols (shown here), is made up of compass and a square representing the tools of the trade of their craft along with the letter "G" which could mean "God" or the "Supreme Being." Given their diverse religious background, these terms, especially the term "Supreme Being" is subject to different interpretations accommodating almost all worldviews including deism (the belief that "God is out there but not here") and the eastern beliefs. Although information about freemasonry are made available to the public and their Masonic Centers are easily identifiable, the freemasons are secretive in their rituals and in their codes of recognition. Going back to the symbol shown here, it is said that this symbol is shown in their meetings along with an open a "Volume of Sacred Law" which could be a Bible, a Qur'an, their Masonic Constitution or even a blank book. It is said that many rationalists like Voltaire, Benjamin Franklin, Mark Twain along the famous Mozart were drawn into this secret society. On one of the oldest Constitutions of masonry it is said to have originally contained the phrase that a Mason "will never be a stupid Atheist nor an irreligious Libertine." However other wording was accommodated like,

"Let a man's religion or mode of worship be what it may, he is not excluded from the order, provided he believe in the glorious architect of heaven and earth, and practise the sacred duties of morality".

Once you join in you start from being an "Entered Apprentice" till you work your way into the second degree called "Fellow Craft" and then into the third degree called "Master Mason" Till you complete it all the way into the fourth degree called "Royal Arch." Each degree is said to be attained by taking part in rituals of medieval themes and through studies of lessons that one interprets by himself. The rituals by the way are said to be similar to the Mormon rituals.



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"Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, we will not walk therein."

-Jeremiah 6:16



The Hold-Up of Revival

The hold-up is not Moonie-ism, Mormon-ism, communism, socialism, Romanism, or any other rotten-ism, the hold up of Revival in America is the Church of Jesus Christ, We want to resurrection life, but we don't want to die, we want to be filled but we don't want to be emptied, we want to be clothed but we don't want to be stripped - Leonard Ravenhill

Praying in Private

Daniel Nash pastored a small church in the backwoods of New York for six years, and traveled with and prayed for a traveling evangelist for seven more years until his death. As far as we know, he never ministered outside the region of upstate New York during days when much of it was frontier. Yet this man saw revival twice in his pastorate, and then was a key figure in one of the greatest revivals in the history of the United States. In many ways he was to the U. S. what Praying Hyde was to India. He is known almost exclusively for his powerful prayer ministry.

"Someone asked Finney what kind of man this Father Nash was. 'We never see him,' they said. 'He doesn't enter into any of the meetings.' "Finney replied, 'Like anybody who does a lot of praying, Father Nash is a very quiet person.' Show me a person who is always talking and I'll show you a Christian who never does much praying."

The majority of prayer for those who would be so used must be in private. They do not seek either the eye nor ear of men, but rather the ear of God. They seek a closet alone with God. Nash used a cellar, a room in a boarding house, a nearby house, or a grove of trees where he could pour out his heart to God alone or with just a few others of similar burden and heart. James A. Stewart emphasizes this point, "As in the case of 'Praying Hyde' and Father Nash, it may be a life of isolation from the Christian public for the ministry of intercession."



In response to a request that all reference to religion be removed from government, the House Judiciary Committee Report March 3, 1854 said:

"Had the people, during the Revolution, had any suspicion of any attempt to war against Christianity, the Revolution would have been strangled in the cradle. At the time of the adoption of the Constitution and the Amendments, the universal sentiment was that Christianity should be encouraged, not any one sect. In this age there can be no substitute for Christianity. That was the religion of the founders of the republic, and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants. The great vital and conservative element in our system is the doctrines and divine truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ."

Thoughts to Ponder

"Beware of resting in the WORD of the kingdom, without the SPIRIT and POWER of the kingdom of that gospel, FOR THE GOSPEL COMING IN WORD ONLY SAVES NOBODY, for the kingdom of God or the gospel, where it comes to salvation, IS NOT IN WORD BUT IN POWER." - John Bunyan

"Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." - 2 Corinthians 3:6

"I think the difference is in the emphasis of the major miracle which we ought to expect in genuine Christian conversion. Those old-timers would not have believed if a major miracle had not taken place. They would never have been willing to accept a pale and apologetic kind of believing on the Son of God. They insisted on a miracle taking place within the human breast. They knew what Peter meant when he said that the Lord God has begotten us unto a living hope."

- A.W. Tozer, The Tozer Pulpit, Vol II

Soul-Travail

CAN WE TRAVAIL for a drowning child, but not for a perishing soul? It is not hard to weep when we realize that our little one is sinking below the surface for the last time. Anguish is spontaneous then. Nor is it hard to agonize when we see the casket containing all that we love on earth borne out of the home. Ah, no; tears are natural at such a time? But oh, to realize and know that souls, precious, never dying souls, are perishing all around us, going out into the blackness of darkness and despair, eternally lost, and yet to feel no anguish, shed no tears, know no travail! How could are our hearts! How little we know of the compassion of Jesus! And yet God can give us this, and the fault is ours if we do not have it. Jacob, you remember, travailed until he prevailed. but oh, who is doing it today? Who is really travelling in prayer? How many, even of your most spiritual Christian leaders, are content to spend half an hour a day on their knees and then pride themselves on the time they have given to God!

We expect extraordinary results, and extraordinary results are quite possible; signs and wonder will follow, but only through extraordinary efforts in the spiritual realm. Hence, nothing short of continuous, agonizing pleading for souls, hours upon hours, days and nights of prayer, will ever avail. Therefore, "gird yourselves, and lament ye priests; howl, ye ministers of the altar: come, lie all night in sackcloth, ye ministers of my God. Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and 'all the inhabitants of the land unto the house of the Lord your God, and cry unto the Lord." (Joel 1:13-14) Ah, yes Joel knew the secret.

Let us then lay aside everything else and "cry unto the Lord". We read in the biographies of your forefathers, who were most successful in winning souls, that they prayed for hours in private. The question therefore arises, can we get the same results without following their example?

- Oswald J. Smith (1889-1986)

A Bankrupt Church:
"God pity us that after years of writing, using mountains of paper and rivers of ink, exhausting flashy terminology about the biggest revival meetings in history, we are still faced with gross corruption in every nation, as well as with the most prayerless church age since Pentecost"

- Leonard Ravenhill

Books to read

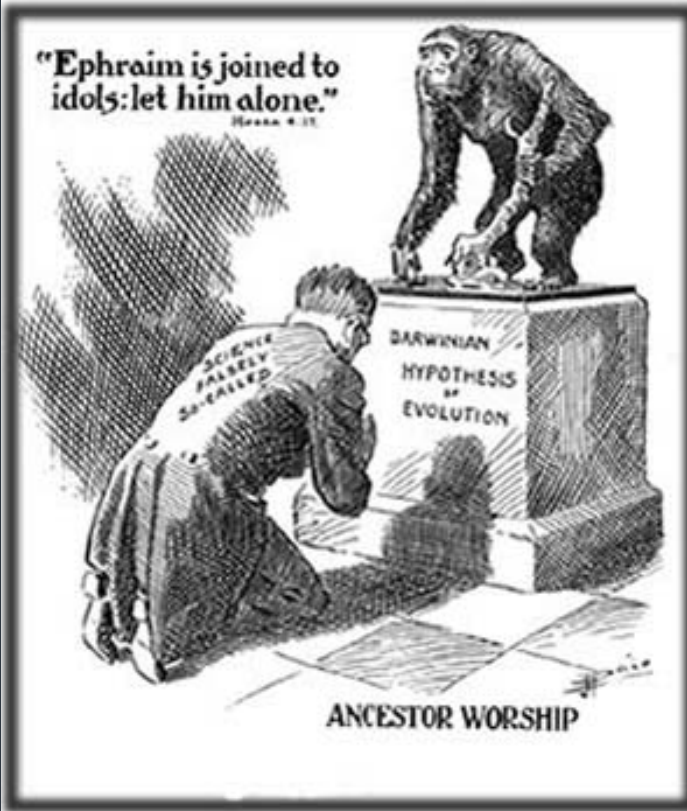
The Kneeling Christian

- Unknown Christian

Here I Stand

- A. C. Clayman

The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. - **Psalm 14:1**



Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, - **Rom 1:22**

Truth Realization

If we only realized the corruption of sin, the horridness of hell, the utter depravity of man's heart, the holiness of God, the possibility of a godly man though sincere with desiring to please God, that he could be blinded, the high view of God, the power of God and the anointing of the Holy Ghost, if we only realized that, we'd pray more, weep more, love more, depend less on our theology, our interpretations of the holy Scriptures and teachings.

Wherever He Leads I'll Go

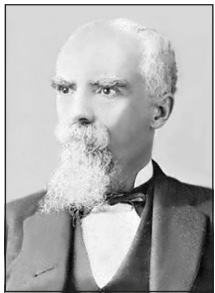
"Take up thy cross and follow Me",
I heard my Master say;
"I gave My life to ransom thee,
Surrender your all today."
Wherever He leads I'll go,
Wherever He leads I'll go,
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so,
Wherever He leads I'll go.

- B.B McKinney, 1936

What about you?



"I give it as my deliberate conviction, founded on twenty-five years of ministerial observation, that the Christian profession of today owes its lack of vital godliness, its want of practical piety, its absence from the prayer meeting, its miserable semblance of missionary life, very largely to the fact that old-fashioned repentance is so little preached. You can't put a big house on a little foundation. And no small part of such preaching comes from a class of modern evangelists who desiring more for their own glory to count a great number of converts than to lay deep foundations, reduce the conditions of salvation by one-half and make the other half but some intellectual trick of the mind rather than a radical spiritual change of the heart. Like Simon Magus, they believe indeed, but 'their heart not being right in the sight of God, they have no part nor lot in this matter. They are yet in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity.' Such converts know but little and care less about a system of doctrine. They are prayerless, lifeless, and to all steady church work reprobate" (B.H. Carroll, 1889).



E.M. Bounds and Prayer

E.M. BOUNDS WAS born on August 15th, 1835 and died on August 24th, 1913. Some may be surprised by this fact, assuming Bounds to be a contemporary author, because of his clear and forthright writing style. As a young man E. M. Bounds practiced law until feeling called to the ministry. He was ordained a Methodist minister in 1859. E. M. Bounds also served as a Confederate Army Chaplain during the Civil War. As a result he was captured and held as a prisoner of war for a short time. Bounds could not forget about Franklin, where so many had been ravaged by the Civil War. "When Brother Bounds came to Franklin he found the Church in a wretched state". Immediately he sought out a half dozen men who really believed in the power of prayer. Every Tuesday night they got on their knees to pray for revival, for themselves, the Church and the town. "For over a year this faithful band called upon the Lord until God finally answered by fire. The revival came down without any previous announcement or plan, and without the pastor sending for an evangelist to help him."

It became increasingly apparent that E. M. Bounds was gifted in building and reviving the Church. This prophet of prayer often made preachers uncomfortable with his call for holiness and his attacks on lusting for money, prestige and power. "His constant call for revival annoyed those who believed that the Church was essentially sound . . ." God gave him a great prayer commission, requiring daily intercession. He labored in prayer for the sanctification of preachers, revival of the Church in North America and the spread of holiness among professing Christians. He spent a minimum of three to four hours a day in fervent prayer. "Sometimes the venerable mystic would lie flat on his back and talk to God; but many hours were spent on his knees or lying face down where he could be heard weeping . . ."

In closing let us consider some of E. M. Bounds' remarks on revival, "Revivals are among the charter rights of the Church . . . A revival means a heart-broken pastor. A revival means a church on its knees confessing its sins - the sins of the individual and of the Church - confessing the sins of the times and of the community."