

# Desiring Revival

## From Desiring Revival

The year 2015 is coming to a close and we will be embarking on a new journey into 2016. Men and brethren, how long shall we continue to pass from one year to another and not see a move of God? What good comes from going to Church year after year and following the same pattern and yet the community is not moved for Christ? How long will we keep having "revival" services that have no impact on the world around us and we can smilingly call it "normal"?

The prayers I hear year after year are "let us do more for the Lord Jesus in the next year than the current year", but the sign of insanity is doing the same thing again and again and expecting a different result. It is time to take action, start that prayer meeting, start that fasting, start serving in that ministry that you have not obeyed God on, start that longing after God for Himself. Cry out with the psalmist and say "As the hart pan-

teth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. - Psa 42:1". What's the use of blessings if God is not in it?

If we want the purity of the gospel to be passed to our children, then our generation needs to experience God in revival power for the life and sustenance of the Church for the next generation. The sad reality is that we have not seen a true revival that changed the community for a whole generation and we are the weakest link. We have seen rockets, iPads, iPhones, Wii and every distraction possible but we have not seen God move in a community. Let us not be content where we are, but ask God for His anointing and boldness like those Christians in Acts 4:31.

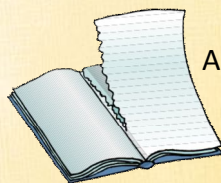
"And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none." - Ezekiel 22:30

Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. - Eph 5:16

## A Quote to Ponder

How do you learn to pray? (Well), how do you learn to swim? Do you sit in a chair with your feet up drinking coke learning to swim? (No), you get down and you struggle. That's how you learn to pray. Prayer is our strength; Prayer generates strength; it generates vision; it generates power; and the devil will drive you away from the prayer closet more than anything.

- Leonard Ravenhill



## A Page in Time

### John Wycliffe

The first handwritten English language Bible manuscripts were produced in 1380's AD by John Wycliffe, an Oxford professor, scholar, and theologian. Wycliffe, was well-known throughout Europe for his opposition to the teaching of the organized Church, which he believed to be contrary to the Bible. With the help of his followers, called the Lollards, and his assistant Purvey, and many other faithful scribes, Wycliffe produced dozens of English language manuscript copies of the scriptures. They were translated out of the Latin Vulgate, which was the only

text available to Wycliffe. The Pope was so infuriated by his teachings and his translation of the Bible into English, that 44 years after Wycliffe had died, he ordered the bones to be dug-up, crushed, and scattered in the river!

## Come let us worship Him

True worship is speechless adoration. The wise men who came when Jesus was a young child fell at His feet and worshipped Him. The woman who came with the Alabaster box and broke it at His feet came and worshipped Him. Mary who sat at the feet of Jesus sat and listened to Him in silent adoration and worshipped Him. John when he saw the glorified Christ in Revelation fell at His feet as dead and worshipped Him. The elders who sit around the throne of God fall at his feet and worship Him. As we remember Christ's birth this Christmas let us also remember that Christ did not stay as that baby, but now is seated at the right hand of the Father and let us join the heavenly hosts and fall as we were dead and worship Him.

"The best of it is, God with us." - John Wesley

*If revival depended on you -- your prayers, your faith, your obedience  
-- would your church ever experience revival? - Del Fehsenfeld Jr.*



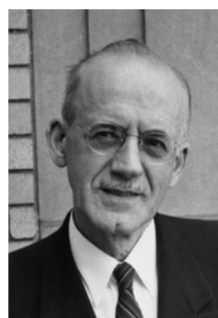
# Focus on Faith

*New faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. - Hebrews 11:1*



## Faith and Salvation - John Wesley

... let no man deceive his own soul. "It is diligently to be noted, the faith which bringeth not forth repentance, and love, and all good works, is not that right living faith, but a dead and devilish one. For, even the devils believe that Christ was born of a virgin: that he wrought all kinds of miracles, declaring himself very God: that, for our sakes, he suffered a most painful death, to redeem us from death everlasting; that he rose again the third day: that he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father and at the end of the world shall come again to judge both the quick and dead. These articles of our faith the devils believe, and so they believe all that is written in the Old and New Testament. And yet for all this faith, they be but devils. They remain still in their damnable estate lacking the very true Christian faith."



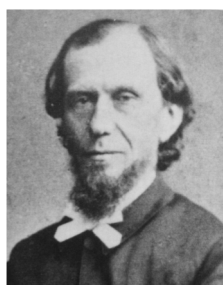
## The gift of Faith - A. W. Tozer

"Saving faith is not a conclusion drawn from facts presented; saving faith is a gift of God to a penitent man or woman."

"The difference between faith as it is found in the New Testament and faith as it is found now is that faith in the New Testament actually produced something - there was a confirmation of it."

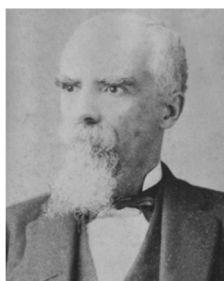
"Do you realize that your faith is a gift from God? You should look upon your faith as a miracle. It is the ability God gives lost men and women to trust and obey our Saviour and Lord... And Jesus is the author of our faith."

"The man of faith can go into the wilderness and get on his knees and command heaven - God is in that. The man who dare to stand and let his preaching cost him something - God is in that. The Christian who is willing to put himself in a place where he must get the answer from God and God alone - the Lord is in that!"



## Faith in Action - Andrew Murray

Faith is very far from being a mere conviction of the truth of God's Word or a conclusion drawn from certain promises. It is the ear which has heard God say what He will do and the eye which has seen Him doing it. Therefore, where there is true faith it is impossible for the answer not to come. We must do this one thing that He asks of us as we pray: "Believe that ye have received." He will see to it that He does the thing He has promised: "Ye shall have them."



## Faith and Prayer - E. M. Bounds

"In any study of the principles, and procedure of prayer, of its activities and enterprises, first place, must, of necessity, be given to faith. It is the initial quality in the heart of any man who essays to talk to the Unseen. He must, out of sheer helplessness, stretch forth hands of faith. He must believe, where he cannot prove. In the ultimate issue, prayer is simply faith, claiming its natural yet marvellous prerogatives -- faith taking possession of its illimitable inheritance. True godliness is just as true, steady, and persevering in the realm of faith as it is in the province of prayer. Moreover: when faith ceases to pray, it ceases to live. Faith does the impossible because it brings God to undertake for us, and nothing is impossible with God. How great -- without qualification or limitation -- is the power of faith! If doubt be banished from the heart, and unbelief made stranger there, what we ask of God shall surely come to pass, and a believer hath vouchsafed to him 'whatsoever he saith.'"

*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. - Hebrews 11:6*



## Following Christ

### Sadhu Sundar Singh



"When I was preaching between Nepal and Tibet, I was asked in one place not to preach Christianity. But I said, 'I must give my testimony to what my Saviour has done for me.' I was arrested and put in prison for six months.

An excellent opportunity of preaching the Gospel! I preached to the criminals but was forbidden.

The jailer said, 'You were put into prison on account of your preaching and here you are preaching again!'

I said, 'I can't keep quiet, I must tell about my Saviour.' Then he told the prisoners not to listen.

They said, 'You have failed to make us better. If listening to him makes us better you ought to be glad.' The jailer was terrified lest all the criminals become Christians and took me away. This time I was put into the jailer's cowhouse as there was no other separate room. The place was full of mosquitoes. My clothes were taken away and my legs and arms put into stocks. Then a basketful of leeches were put on my body. There were leeches round my eyes shutting them, and they were sucking away all my blood. It was very painful. I confess my weakness. God wanted to show me myself. I almost wanted to cry. 'By tomorrow,' I thought, 'I shall be dead from loss of blood.' When I was praying, however, I felt something like electricity all through my body and my prison was changed to Heaven. 'Will heaven be better than this?' I forgot the leeches, and though I am no singer I began to sing a Hindi hymn. Such wonderful joy! In the midst of suffering I had no external comfort of any kind but I experienced such wonderful peace from my living Saviour.

I had given St. Mark's Gospel to the man who had reported me, who immediately tore it up. He came to look at me in astonishment with the jailer. 'What do you think of him?' he asked the jailer.

'I think he is mad,' replied the jailer.

'If by becoming mad one can become so happy, then I should like to become mad too,' said the man."

## Intercessory Prayer and Revival

*INTERCESSORY PRAYER IS the Christian's most effective weapon. Nothing can withstand it's power. It will do things when all else has failed. And the marvel is that we turn to other agencies in order to accomplish what only prayer can bring to pass. God has placed this mighty weapon in our hands, and He expects us to use it. How disappointed He must be when we lay it a side and substitute natural means for supernatural work.*

*In this twentieth century we are, more and more, turning from the God-appointed means of intercessory prayer and adopting, instead, merely natural agencies for the carrying on of His work. Everywhere we look it is the same, both in evangelism and ordinary church work. Intercessory prayer has been shelved. For some reason it is out of date. Our methods, we say, are better, our plans more successful, and so we adopt natural means to bring to pass the supernatural.*

*My brethren, it can never be done, We may appear to be successful; the crowds may come; the altar may be full night after night. Reported results may be broadcasted everywhere. Whole cities may be stirred and mightily moved! And yet when it is all over and two or three years have passed, how little will be found to be genuine! And why? Simply because we have been satisfied with a superficial, spectacular work, brought to pass by natural means. Consequently the truly supernatural has been largely lacking.*

*Oh let us get back to intercessory prayer, the highest form of Christians service, and give God no rest until we have a spiritual outcome.*

**- Oswald J. Smith**

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive  
glory and honour and power:  
for thou hast created all things,  
and for thy pleasure  
they are and were created.  
- Revelation 4:11

I read through Hebrews 11. These staggering men and women through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtain the promises, stopped the lions; women received their dead raised to life again. All the devilish things (they endured) and not one ever had a Bible! Well, in God's Name, (what) are you and I going to do when we stand before Him?! When I get there, I'll have to face up to having the whole revelation of God. Finney didn't have a bigger Bible; Wesley didn't have a bigger Bible, but somehow they got nearer to the heart of God. They got a revelation from God, they got convictions of the Spirit and they laid their lives on the line. - Leonard Ravenhill



## *The Sleeping Giant - Leonard Ravenhill*



One day Napoleon ran his index finger round a great country, he was talking to his generals and he said, "There lies a sleeping giant, **LET IT SLEEP!!** Because," he said, "if that country ever wakes up and harnesses its man power to its mineral power it will shake the world." ... The country he outlined, in case you are interested, was none other than China, our biggest headache. ... See the devil standing there, he isn't running his finger round a map, he is running his finger round the church of Jesus Christ and he says, "There is the church of Jesus Christ asleep, **LET IT SLEEP!!**" "Because if it ever rediscovers the power of the Holy Ghost, if it ever rediscovers the resurrection power of Jesus, it will shake the world."

(message: Weeping between the Porch and the Altar)



## *The Holy Ghost and the Spirit of Prayer - Christmas Evans*

"I was weary of a cold heart towards Christ and His sacrifice, and the work of His Spirit---of a cold heart in the pulpit, in secret prayer, and in study, for fifteen years previously, I had felt my heart burning within, as if going to Emmaus with Jesus. On a day ever to be remembered by me, as I was climbing up towards Cadair Idris, I considered it to be incumbent upon me to pray, however hard I felt in my heart, and however worldly the frame of my spirit was. Having begun in the name of Jesus, I soon felt, as it were, the fetters loosening, and the old hardness of heart softening, and, as I thought, mountains of frost and snow dissolving and melting within me. This engendered confidence in my soul in the promise of the Holy Ghost. I felt my whole mind relieved from some great bondage; tears flowed copiously, and I was constrained to cry out for the gracious visits of God, by restoring to my soul the joys of His salvation; and that He would visit the churches of the saints, and nearly all the ministers in the principality by their names.

"This struggle lasted for three hours: it rose again and again, like one wave after another, or a high flowing tide, driven by a strong wind, until my nature became faint by weeping and crying. Thus I resigned myself to Christ, body and soul, gifts and labors--all my life--every day, and every hour that remained for me; and all my cares I committed to Christ. From this time I was made to expect the goodness of God to churches, and to myself. In the first religious meetings after this, I felt as if I had been removed from the cold and sterile regions of spiritual frost, into the verdant fields of Divine promises. The former striving with God in prayer, and the longing anxiety for the conversion of sinners, which I experienced at Leyn, were now restored. I had a hold of the promises of God. The result was, when I returned home, the first thing that arrested my attention was that the Spirit was working also in the brethren in Anglesea, inducing in them a spirit of prayer, especially in two of the deacons, who were particularly importunate that God would visit us in mercy, and render the Word of His grace effectual amongst us for the conversion of sinners."

Now, apparently strengthened as by a new spirit, with "might in the inner man," he labored with renewed energy and zeal; and new and singular blessings descended upon his labors. In two years, his ten preaching places in Anglesea were increased to twenty, and six hundred converts were added to the church under his immediate care

## *Edward Payson (Praying Payson of Portland, Maine)*

E.M. BOUNDS IN HIS CLASSIC little book "Power Through Prayer", wrote, "What the Church needs today is not more or better machinery, not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use - men of prayer, men mighty in prayer." Edward Payson was just such a man; a man mighty in prayer. "He prayed without ceasing and felt safe nowhere but at the throne of grace."

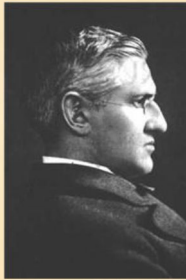
He may be said to have studied theology on his knees. Much of his time he spent literally prostrated with his Bible open before him pleading the promise; "I will send the comforter and when He, The Spirit of Truth is come, He will guide you into all truth." Payson's advice to his fellow ministers was, "prayer is the first thing, the second thing and the third thing necessary to a minister. Pray then my dear brother, pray, pray." It has been well said that the secret of Edward Payson's ministry was that he prayed much in secret. The scars on his bedroom floor testify to this fact. Next to Payson's bed were deep grooves in the hardwood floor where his knees had pressed repeatedly in times of travail. On January 4, 1807, he wrote, "I was favored with a spirit of prayer beyond all my former experience. I was in great agony and wrestled both for myself and others with great power. God seemed to bow the heavens and come down and open all His treasures, bidding me, take what I would."

January 29th, "I never felt such longings after God or such a desire to depart to be with Christ. My soul thirsted for more full communion with my God and Savior. I do not now feel satisfied as I used to with the manifestations of the divine presence, but still feel hungry and craving." February 18, "I was enabled to lie at Jesus' feet and to wash them with the tears of contrition. No pleasure I have ever found in the Christian life is superior to this." February 28, "I was favored with great enlargement in prayer. I seemed to be carried out of myself into the presence of God."



## *It is Well with my Soul - Horatio G. Spafford*

This hymn was written after two major traumas in Spafford's life. The first was the great Chicago Fire of October 1871, which ruined him financially (he had been a wealthy businessman). Shortly after, while crossing the Atlantic, all four of Spafford's daughters died in a collision with another ship. Spafford's wife Anna survived and sent him the now famous telegram, "Saved alone." Several weeks later, as Spafford's own ship passed near the spot where his daughters



died, the Holy Spirit inspired these words. They speak to the eternal hope that all believers have, no matter what pain and grief befall them on earth.

