

From Desiring Revival

Nations rise and nations fall. Babylon, Rome, Persia, Medes, stand as silent witnesses to the hand of Almighty God, who rules in the affairs of men. Over 2500 years ago God wrote "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin." America is being destroyed from the inside-out. Our decay and corruption from embracing the sins that destroyed nations such as homosexuality, transgenderism, unbridled wickedness of calling evil good and good evil, epidemy of drugs and pornography, are all the fruits of a church that is powerless to stem the tide of sin, and wickedness that is overtaking the land. It is no use to blame the politicians or policies, for God's greatest problem with Israel or the early Church was sin. "But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them." - Isaiah 63:10. When God is your enemy there is no use putting a band-aid on cancer. When will the Church, that speaks of believing the

Bible, separated, fundamental, boasting of their denomination and works, when will they see their bankruptcy and repent? Can we throw out our cookie cutter Church programs, plan of salvation, professions of faith with no abiding fruit, and repent and go to the pattern of the early church of "prayer and the ministry of the word"? Do we even see the writing on the wall? A form of godliness with no power.

In a land where truth has fallen in the streets and cults such as the Mormons (Latter-day Saints), Jehovah's Witness, eastern religions, Islam, and the occult have taken over, while boasting of great numbers and prosperity. When was the last time you wept in the Pulpit before the congregation for the reproach that is on the Bride of Christ? Our attitude of "Me, mine and that's fine" is why God said He will spew us out of His mouth, and He

did (Rev. 3:16). Oh America, America! ...

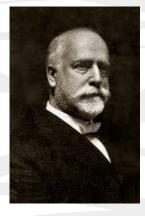


Corporate Praying, Overcoming Hindrances

Let me give you one illustration. Some years ago the ministers of Chicago were holding daily noon prayer meetings in the YMCA building in Chicago as a preparation for an expected visit of Mr. Moody to that city. It was my privilege to preside at those prayer meetings. One noon in the midst of the meeting a Baptist minister sprang to his feet and said,. "Brother Torrey, what we need here in Chicago is an all-night prayer meeting of the ministers." "Very well," I replied, "if the ministers of Chicago desire an all-night prayer meeting, if they will come up to the Chicago Avenue Church (the Moody Church) next Friday night at ten o'clock we will have a prayer meeting and if God keeps us there all night we will stay all night, we will stay as long as God keeps us." That night at ten o'clock, perhaps six or seven hundred gathered in the prayer meeting room of the Chicago Avenue Church. They were not all ministers. There were many other Christian workers, as well as some Christian women.

Were you ever in a meeting where the devil made a dead set to spoil the meeting? Well, that was the kind of a meeting that we had at first. For example, three men got down near the door at the far end of the room by three chairs and commenced to pound and shout and shriek in a pretense of prayer, and when someone expostulated with them, saying that things should "be done decently and in order," they swore at the man who expostulated with them. A little later a man sprang to his feet over at my left and proclaimed that he was Elijah. The man was not to blame. He was a lunatic. There were seven of whom I knew in the United States at that time who claimed to be Elijah, and he was one of the seven. Some of the more timid ones began to think, "Well, if this is the kind of a meeting it is going to be, I am going home." But the great bulk of us were there for a blessing and we were determined to stay until we got it. About midnight God gave us complete victory. All the discordant elements were eliminated. And oh! What praying

there was from that time on up to a little after two in the morning! I think I had never heard such praying before and have seldom heard such praying since. At 2: 15 (I know the time, for I had taken out my watch a few moments before), we were all on our knees, and suddenly the Holy Spirit fell upon us. No one could speak, no one could pray, no one could sing. All you could hear was the subdued sobbing of joy unspeakable and full of glory. It seemed to me as I knelt there that if I had looked up I would fairly have seen the Holy Spirit in that place. This was early Saturday



morning. The following morning, Sunday morning, at the close of my morning service, one of my deacons came to me, he could hardly speak yet, and grasped my hand and whispered, "Brother Torrey, I will never forget yesterday morning to the latest day of my life."

But it was not all mere emotion. No, thank God. No. Men went out from that meeting in the early morning hours to different places with the power of God resting upon them...

(one of them attending a meeting at a Church) After the meeting was opened, he arose in his seat, he was a well-known man in his denomination and asked the minister if he could say a few words. The minister replied, "Certainly, Brother W_." That man poured out his soul, and a little after I heard that there were fifty-eight people converted while he was speaking. Another young man, Emil Lindfield, who afterwards died as a very successful missionary in South Africa, went in the early morning hours to Baraboo, Wisconsin, and I soon heard from Baraboo that there had been thirty-eight young men and boys converted while he spoke.

The Preaching of Christ

The straightforwardness of Christ preaching was to prepare those who came to Him to be made ready to hear the gospel and be saved. He cut Nicodemus of his Pharisaical pride (John 3:1-9), He cut the rich man of his good works (Mark 10:17-22), He exposed the woman at the well of the failures in her life (John 4:4-28), He probed the scribe until he was not far from the kingdom of God (Mark 12:28-34), He tested the soil by the response to the life of the seed in what it will produce (Mark 4:1-8), He cut down the debaters' to show the folly of their thinking (Matt 22:42-46), He exposed the hypocrisy to show the error of their priorities (Luke 13:10-16).

When God wants to judge a nation, He gives them wicked rulers. - John Calvin

Reaping the Whirlwind by D. L. Moody

I remember in the north of England a prominent citizen told a sad case that happened there in the city of Newcastle-on-Tyne. It was about a young boy. He was very young. He was an only child. The father and mother thought everything of him and did all they could for him. But he fell into bad ways. He took up with evil characters, and finally got to running with thieves. He didn't let his parents know about it. By and by the gang he was with broke into the house, and he with them. Yes, he-had to do it all. They stopped outside of the building, while he crept in and started to rob the till. He was caught in the act, taken into court, tried, convicted, and sent to the penitentiary for ten years. He worked on and on in the convict's cell, till at last his term was out. And at once he started for home. And when he came back to the town he started down the street where his father and mother used to live. He went to the house and rapped. A stranger came to the door and stared him in the face. "No, there's no such person lives here, and where your parents are I don't know," was the only welcome he received. Then he turned through the gate, and went down the street, asking even the children that he met about his folks, where they were living, and if they were well. But everybody looked blank. Ten years rolled by and though that seemed perhaps a short time, how many changes had taken place! There where he was born and brought up he was now an alien, and unknown even in the old haunts. But at last he found a couple of townsmen that remembered his father and mother, but they told him the old house had been deserted long years ago, that he had been gone but a few months before his father was confined to his house, and very soon after died broken-hearted, and that his mother had gone out of her mind. He went to the mad-house where his mother was, and went up to her and said, "Mother, mother, don't you know me? I am your son." But she raved and slapped him on the face and shrieked, "You're not my son," and then raved again and tore her hair. He left the asylum more dead than alive, so completely broken-hearted that he died in a few months. Yes the fruit was long growing, but at the last it ripened to the harvest like a whirlwind.

Our scheduled "Revival" services seems to be nothing more than to give a shot in the arm to put us back to sleep, until the next one.

A Quote to Ponder

If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference. If the Holy Spirit had been withdrawn from the New Testament church, 95 percent of what they did would stop, and everybody would know the difference - A. W. Tozer

An encounter with God

I don't want you to become a Christian, rather I want you to meet God and once you have met God, you will become a follower of Christ and thereby being called a Christian. And that is the exact problem we are faced with today where people are made to follow a set of steps to become a Christian while they have never met God. The scriptures are not an end of themselves rather they are a means, by the Spirit, to the glorious end of finding the living God. It is not about convincing people that Jesus is the only way, it is the first and foremost revelation that is needed that Jesus is the only God, and from that stems the way to salvation. And unless man's nature is changed having been given a new heart, making a decision or believing on Jesus or anything similar is not going to stand in the last day. Having a form of godliness can give temporal hope, raise a decent family, do everything in order, but denying the power of radical regeneration will produce proselytes who will hear that fearful words, "I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." - Matthew 7:23.

O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heav'nly frame, a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!

Where is the blessedness I knew when first I sought the Lord? Where is the soul refreshing view of Jesus and His Word?

Return, O holy Dove, return, sweet messenger of rest; I hate the sins that made Thee mourn, and drove Thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known, whate'er that idol be, help me to tear it from Thy throne and worship only Thee.

William Cowper (1772)

Caution shown by the Churches of the past to ensure the validity of a profession.

OLD BAPTISTS AND REGENERATE CHURCH MEMBERSHIP - The following is from a report from Baptist missionaries in China in 1877: "One hundred and nine men and sixty women have renounced idolatry, have given evidence of faith

in Christ, and have been baptized into his name. None of all these have thus far given us reason to regret that we admitted them into the church. Fifteen of the numbers are seventy years old and upwards, the oldest being eighty-four years of age. ... Besides those received, a large number have been examined, who have been advised to wait until they should obtain more definite knowledge of the truth, or until there was more satisfactory proof of a change of heart" (Missionary Sketches: A Concise History of the Work of the American Baptist Missionary Union, 6th edition, 1879).

John Howe on the Fall of Man

Man as a result of the fall reminded him of some of these great buildings in London, in the country, or in various Eastern countries where it was once a great palace or great building, its now fallen to ruins, and there is a sign outside and the sign says, Centuries ago such and such a king once dwelt here. He said, "Written over man everywhere as the result of the fall is this inscription, Here God once dwelt, He no longer dwells here"

Revival in Africa (1915)

From the Book: Intercessor by Norman Grubb

DesiringRevival.org

(as quoted by **Rees Howells**) The Sunday was October 10-my birthday-and as I preached in the morning, you could feel the Spirit coming on the congregation. In the evening, down He came. I shall never forget it.

He came upon a young girl, Kufase by name, who had fasted for three days under conviction that she was not ready for the Lord's coming. As she prayed, she broke down crying; within five minutes the whole congregation were on their knees crying to God. Like lightning and thunder the power came down. I had never seen this, even in the Welsh Revival. I had only heard about it with Finney and others. Heaven had opened, and there was no room to contain the blessing.

I lost myself in the Spirit and prayed as much as they did. All I could say was, "He has come!" We went on until late in the night; We couldn't stop the meeting, What He told me before I went to Africa was actually taking place, and that within six weeks. You can never describe those meetings when the Holy Spirit comes down. I shall never forget the sound in the district that night-praying in every kraal, or native village community. The next day He came again, and people were on their knees till six o'clock in the evening. This went on for six days and people began to confess their sins and come free as the Holy Spirit brought them through. They had forgiveness of sins, and met the Savior as only the Holy Spirit can reveal Him. Everyone who came near would go under the power of the Spirit. People stood up to give their testimonies, and it was nothing to see twenty-five on their feet at the same time.

At the end of one week nearly all were through. We had two revival meetings every day for fifteen months without a single break, and meetings all day on Fridays. Hundreds were converted-but we were looking for more-for the ten thousand, upon whom He had told us we had a claim.