



A
Ministry
of:

**CORNERSTONE
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CHURCH**

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WILL WE HAVE REVIVAL?

March 2001

There is plenty of talk about revival, but I do not believe very many of God's people want revival. They want to see people saved and the Church grow, but they do not want revival. It would cost them EVERYTHING, and I don't see Christians ready for that. A.W.Tozer said, "There seems to be the notion that if we talk enough and pray enough, revival will set in like a stock market boom... We appear to be waiting for some sweet chariot to swing low and carry us to the Big Rock Candy Mountain of religious experience...leaving us morally as we are now, except that we will be a lot happier and there will be many more of us. Our mistake is we want God to send revival on OUR terms. We want to still be in charge... (going) in the direction we want to go...We are calling on God to send fire on OUR altars, completely ignoring the fact that they are OUR altars and not God's." He also said, "Today we have the strange phenomenon of a company of Christians claiming...the purity of their Bible creed, and still at the same time following the unregenerate world - coldness, worldliness, pride, boasting, lying, misrepresenting, love of money, exhibitionism - all a part of the religious show." What we really want is a bigger, more wealthy, easy-going Church. Laodicea on a bigger scale! Listen to John Wesley on revival: "I never heard or read of any considerable revival of religion, which was not attended with a spirit of reproof. I believe it cannot be otherwise." Who wants that kind of preaching today? Just try it and see what kind of a response you get! There is no known revival without deep conviction of sin, much prayer (nights or days of prayer), heartfelt confession of sins (accompanied by genuine tears of remorse) and complete surrender to the Spirit of God. The self life will not be in evidence when revival comes. There won't be room for anything but God! We truly need it, but do we really want it? Reader, do YOU want it?

Isaiah 57:15 says, "**For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him that is also of a CONTRITE AND HUMBLE spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.**" I am not being harsh nor sarcastic, but tell me how many believers you know who are truly humble and contrite. You just slight or reprimand one of these "spiritual" Christians and see what kind of a reaction you get. Read about the revivals in the Bible; were not the people humbled, did they not weep over their sins and forsake them? I say it in love (and I have told our people this many times), it bothers me to see people going forward, but after the service is over they are still the same old person. Thank God there are exceptions, but they are few. Our churches are full of those who have gone forward scores of times, but no change in their lives or interests can be seen. Worldly Christians go forward, but they are still worldly. Lazy Christians go forward, but they are still lazy. And so it goes. People go forward to surrender to God, but they are not interested in prayer and soul winning. They have no compassion. They needed revival in Isaiah's day, but God said, "**BEHOLD, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that he cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.**" We certainly need revival; I for one pray for it and would love to see it, but frankly, I don't think we are anywhere near it. Too few of God's people really want it! We will not admit it, and we resent anyone saying it, but our Fundamental Baptist churches are Laodicean. We want to be spiritual and have the blessing of God on our own terms and without giving up the old self life. We are willing to be *partly or mostly* surrendered, *but not fully surrendered* - totally given over to God and His Word! May the Lord help us! The message to the Laodicean Church is REPENT!

YOUTH CORNER

YOU NEED TO SHUT THE DOOR! A man was calling a friend from a telephone booth alongside a busy highway. The one receiving the call could not make out what his friend was saying because of the roar of traffic in the background, so, he said, "Shut the door, so I can hear you." One of the problems many Christians have is they cannot hear the voice of God because of the many other noises that are all around. If you are going to hear God speak, you must shut the door to all the "voices" of the world and your own flesh. You cannot listen to God and the world at the same time. The only successful life is the one where the world is tuned out and God is tuned in. Jesus said, **"My sheep hear my voice and they follow me."** The voice of the Lord Jesus Christ is the One voice young people need to hear and obey.

PREACHING TOO STRONG? Churchgoers who feel real Bible preaching with its warnings about sin too strong to take, may well learn from a recent incident. While I was preaching in a Georgia revival, we learned of a family who had left that church for a compromising modern one. First they let their rebellious teen boys begin to watch bad TV movies and listen to rock music. Soon the boys were going to a worldly convention church with no standards. Next, the parents backslid and joined the boys at that church. The week I was in town, one of the boys took a butcher knife to church and stabbed another boy in the back, putting him in the hospital in critical condition. The teen is now in jail on charges of attempted murder. -Dr. Hugh Pyle

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned to fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.
2 Timothy 4:1-5

NATION'S GREATEST MENACE - TV!

(The idol of millions of Americans)

T-hief of morals, thief of time,

E-vil bent and full of crime,

L-eading young and old astray,

E-ver from the narrow way.

V-ending venom like a snake

I-nto minds, small and great;

S-atan's hissing loud and clear

I-nto poor, deluded ears.

O-nly Christ can set them free,

N-ever more its dupes to be.

-By Stephen Houbolt (Baptist Pastor for 50 yrs)



STAND UP FOR CHRIST! Shortly after the noted infidel (atheist) Robert Ingersoll was defeated in his race for Gov. of Illinois, he was proclaiming his atheism on a train. Being very loud and arrogant, he turned to a man and said, "Tell me one great result that Christianity ever accomplished." The man hesitated, not wanting to enter into an argument. The train stopped at a station and all was quiet. Just then a little old lady who sat right behind Ingersoll, touched his arm and said, "Sir, I do not know who you are, but I think I can tell you one great thing Christianity has done." Ingersoll said, "What is that?" She replied, "It has kept Robert Ingersoll from being governor of the State of Illinois." A streak of lightning would have not been more startling. Ingersoll turned pale with rage and remained silent.

Teenager, are you saved by the blood of Jesus? Have you ever stood up for Him? He said, **"He that is ashamed of me, of him shall the Son of Man be ashamed..."** Do you let others take His name in vain without saying a word? God help you to stand up for Jesus!

SPECK HUNTERS

“Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and behold, a beam is in thine own eye.” Curtis Hutson said, “Why did he see a speck in his brother’s eye? If you see a speck in somebody’s eye, you have to be looking for it. It is not glaring. It does not demand attention. You know why he saw that speck? He was looking for it. You always find what you are looking for. Remember the old poem: ‘Pussy cat, pussy cat, Where have you been? I’ve been to London to - To see the Queen. Pussy cat, pussy cat, What did you there? I spied a little mouse - Under the chair.’ There is Westminster Abbey with its sainted dead, the London Tower and old Big Ben, the palace and the Queen. But the cat - what did he see? A mouse! Do you know why? He was looking for a mouse. You always find what you are looking for. If you want to get a report on the landscape, don’t send out a buzzard. He will fly over the place and never see the beautiful placid lakes, the flowering trees, etc. When he gets back, ask ‘What did you see?’ he will answer, ‘I saw a dead cow with maggots in it.’ I’ve met a few of them. Several were members in my church. They never saw anything good. They were speck-hunters. They found specks because they were looking for them. Looking for specks in our brother’s eye, we are blinded to our own condition. Here is a man with a two-by-four in his own eye and he is looking for a speck in his brother’s eye. Let’s not be experts in finding specks in our brother’s eye, but let’s be experts at finding the beam in our own eye.” What a pitiful way to spend your life - looking for specks! Jesus said it was hypocrisy to be looking for specks in your brother’s eye when you have a beam in your own. Remember, God is watching YOU!

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LESSON IN OBEDIENCE

D.L. Moody gave the following illustration in the matter of obedience: Suppose I say to my boy, “Willie, please bring me a glass of water.” But he says he doesn’t want to go. “Willie, I asked you politely to go and get me a glass of water, but now I am telling you to go.” He says, “But I don’t want to go.” “I tell you, you must go and get me a glass of water.” He does not like to go. But he knows that I am very fond of grapes, and he is very fond of them also, so he goes out and gets me a very beautiful cluster of grapes. He comes in and says, “Here, papa, here is a beautiful cluster of grapes for you.” “But what about the water?” “Won’t the grapes be acceptable, papa?” “No, my boy, the grapes are not acceptable; I won’t take them, I want you to get me a glass of water.” So, he goes back out and comes back shortly with a nice orange and offers it to me. He says, “There, papa, I hope this will satisfy you, I brought you a delicious orange.” “No, no, no!” I say. “I want a glass of water and you cannot do anything to please me until you obey my order to bring me a glass of water.” If you want to please God, have His blessing, you must obey Him. Many of the Lord’s people are trying to please God with what they want to do, or with what pleases them, but they are not obeying God. *Tozer said words to the effect that most Christians are serving God by doing what they want to do, and because they want to do it, they think God is satisfied.* If you ask these people to do something in the Church they do not like, they will have plenty of excuses not to do it! Must every work of God be according to our wishes and desires? Must we always be pleased? **“Thou therefore obey the voice of the Lord thy God, and do his commandments and statutes...”** ~Deuteronomy 27:10. Note, HIS COMMANDMENTS...- not YOURS!