



A
Ministry
of:

**CORNERSTONE
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

54 Brighton Street
P.O. Box 438
Belmont, MA 02478
Tel: 617-489-2498

Pastor
ROLLAND C. STARR
Editor

WHY WE DO NOT HAVE REVIVAL.

August 2003

First of all we must establish that revival is a term that relates to Christians, God's people. You cannot revive that which never was alive! Revival is not some meetings to get some people saved (as often practiced in Baptist circles). There is really only one reason we do not have revival in Fundamental Baptist churches - God's people don't want it! Please don't tell me they do; if they did we would have it! Is God unwilling to revive His backslidden people? Let's listen to Him: **"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor his ear heavy, that it 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."** ~Isaiah 59:1,2. The great majority of Fundamental Baptists are worldly and more interested in enjoying themselves than in dedicating themselves to the Lord and His work. You may dispute this, but I do not believe that you can be a serious Christian and watch the filthy fare that is on TV. Many Bible believers are more interested in the local ball team or professional sports, than they are in prayer meeting, Sunday night services and seeing souls saved. How many go on Church Visitation in your church? Does your church even have such a thing? I know of none that do! How different it was 47 years ago when I entered the ministry! I am not just being negative; separation unto God and the things of the Lord is not very high on the list of many professed believers today. Sad to say, the average Pastor is just like the people. Some years ago, I heard one Fundamental Baptist Pastor say that while watching a ballgame on TV with his teenage son, he wished he could put his hands over his son's eyes during the commercials. How pathetic! You have heard it said, **"Like priest, like people."** Well, that's not in the Bible. Hosea 4:9 says, **"And there shall be, like people, like priest: and I will punish them for their ways..."** How many Pastors are following the sheep instead of leading in the ways of the Lord? Many are afraid of getting anybody upset lest they leave the church.

In Psalm 85:6, the writer pleads: **"Wilt thou not revive us again that thy people may rejoice in thee?"** Do you hear believers rejoicing in God, in His work, His Church? If there is a revival, God is going to be everything - God's people will not care about TV, ballgames, worldly parties, movies, etc. There will be a whole lot of Bible study, prayer, soul winning, brotherly love, etc. Unfortunately, we will not admit we need revival and we will not repent; this is the only hindrance to a Heaven-sent revival! Anybody who suggests that we are backslidden and in need of revival will be the object of our contempt. For the most part the Spirit has left us and we **"wist it not."** (not that the Spirit leaves the true believer). Our sins and worldliness have grieved Him, if not quenched Him! D.L. Moody hit the nail on the head when he said, *"I want to say right here that the great reason so many Christians -- so called Christians -- are against revivals, is because they are mixed up with the world."* If we want to see our loved ones and others saved, if we want to see the church move forward with God's power, we are going to have to have revival. **"If my people which are called by my name shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from Heaven..."**

WHERE CHURCH MEMBERS COME FROM

Statistics show why people attend a certain Church:
Through radio and TV ministries.....less than 1%.
Through Sunday School outreach.....3% to 8%.
Walk in on their own initiative.....3% to 8%.
Because of a special program.....4% to 10%.
Through a visit by the Pastor.....10% to 20%.
Through special evangelistic meetings.....10% to 25%.
Brought by a friend or relative.....60% to 90%.

YOUTH CORNER

TESTIMONY OF HENRY FORD

Young person, listen to the words of Henry Ford: "All the sense of integrity, honor and service I have in my heart I got from hearing the Bible read by a school teacher in the three years I was privileged to go to a little, old-fashioned grammar school. The teacher read the Bible every morning to start the day right. (What a difference today?) I got a great deal out of that influence. I was brought up in the church. I belong to the church. I attend church. I never go to hear a sermon, whether it is by a preacher in a small church or a large one, that I do not get help." Now, I never heard that Mr. Ford was a born again Christian (I hope he was although I doubt it), but he testifies that the Bible had a great influence on him. It will have a great influence upon anyone who takes it seriously! Tragically, many who profess to be saved do not take it seriously. Many who claim to be born again do not even read it everyday. Young person, believe the Bible and trust Jesus Christ as your Savior, then read it everyday and do what it says. **"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."** ~*Psalm 119:105.*

IF JESUS CAME BACK!

If Jesus Came Back..

Would you have to change your clothes

Before you let Him in?

Or hide some magazines,

And put the Bible where they'd been?

Would you hide your worldly music

And put some hymn books out?

Could you let Jesus walk right in,

Or would you rush about?

And I wonder if the Savior

Spent a day or two with you,

Would you go right on doing,

The things you always do?

Would you go right on saying

The things you always say?

Or would life for you continue

As it does from day to day?

Would you take Jesus with you

Everywhere you go?

Or would you maybe change your plans

For just a day or so?

Would you be glad to have Him

Meet your closest friends?

Or would you hope they stay away

Until His visit ends?

Would you be glad to have Him stay

Forever on and on?

Or would you sigh with great relief

When He at last was gone?

It might be interesting to know,

The things that you would do,

If Jesus came in person,

To spend some time with you.

And, behold, I
come quickly;
and my reward
is with me, to
give every
man according
as his work
shall be.

Revelation
22:12

Be ye
therefore
ready also:
for the Son
of man
cometh at
an hour
when ye
think not.

Luke 12:40

ARE YOU A MUCKRAKER?

I recently read of a man who built himself a pretty fair telescope. He said, "I rigged it up in the attic by the high north window, and had it fixed so it could swing around easily. I took a great deal of satisfaction looking through it - the sky seemed so wide and full of wonders. So, when Hester was here I thought I'd give her the pleasure too. She stayed up there a long time, and seemed to be enjoying it. When she came down I asked her if she had discovered anything new." "Yes," she said, "Why it made everybody's house so near I seemed to be right beside them, and I found out what John Pritchard's folks are doing in their out-kitchen. I have wondered what they had a light there for night after night, and I just turned the glass around on their window and found out. They are setting apples to dry - folks as rich as them cutting apples." That was all the woman had really seen. With the whole heavens before her to study, she had spent her time looking into the affairs of her neighbors. There are a lot of people just like her - many of them Christians - just minding other peoples' business. There are many who are always looking earthward, downward. I have read that pigs cannot look up unless laid on their backs; their eyes are so made that they can only look down. Why would anyone want to be like a pig? A muckraker! Unfortunately, there seem to be more than a few who take pleasure in mucking around in the mud and garbage. The Bible warns about the **"sow that was washed has returned to her wallowing in the mire."**

Cornerstone Baptist Church

54 Brighton Street

P.O. Box 438

Belmont, MA 02478

www.cornerstonebaptistmetrobooston.org

THE PRESERVATION OF SCRIPTURE

During the first generation of Christian leaders, referred to as the Church Fathers, we find numerous quotes of the New Testament from their personal correspondence. For example, Clement of Alexandria, who lived about 150 AD to 212, has 2,406 quotes from all but three books of the New Testament. Tertullian, who was an elder in Carthage and who lived around AD 160 - 220, quotes the N.T. 7,258 times. Of these quotes about 3,800 are from the Gospels. Other Church Fathers include Justin Martyr, 330 quotes; Irenaeus, 1,819 quotes; Origen, 17,922 quotes; Hippolytus, 1378 quotes; and Eusebius, 5,176 quotes, making a total of 36,289 quotes of the New Testament. What is interesting and significant about these quotations of the N.T. is that you could destroy all the manuscripts of the N.T. in existence in the world, and you could reproduce all but eleven verses of the N.T. from the quotes of the Church Fathers....The N.T. stands as the most historically attested to work of the ancient world. - *TBC*

For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

Psalms 119:89