

# Four Steps to Revival

Preparing the Body of Christ for  
the greatest revival of all time

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## INTRODUCTION



### Principles of Revival

**T**here are three principles of Revival that must be understood before we can ever attempt to understand how to have one.

The first principle to understand is that revival is not about feeling good, having exciting church services, or receiving wonderful blessings. Revival is about winning souls – first, foremost, and always. This is the primary reason God sends revival – so that the Church will rise up and shine the Light of Salvation to the millions of lost souls who are on their way to Hell. God is not willing that any should burn in Hell, but He uses His Body to bring that message of hope to them. Jesus said that if He be lifted up, He will draw all men unto Him, and that is what revival is all about.

The second principle is that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is not about you. The Gospel is about others, others, others. We have to turn our focus completely around. Either you're focused on yourselves or you are focused on others. If you don't grasp this concept, you will never understand the Cross. Jesus died to save sinners, and He calls us to that follow Him into that same calling. Until you get your focus off yourself, God cannot begin to bring revival.

The third principle to understand is that nothing in God is free. Everything has a price. And the price for revival

is high – so high, in fact, that that is the reason why true Holy Ghost revivals are so rare. You cannot expect to sit in church and wait for God to drop a revival into your waiting lap – it will not happen. At some point, you will have to get up and do something ... but if you do nothing, nothing will happen. And, if you keep on doing the things you have been doing, they you will always have the things you have, but if you want something different, you will have to do something different. There is a price to pay.

Understanding these principles is vital for us if we ever expect God to move for us.

## Chapter 1

### BATTLE IN PRAYER



*“And if ye go to war in your land against the enemy that oppresseth you, then ye shall blow an alarm with the trumpets; and ye shall be remembered before the LORD your God, and ye shall be saved from your enemies.” Numbers 10:9*

*“Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand” Joel 2:1*

**T**wo silver trumpets were used to call the assembly together, When they were used to blow an alarm, it was to gather the people of God to war. We are called to war, and the weapons that God gives to Christians are mighty through God to cast down everything that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. Paul describes our sword as the Word of God, our breastplate as our righteousness, our helmet as Salvation, and our shield as Faith. We are called forth as warriors to fight the good fight of Faith. The conflict of Light against Darkness is a central theme from Genesis to Revelations and defines our calling as soldiers of the Lord of Hosts. This is war, and we shall not be discharged from it until we die.

We cannot be true warriors if we do not have something to fight for. Our heart will not be in it, our resolve will not be complete, and our courage and determination will fail

until we are willing to risk everything for the kingdom of God's sake. That will not come to a church that has not gone through the first three steps of recognition, desire, and repentance. Only once we have travailed through those phases will we be ready to fight to the death for the truth of God.

The call from God goes out:

*“Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?*

*Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people. Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen”* Joel 2:15-19

This is a call for serious prayer. This is not for a sore foot, a new job, or more money (“Gimme, gimme, gimme”) – this is a call to storm the Throne of God for a revival for the entire land. Gone are the superficial considerations of this world and the satisfactions with “church as usual”. This is a call for war.

The people in the army that Joel describes in chapter 2 are outrageous, rude and brash, uncompromising, and nothing like what we see in our pews today. They care nothing for what the world offers, and they are not

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worried about who is offended by their fierce message of repentance. Their fire is lit from the Altar of God and will not go out until He returns. Nothing will stand in their way. The Lord has commissioned them and utters His voice before them, and they will usher in the coming of the Lord with the strength and power of His zeal.

Does this sound like what we hear over the pulpits or television today? This is not the “kinder, gentler” Gospel that our pastors feed us with. This is the zeal that has eaten us up and whips the moneychangers from the Temple. It will not easily reside in our complacent churches for it will find no common ground there. It is a fire that is designed to burn the chaff and purify the land.

This kind of ferocious warfare is generated by the same kind of prayer. Easy “quiet times” of prayer will not burn hot enough to ignite this fire. Having “a little talk with Jesus” will not break through the doors of the Throne Room to forge an army like this. This takes the strong, contending prayer of warriors who will agonize with tears and crying out to shake the foundations of Heaven for a move of God. This is the kind of faith that declares, “I will not be moved, I will not be denied, I will not give in. I will grasp hold of the horns of the altar and claim the promises of God until Heaven moves, and the earth shakes and God pours out revival!”

Before we take arms to rush to the streets in full battle gear, we must understand that the battle will not be won on the streets until it is won in the prayer room first. And it is not just prayer, but prayer that contends until it receives the answer. Power in God comes from a hard-won victory in the prayer room, and without that power, all that we will show to the lost is a carnal self-righteousness that is devoid of the Spirit of God. If we want a move of God,

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then we need to move God. The flesh profits nothing. The most eloquent orator in the world may convince the mind, but only the Spirit of God can touch the heart.

You can have the best fishing pole and the best bait in the world, but if the fish aren't hungry, they won't take the bait. It takes prayer to direct the Spirit of God to stir up a hunger in their hearts for Truth before we will find souls that are ready for Salvation. If we attempt to run out in our zeal before we have secured the victory in the prayer room, we will accomplish nothing.

Those old-fashioned prayer warriors used to talk about how they would "pray it through" - all the way through - until they got an answer from God. Somewhere in our modern ways of doing things we have lost that ability to crash through the Gates of Heaven. We say we have faith, but faith is not believing that God can do anything. Any fool can believe that. True Faith is believing that God will move, and that you will not quit praying until He does! Anything less than that is not faith, but is presumption. But do we see that kind of faith today? Gone are the all-night prayer meetings that prayed all night long until the dawn broke through for souls to be saved. The desperation of Rachael's Cry has become a whimper. Until we come to that place of total commitment with no compromise, we will not have the drive to take us all the way through.

We have allowed our complacency to dilute our zeal for souls, and as a result have castrated the manhood of the Church. We pray like women, not warriors. (Or should I say little girls, because there are some strong prayer warriors amongst our women that put the rest of us to shame.) God has called us as soldiers and we should pray with the intensity of a warrior to break down every demonic resistance, break through every spiritual

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barrier, and fight for this revival we are so desperate to see established.

Joel calls for a complete sanctification of the Church and a total commitment to serious prayer before the Lord will answer. This can only come from those who are desperate for a move of God. They can be satisfied with nothing less than revival for the entire land. This is the point that God has brought them to. It is not flipped on like a light switch, but is refined through the fire of an entire process that has burned out all other cares and desires. Nothing else matters. "Give me souls lest I die!"

It is at this point that God hears our cry and answers. For the Children of Israel in Egypt, it took over 400 years to get that place of desperation before they would cry out to God. But when they did, God heard their prayers in heaven and sent the Deliverer. How long will it take us to get that same place of desperation?

When we do, He will hear.



## Chapter 2

### THE ANSWER



*“Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the LORD will do great things.*

*Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength.*

*Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.*

*And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.*

*And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.*

*And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.” Joel 2:21-26*

**T**he promise of God is that, if we will seek the face of God in true repentance, He will hear us and answer us and show us great and mighty things that we know not. God wants revival much more than we do..

*“Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith” Joel 2:19*

The judgments of God have cut off the corn, the wine, and the oil from the Church, but judgments are designed not only as a punishment for sin, but also as a call to righteousness. He promises to restore the corn, the wine, and the oil that has been withheld from the house of God. Our separation from God has kept us from discovering the secret, hidden treasures in the Word that only the Spirit can reveal. This is the corn that was wasted. Imagine the riches we have wasted because we have not walked deeply in communion with Him! But now imagine the excitement of experiencing a river of wisdom that shall be revealed as we dive into the Word of God. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God, but our ears have been stopped up by our worldliness. Now our ears will hear, and our faith will reach new levels that will unleash the supernatural in our lives and the lives of those we touch.

The wine of God is that deep communion in prayer with Him. We have read of how our forefathers would agonize in prayer with tears for hours, even all night with God. These men were not able to pray like that simply because they had strong will power or exercised strong discipline. That takes a power from God. The Spirit of God gave them the drive and desire to push past the limits of mind and flesh to contend in prayer to that degree. That drive has mostly disappeared from the church today, but God says He will send that also.

The thrill of breaking through to the Throne Room of God after strong, contending prayer is like nothing you can ever experience with "having a little talk with Jesus". It gives you a victory and a joy that energizes your walk with God. You now walk with the tread of a conqueror to break down all the walls of the enemy. Your confidence in answered prayer knows no limits, and even mountains are cast into the sea because you now have, not just faith in God, but you have the faith of God because you have been there in His presence and the frailty of this world's reality is now ripped away. You can stop the sun, stop the rain, call down fire, and call down the latter rain of revival.

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The anointing oil of the Holy Spirit that Joel says God will restore has been missing for so long that we don't even know what we are missing. As a result, we are satisfied with dry preaching, didactic teaching, and a structured church. We have convinced ourselves that the answer is in theological scholasticism and that educated degrees will suffice instead. Leonard Ravenhill once said that we once had preachers with no degrees but plenty of heat, but now we have preachers with plenty of degrees but no heat. That anointing that has been missing will begin again to flow and life will reenter the church. Imagine being so excited over the message that you can't wait to get back to services, so much so that you now have to have church every day. Sundays will not be enough. You will be telling everyone you meet about how exciting it is! Hungry souls will finally come to get saved, not because of our doctrine or faith, but because they can see the fire in our eyes. This is revival; this is the outpouring from on high that Isaiah spoke about in chapter 32:15.

*“Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.” Joel 2:23*

The fig tree and the vine will once again yield their strength, and as the sap flows through us, we will bear forth much fruit and will no longer be a barren woman. It is that rain that will fall that will bring forth life out of the desert. But not just the rain, for He will send the former rain and the latter rain together. Brother, it ain't just gonna rain -- it is going to pour!

When Elijah told Ahab, “there is a sound of abundance of rain”. That sound is the sound of the mingled prayers of the saints ascending up to Heaven crying out for God to save souls. When you hear that sound, the rain is not far behind. This coming revival will be fueled by an unprecedented desperation for God to forgive us, restore us, and to win the

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souls that we have neglected. It will be a powerful sound. And the answer will be an outpouring rain like never seen before.

*"And the floors shall be full of wheat..." Joel 2:24*

Which floors will be full of wheat? The threshing floors of our churches! Souls are the harvest that Jesus pointed out to His disciples. That harvest must be brought into the threshing floor where it is processed to separate the wheat from the chaff. This is the job of the church to produce a pure kernel without the chaff. The floors won't be half full or mostly full - they will be **full** of souls coming in to ask Jesus Christ to be their personal Savior. The altars will be full, the pews will be packed, and once again, there will be standing room only as people rush to God, dying to get saved.

*"...and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil."*

Not just a lot, but overflow! The Spirit of God will overwhelm our capacity to lose ourselves in praise. Very few today know what it is like to have the Spirit of God flow over you so much that you lose yourself in it. You can't stand up, you can't think, you can't speak anything but resounding praises to God. You become literally drunk on the Spirit. Even the very air will shimmer from the glory of God.

*"...And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God that hath dealt wondrously with you"*

Stretch your imaginations as far as you can, but the things that God will do will still be *wondrous* in our eyes. He will do things that we have never seen or imagined. This revival will be supernaturally incredible ... and wondrous!

He will restore the years that have been lost. He will raise up the valley of dry bones in Ezekiel 37. He will restore His precious Bride and call her to Himself again in the greatest love story of all time.

## Chapter 3

# HOW TO BUILD A FIRE



**I**t's easy to spout off a bunch of high-sounding rhetoric that promotes admirable goals, but without a clear understanding of just how we will achieve those goals, we are left wandering around without direction. Before long, with our zeal exasperated, we would settle back down into the mediocrity that we just came out of. We need to know how to build a fire in our church that will create an excitement that will drive us with passion and that will continue to grow and spread out into our community. Where do we get the drive and desire, the passion and zeal, and the excitement to push past our flesh to accomplish these things that we know we have to do? How do we build a fire in the church that will spread throughout our community and create the excitement that brings revival?

Jesus said that we are the salt of the earth; we are the savor that salts the meal that we offer to the world. Our salt is supposed to make that meal taste so good to the unsaved that they will want more, but if our salt has lost its savor, it is good for nothing. If we bring the unsaved into a church that does not have a fire burning in it, if the salt has no taste to it, then they will turn around and walk back out. If you have nothing more to offer them than what they can already get out in the

world, then why should they surrender their lives to your dead religion?

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto Salvation. It is not some dead philosophy about God, not some intelligent idea with a new perspective on life and Eternity. If that is all you have to offer, then you have no Gospel at all, and you have nothing to offer unsaved souls that are hungry for Truth. We need power in our messages and fire in our churches. All the theological knowledge in the world will do no good without it. But when there is a fire burning in the church, everything happens naturally. The excitement rises in each of the members of the congregation until they find themselves racing out into their community to tell others what is happening in their church. Their neighbors can see it in their eyes and hear it in their voices, and the excitement begins to spread. Like a fire in a field of grass, once it catches hold, the fire cannot be stopped.

The only thing that will build a fire is another fire. Understanding that makes it easy to see that to build a fire in the church, we need to first build a fire in the individuals in the church. Fire burns up, not down. A fire in the pulpit will only bring conviction. The fire needs to start in the pews, and from there it will spread amongst the congregation and then it will set the rest of the church on fire.

How do we do that? The simplest answer I can give is that everything in serving the Lord always comes down to the same two things: reading and prayer. But it begins with the Word because the Word of God is the source of all power. It is the Word of God that created the entire Universe and it is the Word of God that will bring

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revival so that, in the end, it will be God who gets the glory, not man.

The Word gives you knowledge and understanding. It gives you wisdom in the fear of the Lord and discernment in spiritual things. It washes you from uncleanness and gives you power over sin. It gives you Light to see and ears to hear ... and it gives you the power to pray.

If you are going to pray, you have to believe what you are praying for; otherwise it will do you no good because without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). And where do you get faith? From hearing the Word of God. (Romans 10:17). So it is the Word of God that gives you the faith to be able to pray.

But to build a fire, you need both fuel and a spark. The Word of God is the wood and prayer is the spark. Either by themselves will not burn, but put them together, and you will start a fire.

When you take the faith that you gained through reading the Word of God to the Throne of God in prayer, the Spirit and the Word will agree in one (1John 5:7) and the Spirit of God will come down. You now take that Spirit that you just received in prayer back to the Word and you will go deeper. When you go deeper, your ears will open even more and will increase your faith. You take that increased faith back to prayer and you will go higher. When you go higher, you will get more of the Spirit. Take that Spirit back to the Word again, and you will go even deeper. And then higher to the Throne in prayer; and then deeper into the Word; and higher in prayer; and deeper in the Word; and on and on until a fire begins to blaze in your heart and sets you on fire! That's how it is done!

And when you are on fire, you will set others on fire, and they will set even more people on fire ... and it

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will spread like a wildfire in your church. When your church is on fire, it will spread that fire throughout your community. And when your community is on fire, it will keep on burning until revival falls out of the sky. And then nothing can stop it. But it all starts with reading the Word of God.

## Chapter 4

### PRACTICAL STEPS



**H**ere are some practical steps to get us started in the right direction:

#### **Read the Bible everyday**

The first practical step is learning how to discipline yourself to read the Bible. The most important tool God has given us is His Word. Reading the Word of God is where the drive for revival begins. This is where we get our power. Without it, we don't even have the power to pray, never mind know what we are praying about.

God will deal with you through His Word about the very things that you will face that day. Your day will go much smoother and easier when you start your day in the Word. When you don't, you will notice that not only does everything seem frustrating and more difficult, but so much time seems to be wasted.

Here's some practical steps to jump start your reading:

#### ***Read a chapter of Proverbs every day.***

To start yourself on what to read each day, read a chapter of Proverbs. There are 31 days in a month and 31 chapters in Proverbs. Start your day reading the chapter that corresponds to that day's date. Proverbs will give

you wisdom and subtly. They will even speak to you when you find yourself in difficult situations.

In Proverbs, the Lord says that those who seek Him early shall find Him. Discipline yourself to do this the first thing in the morning. Once this habit has taken hold, you will feel the difference in yourself.

More importantly, however, once the Bible has been opened, it is much easier to simply ask the Lord what He wants you to read next, and keep on reading. The hard part was finished when you sat down and opened up to Proverbs. It is so much easier to keep on reading after you have already begun. This is how you begin to build a fire inside your heart.

### *Form Bible Reading Groups.*

You can really have fun with this while at the same time strengthening each other and the whole Church. There are two ways to do this:

Have a night set aside at the church for the pastor or someone in leadership to hold a Bible Study. This is discipleship in its purest form. You should have a leader who knows the Word of God and has a certain measure of authority so that the meeting does not get squandered as a talk session or a venue for unlearned members to spout off their “stuff” and get tied up in vain jangling or debate.

Another effective idea is to form small groups to meet in each other’s homes for dinner and Bible. Everyone brings something for the meal. What an opportunity for fellowship! You get to break bread with your brothers and sisters, have a good meal, and sit around the table and take turns reading a chapter of Bible. You will soon be looking forward to having this “party” every week. You will deepen your understanding in the Word, strengthen

the bonds of fellowship within the church, find support from your brothers and sisters, and have a wonderful venue to invite others to join you. Unsaved souls can also come for the meal and end up getting saved. Young Christians will find themselves absorbed into a brand new loving family. This works on so many levels!

*Assign yourself a specific Prayer Hour every day.*

The old saying is true that “if you don’t pray, you won’t stay.” Without a disciplined prayer hour that you have assigned to yourself, you will always be distracted or tied up doing something else. The devil will never give you time to go pray!

As I mentioned, the Lord says to seek Him early. Throughout time, you will find that every real powerful man and woman of God were people who got up very early to seek the face of God – every one of them! If you wait until a time more convenient, you will end up prayerless.

Assign yourself a time that you can set aside. You are required to get up and start praying during that hour. If you have trouble, then find a brother or sister who will covenant with you to get up and meet at the church or some other private place to pray together every day. You might even find that there are several others who also need the corporate discipline to meet together and you might start a prayer group that begins to break down old walls of flesh and laziness that had always hampered your prayers before. Now watch the powers of Heaven begin to move for you in ways you never expected. This is the call that God is crying out for in the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of Joel, and it is essential for any revival to ever take place.

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Once the powerful momentum of prayer begins to roll, start looking for an opportunity to link together with believers in other churches in your community to establish a 24 hour/7 days a week prayer chain. This will bind together the churches in your community and will present a united front to beat down the powers of darkness. What a powerful testimony this is! It will not only strengthen your entire community, but will douse Satan's attempts to create division in the Body of Christ. The Prophet Joel said of the army of Christians in the last days that they would not thrust one another and would not break their ranks.

There is something powerful about a 24/7 prayer chain that moves God. He must love the constant scent of that incense from the prayers of His children. Whatever it is, I can testify that it does move Him, and will start the wheels of revival turning.

### *Foot Washings and Holy Communion.*

There is something incredibly powerful about a congregation that is bound together in the Spirit. One of the best ways to do that is by having an old-fashioned footwash. Jesus set the example in John 13 and commanded us to wash one another's feet.

The Bible teaches us that whenever we have a problem with another brother or sister, we should go to that person and humble ourselves and make sure our brother. It does not matter who is originally at fault or who is right or who is wrong. The sin of spiritual pride knows no such distinction. This is how Satan causes division in the church and, in doing so, destroys any hope for revival.

Go to that person you have a difference with, ask them to forgive you if you have done or said anything wrong,

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and ask to wash their feet. This will break your spirit of pride like nothing else can. But once you have done that, any and all differences or offenses will completely dissolve and a bond will be established between you that will destroy whatever Satan has tried to create.

Now imagine this on a church-wide level. Pick a time, gather the whole church together, break out the wash basins and towels, and wash each other's feet. You will experience a cleansing through the whole church and a freedom in your spirits that will allow your faith to soar. It will free the Spirit of God to flow.

Holy Communion has a similar function. Remember we are to have communion not only with the Blood, but also with the Body - your brothers and sisters in Christ. Before you take Holy Communion, take a time out for everyone to have a chance to go to anyone they have a problem with and ask forgiveness. Again, it is important to remember that it is not about who is right or wrong, but to heal the wounds in the Body and seal up the divisions that the accuser of the saints has tried to create. 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 11 warns us that taking Holy Communion with sin on our souls causes us to be weak and sick. Hatred and variance with your brother or sister is a grave sin in the eyes of God because He said that we would be known by the love we have toward one another.

### *Overseers and Baby Christians.*

The Pastor cannot and should not be expected to do everything. There must be overseers in the House of God to watch over the church, seasoned men and women who have the spiritual discernment to perceive right and wrong. There is too much at stake to allow anything to slip through unnoticed and unresolved. That includes

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maintenance of the church, taking care of the needs of individuals, and watching for encroaching weaknesses that can slip in amongst the flock, especially in the young and the weak. Make sure there are leaders appointed to help keep the church healthy.

Jesus said that He would that we bore much fruit and that our fruit would remain. What good would it be to win souls and then let them fall by the wayside because the people in the church did not care enough about them to take care of them? We should be as committed to tending the young in the Lord as we would our own children. The last part of the Great Commission in Matthew 28 is to teach the new converts everything that He has taught us.

Every brand-new soul that gets saved should have an older Christian assigned to them to help show them how to serve the Lord. He or she should be as older friends, committed to read with them, pray with them, take them out witnessing and watch over them. It doesn't have to be a deacon or elder to do this, but anyone who has been actively saved long enough to know and understand the basics of how to serve the Lord. It is one of the greatest blessings to have the opportunity to be an older Christian and watch your young Christian grow in God.

If we don't take care of our young, why would we expect God to send any of His precious souls to us? This is the heartbeat of revival – the winning and the raising of new souls.

### *Witnessing and Open Air Crusades.*

Revival is all about winning souls. It is not about feeling good, having wonderful services, or even about miracles. It is about winning souls. To do that, you have to share the Gospel with them. This is not an option or something

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you can ignore. It is central to the whole concept of the Gospel. I usually spend an entire service on this one thing alone, using passage after passage to prove that according to the Word of God, if you do not have mercy on the lost, then you may find yourself facing the Mercy Seat of Christ without enough mercy to pass over. If you want revival, this is what revival is about. "Give me souls, lest I die!"

Do not make the mistake of making witnessing something difficult to do. You do not have to worry about being a preacher, knowing a volume of scriptures, having the answers to a bunch of oblique questions, or even having to convince anyone to get saved. All you have to do is invite them to come to church. That's it! Just invite them in. Simple and easy.

It must be understood that you have to have a fire burning in the church first, otherwise the souls that come in are likely to walk right back out. They want the real thing, not some cheap imitation. But once the fire is burning, it is easy to win souls because you are already excited about what is happening at your church! Does that make sense? They don't listen to the words being preached or read the Gospel tracts you hand them anywhere as near as much as what they see in you. When you are excited they can see it in your eyes. It is your spirit that speaks to them more than anything else.

You don't have to rely on fancy, expensive Gospel tracts. We won 100,000 souls and all we had was a rubber stamp on blank paper that we cut out into little ragged squares and handed out on the streets. Don't have money? Neither did we. You're probably better off without the fancy religious stuff anyway. You can do this -- just get a rubber stamp with your church's address, service times, and a phone number. Stamp up a bunch of invitations

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and just head out to the street. All you have to do is hand them out and keep going. If someone stops you to ask a question, then great! If not, you just keep on going. Those little invitations will take on a life of their own, and God will use them to deal with and convict the souls that He has put before you. All you have to do is invite them. God will do all the rest of the work ... if you let Him.

Open air crusades work a lot better in Africa than they do in America. Times have changed, and so do methods. If Open Air Crusades work for you, then do them. If they do not, then do something else that does work. But by all means, witness. Your life depends on it.

*Have a vision.*

The Bible says that where there is no vision, the people perish. (Prov. 29:18) You have to have a vision to know where you are going that will help you overcome the obstacles that will be thrown in your path. There has to be a passion in your heart to drive you past your flesh or you will never go anywhere in the Lord. Jesus told us to deny ourselves, pick up our cross, and follow Him. His vision was the Cross and the victory that was won to win the souls of all mankind. How can we follow Him if we have no vision set before us to strive for? We need a vision or we will perish in our own mediocrity.

Our lives are often limited by the horizon that we can see around us, but if you want a real Holy Ghost revival, you will have to set your vision past the horizon that you can see with your eyes, and set it where you can only see it with your faith. Act like you believe the Bible. Have the courage to believe God, and take Him at His Word. Only then can a path be set that leads to victory.

In Habakkuk 2:2, the Lord says to write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that reads it. Write it down! Until it is put on paper, it doesn't really exist. And then post it where it can testify to your face. Now you know where you are going and why. Now you have a compass to guide you in the direction that will fulfill your calling in God.

The same is true for the church. Your church should have a vision that defines the ultimate goal that you want to achieve. Post it on the wall of the church so everyone can see. Now your church has a goal, has a direction, and has a passion that is set before you so that you know what you are doing and why.

The price for revival is high, and without a vision, you will not have the passion to pay that price.



## CONCLUSION



The things I have related to you are all written in the Word of God, and they shall come to pass. There have been great revivals in times past, but the great revival that is promised in Joel and Isaiah has yet to be fulfilled. Six times, the prophet Joel identifies the time for this revival would be just before “the Day of the Lord”.

This timing makes perfect sense because the spiritual conditions will be the same as they were just before His first coming. Isaiah 53:2 says that Jesus was a root out of dry ground. It was a spiritual drought that left the whole of Israel dying of thirst for a new move from God. There were synagogues and Pharisees in every town, but just the rumor of this prophet rising out of Israel caused thousands of simple farmers to drop their plows and walk the long distance to Jordan to hear His words. It will be even drier just before He returns -- the perfect setting for revival. I don't know how long it will last, or when it will break forth, but I do know it is coming.

But it is not coming to the church world as we know it today. God will give the churches a certain space of time to repent, but they will not repent. Why should they? They do not feel they have to. Revival would be nice, but they don't feel the desperate need to have one at any cost. The sad thing about apostasy is that the same blankets of comfort and ease that the church covers herself with, are the same blankets that cover her ability to see. She is the

last to realize how dead she is, even though it is blatantly clear to everyone around her.

The Church of Laodicea is alive in our churches today. She thinks she is rich and increased with the blessings of God, but she is blinded by her comfort and cannot see how far she has fallen from where she once was. Churches that were once forged in the fires of revival have now become social organizations - sophisticated, rich, organized, theologically-correct, and proud of a heritage that they no longer possess. Their pride will not allow them to repent, and so their candlesticks slowly fade away as they sit complacently in the increasing shadows that grow around them. The fire that once burned so hot has simmered down to coals and ashes that are now only lukewarm.

God will raise up stones in their place. Spread across the land is a Gideon generation that wants something more than just "church as usual". These are the people whom God will call out of those dead institutions to forge Joel's Army for this last great battle between God and Satan for the souls of man.

There is no question that this last great revival will come. It will come. The Holy Spirit is sounding the trumpet. The question is will you answer the call? If you do not, then you will end up standing on the sidelines watching as the fire of God falls on some other church that was willing to do what you were not. The choice is yours.

Friend, we are living in the most exciting time of all history. War is also coming - terrible spiritual war - and it is for such a time as this that we are called to stand in this final battle. This is the final culmination of the conflict that has gone on since the beginning of time. Heroes will be forged during this final battle that will shine throughout Eternity.

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## FOUR STEPS TO REVIVAL

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Answer the call, rise to the challenge, and believe God for the greatest revival of all time.

