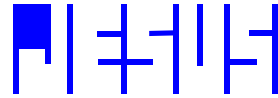


Spiritual Revival

"YOU ARE LOVED!" - DR. MYRON J. PETERSEN, TH.D

WHAT DO YOU SEE?



- . . Thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, . . . Ezek 36:22
- 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. Ezek 22:30 .
- . . Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts. Zech 4:6
- Command the children of Israel, that they bring unto thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamps to burn continually. Lev 24:2
- The fire shall ever be burning upon the altar; it shall never go out. Lev 6:13
- Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Matt 5:15

KEEP THE FIRE BURNING

Spiritual revivals are "born, not made." God is their author, with the person of the Holy Spirit as director and executor. Lives of Worship illuminate while receiving Instruction, Fellowship, and Expression from the one and only true God of love. Only in submission to the divine will do we experience the fulness of God's purpose for our lives—to keep "the main thing the main thing"—to love God and to love others. Wanting to be greatly used of God in the salvation of souls, we must be dead to the praise of men, dead to self seeking and self importance and dead to everything but the glory of God and the value of immortal souls. God told the Levitical priests to keep the fire burning. Jeremiah the prophet said, "But if I say, "I will not remember Him or speak anymore in His name," then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire shut up in my bones; and I am weary of holding it in, and I cannot endure it." Jer 20:9 (NAS) Brothers, sisters, keep the fire burning. Children of God who yearn for the salvation of men must be like clay in the hands of the potter. I believe in the one true God who performs miracles. Great joy abounds in the miraculous rebirth of souls and a faith that laughs at impossibilities and cries, "It must be done."

HOLY REVIVAL

Holy revival turns criticism and fault-finding into confession and tears. Repentant sinners weep on their faces before the Lord. Sandy foundations give way to the foundation of which earth and hell cannot prevail. Holy revivals are born of intense desire and prevailing prayer breathed into the heart of one or more of God's children.

REPRODUCTION AND INCREASE

Reproduction and increase is the law of life whether in vegetation, animal life or spiritual life. God designs his spiritual church to be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth with spiritual children. God never forces spiritual fervor upon an unwilling church, but the Holy Spirit at all times intercedes in the hearts of those close to God, who desire spiritual intercession for an increase of the power of God to be revealed in the salvation of souls. Visibly, a manifestation of humility and repentance in God's people accompanies strong faithful preaching of the Word.

THE 4 R's — REPENTANCE, REVIVAL, REGENERATION, RIOTS

When repentant sinners yield to God, the church is revived and reproduces a regeneration of souls. Riots may soon follow. In the Book of Acts, the church would never riot. It was those who opposed the one true God that would riot against the church. At all times, including tribulation, persecution, and suffering, "trust in the Lord with all your heart."

Wanting to be greatly used of God in the salvation of souls, we must be dead to the praise of men, dead to self seeking and self importance and dead to everything but the glory of God and the value of immortal souls.

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WEEPING, GNASHING OF TEETH, & PAIN

God does not want anyone to go to hell. However, because of sin, all (except infants) who die apart from Christ are speeding to that everlasting torment, where there will be weeping, gnashing of teeth, and pain. Through faith in Christ those who believe are **saved** from their sins and **rescued** from eternal fire. This is why Jesus is called "THE SAVIOR." God created hell for the devil, not for man. God created man not for hell, but for Himself.

ELECTION DAY

God has plainly declared that it is not His will that any should perish—but that all should turn unto Him and live. He has also declared that "Now is the accepted time and now is the day of salvation." With these two plain statements agree the entire word of God; and they prove beyond all question that God wills the salvation of every human being and that the time when this is His choice for every human is the present. God wills all men to be saved; and He wills all men to be saved now. The devil, however, wills for all men to go to hell and to be tormented for all eternity. A simple person once said, "God votes for you. The devil votes against you. Your vote breaks the tie." If the church of God only waits for a revival, she will wait till time is lost in eternity.

STAND IN THE GAP

Human hearts are needed to stand in the gap by the Spirit of God in toil and sacrifice, in wrestling prayer and loving intercession—hearts so filled with divine love that they cannot and will not be denied. So wonderfully does God delight to have mercy that in a time of gross sin and idolatry in Israel He Himself declared: "I sought for a man from 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." (Ezek. 22:30) Wrestle in prayer until God says, "Let me go." John Knox, with his soul stirred to its inmost depths, cried out "Give me Scotland or I die." God saved you, not for your sake alone but that He might, through you, glorify Himself and save others whom He loves as well as you.

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

God declares His Word to be the sword of the Spirit and that it is "Quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing assunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Great responsibility rests upon us to proclaim His truths to the people.

SOULOWINNING . . . he that winneth souls is wise. Prov 11:30

Only failure and confusion can come to that man who hopes to win souls by substituting for the sword that God has provided, an instrument of his own choosing, when the plain commission given him from above is: "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine." He too will fail who uses the weapon God provides but wields it not in the power of the Holy Spirit. Paul declared, "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. (1 Thess. 1:5.) **HATE THE SIN, BUT LOVE THE SINNER:** Apostle Paul would cease not to "warn everyone night and day with tears." Our love for Christ often constrains us with a measured love and passion for lost souls. Without love, we are nothing. Hate the sin, but love the sinner. Spiritual revival is the beginning of a great spiritual awakening.

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