

The Purity of Revival

"I am persuaded that I shall obtain the highest amount of personal holiness, I shall do most for God's glory and the good of men, and I shall have the fullest reward in eternity by maintaining a conscience always washed in the blood of Christ, by being filled with the Spirit at all times, and attaining the most entire likeness to Christ in my will and heart that it is possible for a redeemed sinner to attain in this world."

—Robert Murray McCheyne

"Revival must ever be related to holiness. True revival is a revival of holiness." — Duncan Campbell

"Be ye holy; for I am holy." (1 Peter 1:16)

It is impossible for the Holy Spirit to come upon a people without producing a burning desire for holy and righteous living. The amazing revival under Hezekiah in 2 Chronicles 29 illustrates this point. After repairing the doors (the access point) of the house of the Lord, Hezekiah gathered the priests and Levites together. His first instruction, "sanctify now yourselves." The people God uses in revival must first be revived themselves. His next dictate; "carry forth the filthiness out of the holy place." All manner of garbage and filth had

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***"Until we reach
for the
IMPOSSIBLE
through fervent,
faith-filled
prayer, we will
NEVER fulfill our
created purpose!"
—David Smithers***



Revival Prep Conference - Stonewood, WV

There is a group of twenty pastors who meet in northern West Virginia every month for prayer. They are not praying for revival, they are praying about how to handle the revival when it comes! How unusual to find a group of pastors who are unified and believing for an outpouring. I had a wonderful time speaking to a gathering of several churches on Sunday night as well as a Revival Prep Conference on Monday.

polluted the “*inner part of the house of the Lord.*” It took these sanctified servants sixteen days to cleanse God’s house. A mountain of rubbish had accumulated due to neglect and disuse. The nation of Israel, God’s chosen people, had chosen to follow their fallen ways instead of the path God had prescribed for them. Consequently, a thorough house-cleaning was necessary.

The instrument in revival does not have to be perfect, but he does have to be honest! God’s men and women must deal openly in transparent honesty about their sins in the white-heat of God’s manifest presence. God knows better than we the condition of our hearts. He is fully aware of all “filthiness” in our holy place. He knows our thoughts and motives, and searches the secret places in our souls. The candidate for revival is not seeking a dark place to hide; rather he comes willingly to the Light. John Wesley declared in 1737: “My one aim in life is to secure personal holiness, for without being holy I cannot promote real holiness in others.” This was four years prior to his conversion!

Personal Holiness

The individuals God uses in revival have consecrated themselves fully to God. David Brainerd was among the North American Indians one night prior to one of their pagan festivals. He went off into the woods to be alone with God. He wrote concerning this experience: “All things here below vanished, and there appeared to be nothing of any considerable importance to me but holiness of heart and life, and the conversion of the heathen to God. All my cares, fears, and desires, which might be said to be of a worldly nature disappeared, and were, in my esteem, of little more importance than a puff of wind. I exceedingly longed that God would get to himself a name among the heathen, and I appealed to him, with the greatest freedom, that he knew I “preferred him above my chief joy.” Men who are in vital union with God carry with them a spirit of holiness as well as urgency.

The Psalmist gave God permission to speak to him, “*Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me*” (Ps.139:23-24). Like the Psalmist we can issue an invitation to the Holy Spirit to turn His searchlight toward our own hearts. McCheyne, who saw revival in Dundee in 1839, prayed, “Lord, make me as holy as a saved sinner can be.”

In 1858 a minister in Aberdare wrote about the great need of revival. Among his suggestions as to how the revival might

Our Schedule

- **January 3-5**
Core Conference
Beacon Baptist Church
Raleigh, NC
- **January 14**
Homecoming Services
Victory Ind. Baptist Church
Roanoke, VA
- **January 25-27**
Men’s Prayer Advance
Shenandoah Baptist Church
Roanoke, VA
- **January 28-31**
Revival Summit
New Hope Baptist Church
Goode, VA
- **February 23-25**
Iron Man Conference
First Baptist Church
Grove City, OH
- **March 16-18**
Revival Summit
Catawba Valley Baptist Ch.
Troutville, VA
- **March 23-25**
Men’s Retreat
Mt. Airy Bible Church
Mt. Airy, MD

Contact Us

Christ Life Ministries
PO Box 399
Vinton, VA 24179

(540) 890-6100
info@christlifemin.org

Visit us on the web at
www.christlifemin.org

Listen to great Revival
preaching on
www.christliferadio.com

Prayer Advance Testimonies

"My husband and I really enjoyed our first Couples Advance. We enjoyed the music, speakers, and sweet spirit of everyone we met. Thank you for both the time and effort you both put into planning this event."

"First, thank you so much for the couples advance! It was our first one and it was fantastic; my husband and I really enjoyed it."

"Great Couples' Advance! Thank you and God bless you for your ministry, vision, and faithfulness. Looking forward to seeing you and your family again soon."

"Praise The Lord! God is really working on our marriage to make it more heavenly and we would like to share that message."

"I thoroughly enjoyed each service and God refreshed my soul. For several years I have thought of attending and now that I have, I can't wait to come again!"

come he wrote about the need for "a pure ministry and apostolic preaching." He went on to say "the awakening must start in the pulpit...the church must be in full sympathy with the ministry." This godly man, along with many others, helped to pave the way for the mighty torrent which followed in 1859.

Morbid introspection is neither healthy nor helpful, but Holy Spirit inspection is imperative. There is no profit in conducting your own personal "witch-hunt." Man, apart from God's Spirit, is simply incapable of diagnosing his true condition. Our job is simply to *"walk in the light, as he is in the light"* (1Jn. 1:7). As we do *"we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."*

The Refiner's Fire

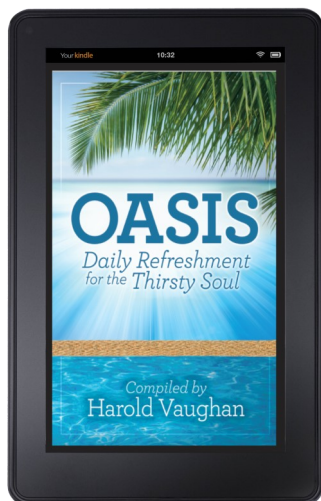
In Bible times fire was an essential element in the refining process of precious metals like silver. Scripture speaks of *"silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times"* (Ps. 12:6). The metal smith would heat the silver ore until it liquefied. The silver, being heavier, would settle and the impurities would surface. The smith would take a ladle and skim off the scum and then let the ore cool down. He would heat it hotter the second time and a different sort of filth would surface. Again these contaminants would be removed. This process was repeated seven times until the metal was so pure that the metal smith could see his own reflection in the purified liquid.

Could it be that this is precisely what God does in revival? In the white heat of God's manifest presence hearts are melted and hidden sin begins to surface. Things which are undetected under normal conditions stand out like **BOLD PRINT** when God is near. The humble saint admits his sin and finds forgiveness and cleansing. Repeated visits to the fountain of grace accelerate his growth in Christ-likeness. *"By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil"* (Pro. 16:6).

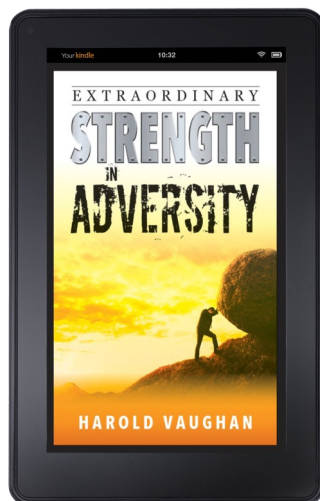
We need now, more than ever, for God to bring such a purging and cleansing to our personal lives and our churches. To find it, we must be willing to walk in the light and let the Holy Spirit inspect our hearts.

"Revival in Our Time: Outside the Box—Inside the Book!" (Chapter 17) By Harold Vaughan - [**CLICK HERE**](#) to order from our web-site.

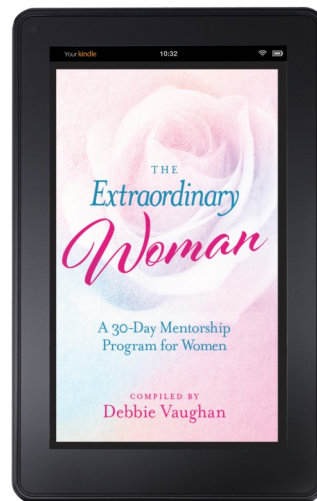
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Prayer & Praise

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- Moving of God at the MPA
- Physical health and strength

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