

March 2023

FULLNESS

Magazine Online

REVIVAL.



Have You Joined the Revolution?

By Dr. Dennis Burke

**The First Great Awakening:
Lessons Learned**

By Dr. Tom Reedy

**What is Revival, Why Do We Need it
and When Will it Come?**

By Derrick Gates

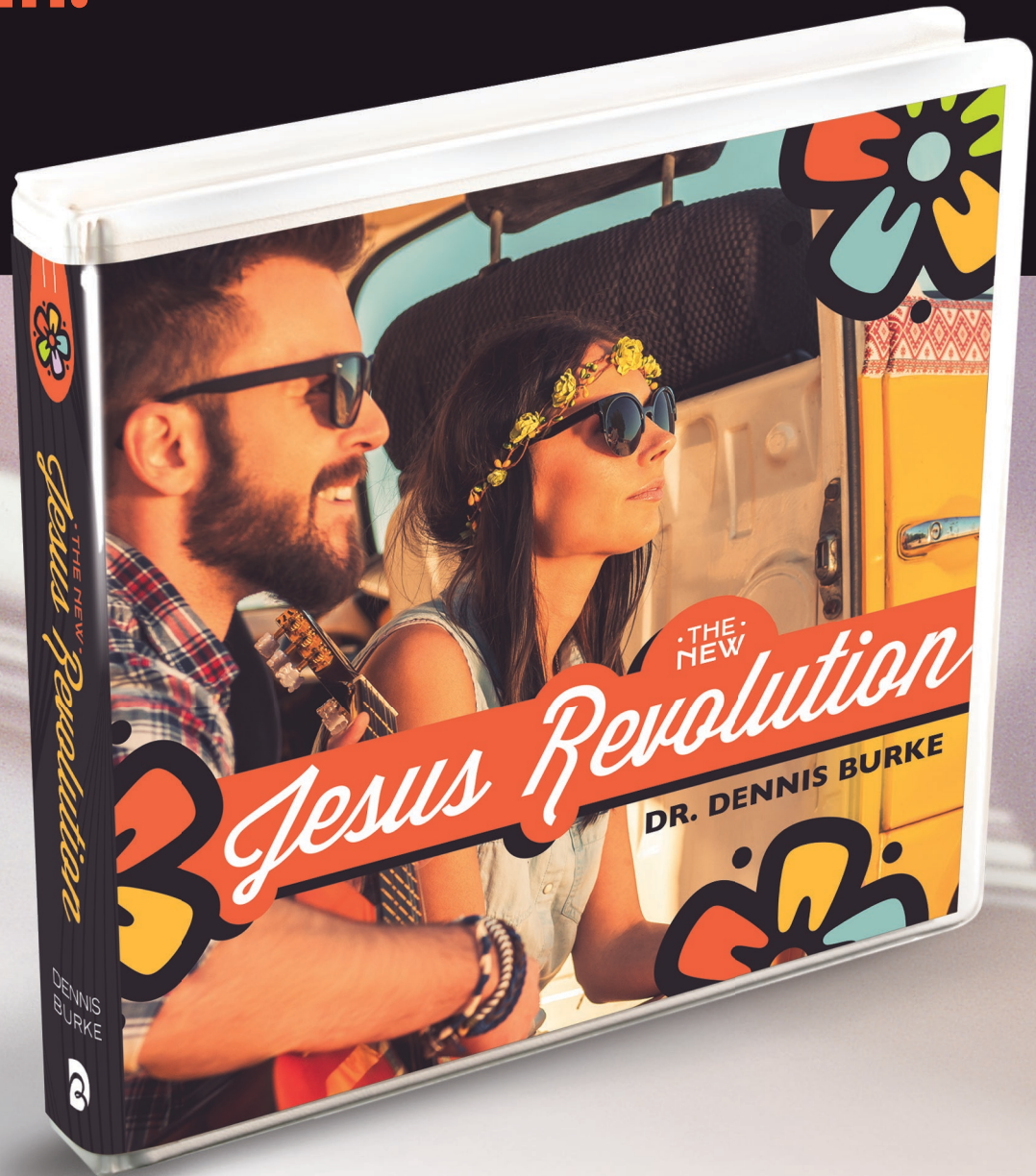
Revival...You Were Born for Such a Time as This

By Jennifer Peikert

Revival in the Church

By Steven Dove

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Have You Joined the Revolution?

by Dr. Dennis Burke

There is a revolution going on right now. Multitudes of people all over the world are becoming more committed to *being* the Church than they are to merely *going* to church.

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Revival - You Were Born For Such a Time as This

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Ras and
Beverly Robinson

FOUNDERS of
Fullness Magazine



Editor's Letter

Revival



We are in a kairos time of revival. Kairos represents the ideal decisive moment when a particular person or situation can most effectively experience transformation, conversion or resolution through a timely application of spoken word or deed. It is how personal transformation comes by way of certain “*auspicious moments*” or breakthroughs that are akin to seemingly divine intervention. As we are preparing to publish this Revival edition of Fullness Magazine Online, the Asbury Revival has been going on for almost ten days. The decision to focus on revival for this edition was made in December of last year. Our editorial board believes that this is not a coincidence but a divine moment in time that calls us to enter into what God is doing in the earth right now—Revival. The last edition was on the Holy Spirit who is the One who initiates revival. We at Fullness, are experiencing the revival fire of the Holy Spirit.

The guiding scripture for the online magazine is “*Like a scribe who brings out of his storehouse old and new treasures,*” where we remember the former magazine’s impact and add to it the online magazine. The original magazine was birthed out of spiritual revival that became what is known as The Third Wave (Peter Wagner) that transformed many Baptist congregations. The Fullness message is we need to be filled with the Spirit continuously. Revival begins in us. We are meant to be revival carriers.

The Asbury (Student-led) Revival

“*On February 3, 1970, revival swept our campus and then our nation. 50 years later, in February 2020, we gathered to remember this significant and impactful outpouring that flooded across the nation.*” Then on February 8, 2023, the Campus of Asbury College erupted in revival.

Vance E. Christie states, “*The first season of revival that came to Yale College during the Second Great Awakening, [t]he college’s president at that time was Timothy Dwight, grandson of Jonathan Edwards. When Dwight assumed the reins of leadership at Yale in 1795 the college “was in a most ungodly state,” and only about ten percent of its 125 students publicly professed to be Christians.*” (See article on The First Great Awakening)



Timothy Dwight, Grandson of Jonathan Edwards and the Second Great Awakening.

Christie states, “*Then in 1802 full-fledged revival swept across the campus. For several months a small group of students met weekly to pray that God would bring spiritual awakening to Yale. That year one-third of the Yale student body, which then numbered 230, professed saving faith in Jesus Christ, and fifty-eight students joined the college church.*”

According to Christie, “*A student later reported: “The whole college was shaken. It seemed for a time as if the whole mass of the students would press into the kingdom. It was the Lord’s doing, and marvelous*

in all eyes ...Thirty students, half the revived senior class, entered pastoral ministry. While only thirteen graduates had become ministers in the four years preceding the revival, in the four years that followed the awakening, sixty-nine graduates went on to pastor local churches.”

We are excited to be able to include as our featured writer an article by Dr. Dennis Burke entitled, “*Have You Joined the Revolution.*” He became a part of the Jesus People revival in 1971, which is now referred to as the Jesus Revolution- “*Revolutionary believers [who] have grasped the importance of continually drawing on the anointing of the Holy Spirit indwelling them.*”



Derrick Gates, an apostolic evangelist who ran for congress and pastors 412LA Freedom Center, traveled for a year throughout the United States conducting revivals where there were many salvations, healings, and empowerments. He recounts in his article, “*What is Revival, Why Do We Need it and When Will it Come?*”, the lessons he has learned from his experiences.

Dr. Thomas Reedy’s article “*The First Great Awakening: Lessons Learned*” discusses the difference between a revival and an awakening. Drawing upon the history of The First Great Awakening, Dr. Reedy discusses the conditions and effects that may apply to current and future revivals.



Steven Dove, an elder at Fullness in Christ Church submits an article entitled “*Revival in the Church*”. He explores current and former biblical revivals in order for believers to consider the importance of personal revival.



Jennifer Peikert’s article, “*You Were Born for Such a Time as This*” recounts her ministry experiences of revival and supernatural occurrences. She states, “*I hear Him say: “Ready or not, here I come.” I also hear Him saying, “I am releasing wave upon wave upon wave of My glory...REVIVAL IS HERE. The Third Great Awakening has*



STARTED and you were born for such a time as this.”

In Jennifer Peikert’s “*Declaring the Truth*” column, Leaving The Past, Stepping into the Future, she declares, “He [God] wants us to drink in His NEW WINE as we get ADVANCED by HIM ...

ADVANCEMENT is your destiny for 2023.”

In Budd Rodger’s “*The Shepherd’s Voice*” column, he draws upon his experience with revival in Baptist churches and recounts movements of Revival. He encourages believers to embrace revival and its transformative power personally and in the church.



These are exciting times in which we live, and we invite you to become a part of the “*Fullness*” message of inviting others to “Experience God’s Kingdom Now” in the midst of revival.

If this magazine has been a blessing to you, you may subscribe and donate to Fullness Magazine Online by clicking on the following link: www.fullnessnetwork.net

May you live in the fullness of Christ and experience revival in your heart and life.

Thomas Reedy



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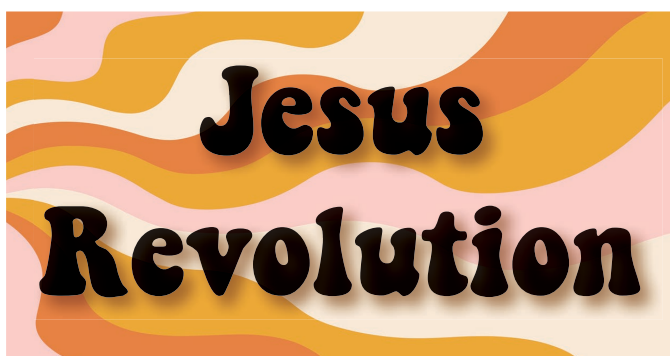


by Dr. Dennis Burke

There is a revolution going on right now.

Multitudes of people all over the world are becoming more committed to being the Church than they are to merely going to church. Most come from the ranks of common men and women who have discovered their purpose and the possibility of being used by God to influence people for His Kingdom.

These are radical believers who have a passion for God's Word and for the continual presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives. They want to reflect the life and love of Jesus. They are sold out and have made their relationship with Jesus the main factor of every aspect of their lives. These are the "Jesus people" of today.



My own experience with Jesus came when I was a young man in 1971. It was amid a move of God that came to be referred to as the Jesus Revolution. Throughout the country and in nations around the world, there was a resurgence of radical Christianity.

By "radical", I mean that those of us called "Jesus People" didn't merely receive a renewed interest in going to church — we experienced a drastic change in the core of our being. Jesus was at the center of everything, and we were not ashamed to let anyone and everyone know! A very similar move of God is beginning to sweep throughout the earth today. God is taking ordinary people and doing extraordinary things—oftentimes in very unusual or difficult places. Recently, Vikki read a report of the underground church in Iran having an explosion of growth that the Christian leaders describe as "revolutionary" and an "awakening".

These are words that I believe best express the heart of God for the days in which we live. Although history is full of examples of revival in specific and individual places that are important to remember, this is the time for a global move of God — one without borders or limits. But for us to be prepared to take our place in this global move, we need to have a clear grasp of what it really means to be the Church. We also need to know the real assignment of the Church.

The very first time the word "church" was used came at a moment when Jesus revealed the power He intended for His Church to wield. Notice what He said to Peter in **Matthew 16:18**:

"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

The Church is made up of people set apart and chosen. Every person has made the choice to become

joined to His church. To understand what it is to be “chosen” let me take a paragraph from the devotional entitled Sparkling Gems from the Greek, written by a great friend named Rick Renner.

*In classical Greek writings, this word eklego referred to a person or a group of people who were selected for a specific purpose. For example, the word eklego was used for the selection of men for military service. It was also used to denote soldiers who were chosen out of the entire military to go on a special mission or to do a special task.*¹

Jesus used a word that was not religious to define and describe the people He was calling to action. He didn't say He would build His synagogue. Rather, He was saying in effect that He would build a selected group of people for service and for special missions and tasks. He is building each of us to be members of His special missions or special ops force. We can know that Hell itself will not prevail against us!

The real Church is an occupying force made up of separated people. Believers who recognize their mission know that they are to reflect Jesus' ways, be His voice, exercise His authority, and live as beacons of His light.



*But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.*²

These are such powerful words that add so much definition to what it means to be the Church! They provide divine insights into God's view of every believer.

“Chosen generation”: We are part of a generation — “the Jesus generation”. This is the generation that has the revelation of the Christ — that every child of God carries the anointing of Jesus.

“Royal priesthood”: We are a kingdom of priests, each having access into the Heavenly Holy of Holies.

“Holy nation”: We are a new race of people, no longer defined only by our national origin or the color of our skin. We are a new nation and we belong entirely to our King — Jesus.

“Special people”: We belong to Him, and He claims us as His family.

“Called out of darkness and into light”: We are delivered from everything the kingdom of darkness has created. We are in the light of Jesus' Kingdom.

When Jesus told His disciples that He would build His Church, He said it would be built on the revelation that He is the Christ, the One anointed. Today, we know that His anointing comes unto everyone who has called on the name of Jesus to be saved. Collectively we are the Body of His anointing — the Body of Christ.

Jesus' authority is now ours in Him. His power now resides in us. His love is now poured into us. And nothing can prevail against us when we are living in His authority, power, and love. He said it clearly: “...The gates of Hades shall not prevail against it [the Church].”³ This is the power you possess — the power to be an influencer and to refuse to allow the influence of Hell to overcome you.



The gates of the cities were the entrance points where a great many things that would influence the city were either allowed in or resisted. Whether we're talking about the gates of a city, a society, or a person — gates represent places of access to influence. So when Jesus went on to describe the authority being given to the Church, He was letting us know that we play a vital role in this spiritual revolution.

*And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.*⁴

God has always taken ordinary people and done amazing things. This is why the Body of Christ exists today. We are His voice and His hands to many people. God touches people when we touch them. He expresses His love to people as you love them. He sends provision to ministries, and He meets needs as you give.

*Every one of us has been given the Word of God for instruction and the gifts of the Holy Spirit to empower us to do the works of Jesus.*⁵

The great secret of the Gospel is that Christ is in you in order to operate through you to produce miracles that destroy the works of the enemy and help bring

¹ Rick Renner, *Sparkling Gems from the Greek 1* (Tulsa: Harrison House, 2003), p. 384

² 1 Peter 2:9

³ Matthew 16:18 NKJV

⁴ Matthew 16:19

⁵ John 14:12

many into the Kingdom of God. Notice what Colossians 1:26-27 says in the Emphasized Bible by Rotherham:

The sacred secret which had been hidden away from the ages and from the generations, but now hath been made manifest unto his saints, unto whom God hath been pleased to make known what is the glorious wealth of this sacred secret among the nations, which is Christ in you, the hope of the glory.

Revolutionary believers have grasped the importance of continually drawing on the anointing of the Holy Spirit indwelling them. As a result, the glory of God is revealed in their daily lives. Revolutionary believers have set aside many things that would interrupt or hinder their quest for God. They know that not all who call themselves Christians are truly pursuing the things of God.

So, find the friends and mentors who have made the wisdom of God their own pursuit. Look for the people who are growing in God's love, and they will inspire you to do the same.

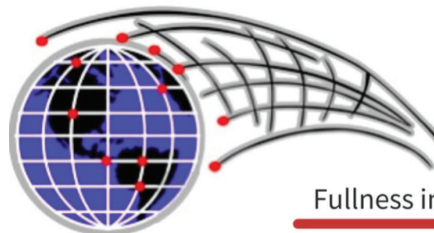
**The revolution is on —
are you brave enough to join?**



Since 1979, Dennis Burke has led multitudes of believers into the biblical principles of faith, healing, love, prosperity, and righteousness. Through the Insights: the Way to a New Life magazine, books, eBooks, CDs, and mp3 resources, Dennis has brought revelation knowledge on the truths of God's Word. He has taught Christians everywhere to know God more deeply and overcome the challenges life brings through faith in God's Word.

Dennis and his wife, Vikki, travel the globe throughout the year preaching and teaching in seminars, conventions and churches, sharing the Word of God and the keys to victorious Christian living. Together they are co-founders of Dennis Burke Ministries in Arlington, Texas. They have one married daughter, Jessica Shook.

In 2003, Dennis earned his Doctorate in Theology from Life Christian University, Tampa, Florida.



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Pam Jackson

WHAT IS REVIVAL, WHY DO WE NEED IT AND WHEN WILL IT COME?



by Derrick Gates

It truly seems that every generation and most denominations at some time feel like they are the chosen ones to host revival.

We have become so bold about revival that many have tossed aside the Five-fold Ministry office titles and have taken on the title of Revivalist. I am certainly not pointing fingers, I too have carried that title from time to time and later in this article, I will revisit this thought.

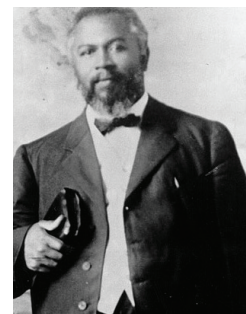
To understand revival culture in America we must first look at revival history. Of course, with this being a magazine article, it will not be a comprehensive dive, but I believe we will get the gist of the subject.

The revival timeline in our modern expression starts with the First Great Awakening that hit the Americas in the early 1700s and lasted almost 20 years. It was marked by passionate preaching, increased attendance, and a refreshed fervor for the things of God. The now immortalized sermon by Jonathan Edwards titled “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” gives you a peek into the very abrasive and confrontational attitude of revival at this time. Repentance was the hallmark and continued to be the standard of the time.

Later in the 1700s, the Second Great Awakening saturated the nation. The Second Awakening was marked by much of the same characteristics as the first, but with the added social justice reform. You can clearly see in the Second Great Awakening the same DNA as in the abolitionist movement. Not only was repentance heavily preached, but the call to live morally right-standing lives was also a common call at the altars. We see more of this in the third, fourth, and fifth awakenings.

All of these led up to the birthing of our modern take on revivals. Revival is something that has become almost exclusively a spirit-filled Pentecostal term. I know that Baptists and many others have a yearly revival service or camp meetings as some old school churches would call them, but I think it’s clear that revival and Spirit-filled streams of faith have become intertwined with one another.

In 1906 just a short drive from where I write this article, the birthing of the modern spiritual awakening came forth. William Seymour, an African American preacher that had been largely barred from any kind of formal theological training because of his skin color, led a prayer group in a small house on Bonnie Brae Street in downtown Los Angeles. (For those that want to study the subject further, you will find that the roots of that prayer meeting go back to Topeka Kansas with a preacher named Charles Parham.) In this prayer gathering, the gift of speaking in tongues was being introduced to people that had mostly never heard of such a thing, and within a few weeks, the group of a few grew in number. The numbers were so great that the meetings overflowed onto the porch and then the yard. At the point, when the porch collapsed under the weight of all the people, they moved to 312 Azusa St. Many times, the crowd would grow to more than 2,000. People were being healed, set free, and discovered spiritual gifts, and the meetings were loud. The most impressive thing about Azusa was the multicultural dynamic. Every race could be seen at these meetings. The walls of color in the church were coming down.



This reminds me of a meeting I had with the great Baptist church planting guru Ed Stezer. Ed said that the only church that can successfully grow while catering to every socioeconomic level are charismatic churches. The reason, he explained, was that in a charismatic, spirit-filled church the focus is on the Spirit and not on the person next to you. So, a doctor can worship standing next to a homeless man, and they see no difference in each other.

Out of this little home in Los Angeles, we have the roots of the modern Spirit-filled revival, and it sent waves through all space and time.

So, what is revival today? I believe I have a little authority to speak on this subject, not only am I apostolic, but I do think of myself as a revivalist. Why? Well, I guess the easiest answer is that I have hosted several extended revivals. Not as much as some, but more than most. With that authority, I will be very bold and say what I believe; we have cheapened revival in our nation. I know; I know, that probably has taken most of you by surprise that a revivalist would say that we have cheapened revival. Please let me explain. We must understand that there is a big difference between a revival and an outpouring. For example, we go to our local church gathering, and God really shows up on Sunday morning. Sister Sue got healed at the altar, little Timmy walked that long aisle to surrender to Jesus, the worship was so good that people just lay on the floor in the presence of God and three people were slain in the Spirit. Now, I don't know about you, but as a local pastor I would love this service, and I would chalk it up to a major win, but I would not call it revival. I would call this an outpouring of the presence of God. I will take the outpouring, I will take it every day, but I would caution you to stop calling every outpouring a revival. It is dangerous and let me tell you why.

When you become too familiar with something you tend to lose honor and respect for it. It's not on purpose, it is the natural progression of relationships. When you get something all the time you begin to take it for granted.

I think the argument could be made that God wants us in revival all the time, and I would side with that viewpoint; however, I do believe that if we are in true revival every single time we walk in the door it feels fresh, it feels brand new, unfamiliar, and why? Because revival is opening us up to new levels of God's presence and Glory. It is the "more of God" not the same old thing.

"...if your church is not affecting at least a 10-block radius around your building you are doing something very wrong."

I was preaching at a large tent meeting in Modesto California several years back with the great Apostle and revivalist Ed Silvoso. Ed was an amazing man who led many of the Argentinian revivals in the 1990s. Ed shared something that night that floored me. He said that if your church is not affecting at least a 10-block radius around your building you are doing something very wrong. Engaging with the Lord on this, I have come to believe that it is much the same way with revival. I believe if revival does not touch the region you are in, then it is not a revival it is an outpouring.

I want to be clear; I'm not trying to throw a wet blanket on your meetings. Please continue to host the presence of God, please continue to steward outpouring in your meetings, and please continue to pray for more of God to show up and then overflow into Revival.

So, what is revival?

In my best understanding, revival will do much of the following and more.

Revival will touch the region. Real revival will speak to people and draw people in from hours away. When we had a 16-week revival break out in a small town outside of Buffalo, New York, we had continuous visitors from several countries. People would drive as much as seven hours every week, and people would wait in line at the Canadian border for hours to get to the revival meetings.

Just like in the great awakening moments, I believe true revival will be marked with repentance. When I studied the Pensacola Brownsville revival that broke out on Father's Day of 1995 you could clearly see Evangelist Steve Hill's continued call for repentance. The altar would be overflowing every night with bodies, with people crying out in repentance. Without repentance, we have but a moment with God when God wants every single moment of our lives.

Revival will be fresh every day. It will revive the desire to know God deeper and the hunger to dive deep into the "greater things" of God. This was very evident in the Toronto outpouring. Those meetings were marked with strange manifestations, but those strange manifestations led to increased harvest, and those meetings overflowed for years.

Revival will be heavily grounded in the evangelistic harvest. The testimonies of those that experience the mark of revival in their spirit will spark curiosity in lost souls. Lost souls will be compelled to come and see what all the hype is about. I once had a man in our church in Kansas City who was a former Satanist. Jerome had gone to the Pensacola revival to confront the movement with his overwhelming hate for God. My friend barely made it through the double doors when he collapsed to the floor weeping and repenting to the God that he didn't even know yet. The power of revival will fuel the harvest.

Revival will draw the workers. A common problem in the church today is that 3% of the church does 100% of the work. I can hear you now, every leader reading this just shouted “AMEN”. Well, in revival people get so hungry that they will abandon everything they have to give their life to the work of God.

I know there are many other hallmarks of revival, and you may have your own, but for the sake of time let's move on to why we need revival. We need revival because we are continuing to dry up as a Body and a Nation. This is a great place to say this, revival must start with you, in your heart, and that revival was already a gift that God gave us on the cross. God is just waiting on us to manifest revival. If you question why we need revival in our nation, then you haven't looked outside lately. Our Nation is fractured, and the church is falling further and further away from sound doctrine. The woke culture is starting to creep into the pews. Increasingly pastors and leaders are restrained from preaching about sin in favor of keeping tithing members in their seats. Jonathan Edwards would be very disappointed. Jesus is the only hope for our Nation.

Obviously, we know that the body of Christ will never die, but nations have risen and nations have fallen believing they had special grace upon them. Tragedy brings people to the foot of the cross, but so can revival. I pray that we have a sweeping revival instead of a tragedy. Once again, Jesus is the only hope for our Nation.

When will Revival come?

Most of those in the charismatic streams have heard of the billion-soul harvest prophecy. This prophecy came from the Kansas City Prophets, mainly Bob Jones. Bob often talked about an abiding Glory that was going to come upon believers that would forever turn them away from the world. Abiding means enduring, a Glory that would endure all your heartaches, problems, debts, frustrations, and sicknesses. This Glory would take over your life. This in return would be a contagious anointing that would spread like fire around the nation and the world.

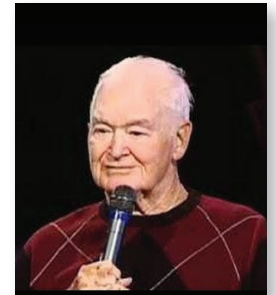
When will it come? Since becoming a spirit-filled believer, I have always heard the talk of the harvest coming right around the corner, but it seems to never show up. Certainly not in the billions. So, we start to look for the signs.

**“...revival
must start with
you, in your heart,
and that revival was
already a gift that
God gave us
on the cross.”**

I have a particular history that anchored me to this subject. In 2012 I befriended a very quirky prophet named Randy Rott, Randy was called The Pilgrim by some and called the Prophetic Historian by others. Randy knew of every single prophetic word ever spoken by those in the prophetic movement. Randy was convinced that I was one of the stadium revivalists prophesied about by the Kansas City Prophets. There are a lot of reasons why, but again for the sake of time, I will leave that for another day. So, to make that story shorter I will share just a few things about why I believe we are on the verge of the greatest revival in all of history.

I in no way worship the prophets; however, God sends prophets as messengers, and I certainly want to hear the message and honor the voice of the sent ones. Bob Jones had many prophecies about signs that would come when it was time for the billion-soul harvest, end-time revival. Some of those prophecies are that young people would be set on fire for the Lord. We see many movements of young people today, IHOP, Bethel, and even the new outpouring on the Kentucky College campus just this week where they worshiped for 60 hours straight. Bob prophesied abortion would be easily available in the form of a pill. Additionally, he prophesied that homosexuality would be made legal and become normal in our culture. He talked about workers in the rice fields watching prayer services on a hand-held device, (clearly smartphones have taken us there). He said when the Chiefs won the Super Bowl that we would see a rise in the Apostolic chiefs. I believe what Bob could see in the spirit was a reformation of the Five-fold ministry offices. We have long been trending away from these offices in favor of more comfortable titles in the church, but these are offices ordained by God, which does not give us the right to decide not to honor them. I know that I have struggled with titles and have felt awkward having people call me Apostle. That is because our culture has perverted the titles then dropped them. Now, today is February 10th and in two days the Chiefs will play in the Superbowl for the 3rd time in four years. I believe that we are also seeing a new Five-fold guard rising up.

Another sign that Bob talked about was the appearance of the white owls. Last month I sat in



my chair in the living room doing some work on the computer. I took a moment and clicked on Facebook, and the first post I read was from a brother named Ben Hughes, he talked about it being the anniversary of the Pineapple Revival, a revival they hosted in Australia several years back. As soon as I read that, the weather channel came on and spoke about an atmospheric river. This is a weather phenomenon that produces a river of moisture in the air that eventually drops at a certain point. This point happened to be LA county. It is certainly strange that we received record rainfall from this, but the staggering moment was that they nicknamed this river the Pineapple Express. So, within a moment of reading about that revival, the weather channel speaks the same words. Coincidence, possibly so. The following news story was reporting about a rare white owl that had showed up in LA county and wouldn't leave. I immediately had a shockwave go through my body and felt in my core that God was ready to do something.

Will revival happen tomorrow?

Only God knows that. What is he waiting on? Well, I'm not entirely sure, but I think I have some sort of idea. Back in 2010, I had an encounter with an angel. I'm not a big angelic visitation guy. I have only had a few of these types of encounters in my life, but this was as serious as anything that I have ever seen. This angel looked me straight in the eyes and said one thing to me; he said 25,000, and he said it three times before walking away and disappearing. I had no idea what it meant, and I would also add that it scared the socks off me. For years I had no clue what it meant. It's a little comical because the story of my encounter spread like a legend around Kansas City. In 2012 when I met that prophetic historian, he shared with me a story that Bob Jones had also had an encounter where the angel said 25,000, but that was all Randy knew. People would often ask me about it, and then one day in 2016, a new face to me walked into my office asking me about the encounter. Bill Fowler, a prophet from Los Angeles, wanted to know the story; he then told me that he would be back in one week. One week later, he showed up with a transcript from a meeting that Bob Jones had in California where he explained the 25,000. The angel had told Bob that God was going to raise 25,000 houses of fire around the United States to host revival. Wow, I felt relieved to finally know this, but it has sent me into many years of prayer and revelation from the Lord. My final thought is that we are not called to get a billion people saved, we are called to get a billion people disciplined. If revival came today on that level, where would they be disciplined? I truly believe this is the time when the Apostolic chiefs are going to arise and plant apostolic centers, houses of fire and discipleship hubs all around the nation to get the harvest disciplined.

Revival is coming, but revival is already here; we are just getting trained to host it on a level that God wants. And what about those revivalists? Well, revivalists are just those that are anointed to spark God's presence and fire in a place. Are you a revivalist? Are you ready for what God is going to do in this season because that season is here, and it is knocking on the door?



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THE FIRST Great Awakening: LESSONS LEARNED

by Dr. Thomas Reedy

The First Great Awakening of New England

began around 1734 in the small Puritan town of Northampton, Massachusetts (DeArteaga 30). In six months, 300 of the 1,100 citizens of North Hampton were saved. After 20 years, the following statistics are noted: 150,000 conversions with 50,000 conversions in New England alone and 150 new churches being established. Additionally, the impact of the First Great Awakening was the formation of 51 of the first 100 colleges founded by churches, and the establishment of Evangelicalism, which became a catalyst in the separating of the English Church from the congregational and emerging evangelical church. Some scholars suggest that this seed change in the colonial church led to reinforcing those who supported separating from England, i.e., The American Revolution. There is a difference between a revival and an awakening. A revival results in a cultural change in the church, while an awakening brings a change in society, especially the city in which it occurs.

Prior to the revival/awakening, the church had fallen into theological heresy and blatant sin. Unfortunately, the church of that day attempted to accommodate these gross sinners by allowing them to be members, though in many cases they were unsaved and unevangelized. There are lessons to be learned in the conditions that result in an awakening. These we will explore in more detail as the process of revival is examined.

We begin with the understanding of the theological background of the early colonists and their association

with Calvinism as it was expressed in the attempt to establish a theocracy, later informed by the Congregational Church. Puritan theology, based on Calvinism (they were dissenters from the Church of England) maintained that salvation was solely the work of God and His choosing. There was nothing that an individual could do to absolutely be sure that they were saved. The only thing you could count on is evidence of your lifestyle which manifested itself in behavioral religious observance. Consequently, the Puritan church



established a theocracy whereby attendance was mandatory at church meetings and strict behavior regarding modesty and adherence to religious customs were codified into law. Interestingly, they fled the oppression that they experienced under the Church of England only to establish their own form of repression in the establishment of their own theocracy. Prior to the First Great Awakening, the people began to rebel against the religious enforcement of codes of behavior and began to distance themselves from the church. Even today, lost people do not want the church enforcing codes of behavior on them and society.

To make things worse, Deism came over from Europe and further drove people away from God by maintaining that God created the world and then left humans alone to use their minds (common sense) to live lives that would please Him. Deism, which informed Unitarianism, minimized the sinfulness of

man, the need for the blood atonement of Christ, and tended to be more humanistic and open to pluralism. As a result of Deism, people became even less connected to God and religion lost its vitality in the colonies. Consequently, worldliness was evidenced by the colonists becoming involved in “bundling” (sleeping together) and drunkenness. The fear of God was removed from their lives. **Lesson 1:** The church is the instrument that brings change to society good or bad. That is why it says in 1 Peter 4:17,

“For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?”

The church has got to get right with God if we are to expect the lost to find Jesus. We control the atmosphere and the ability to speak into culture. By doing so, we will not only experience revival, but we can have an awakening. That is why it says in 2 Chronicles 7:14,

“if my people who are called by my name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land”.

If MY people . . . We are the influencers. **Lesson 2:** Religion and legalism deaden people to a living relationship with God. **Lesson 3:** Heresy in the church (like Hypergrace and God is love to the exclusion of His holiness) allows people to live unsanctified lives. This is manifested in the church’s willingness to compromise with society by reducing the requirements to be a member of the congregation.

The colonial church began to accommodate the low spiritual vitality of its members. The church developed the “half-way” covenant that allowed non-Christians to have their children baptized if they would assent to the doctrine of faith and not lead a scandalous life. The result of the half-way covenant was that the children grew up as unconverted members of the church. Eventually, the unsaved church members outnumbered the Christians, and several even became ministers solely because the job paid well. So, many of the pastors leading the church were unsaved. The most educated, revered, and well-paid individuals were the clergy. The men who entered this profession did so for reasons apart from having the call of God on their lives. **Lesson 4:** Today, we understand that pastors are the spiritual gatekeepers, and God has required pastors to be responsible for His congregation. A congregation usually takes on the characteristics of its pastor and, with some exceptions, cannot rise above the spirituality of its leader. Jesus states in John 13:16,

“Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him”.

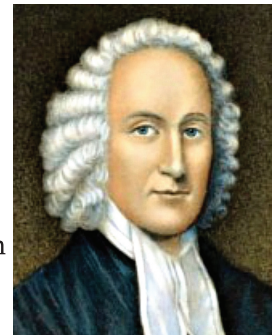
This means that the pastor can initiate, confirm, or deny the movement of the Holy Spirit in the church and as a result, consequences will follow.

Puritan theology and worldliness seeded the conscience of the Puritans for the message of repentance that came through the ministry and preaching of Jonathan Edwards and other revivalist preachers who came from England like George Whitefield.

It was Edwards, however, that was mostly responsible under the leadership of the Holy Spirit for the revival/awakening that took place in Northampton and the surrounding area. **Lesson 5:** God brings revival/awakening through chosen human vessels, as EM Bounds would say, “God does not look for a method, but he looks for a man [or woman].” Jonathan Edwards was a man God chose and prepared “for such a time as [then].”

Jonathan Edwards Biography

Edwards having been reared in a devout Christian family, he had a heart for the Lord. He attended Yale College (at that time a congregational Christian school for the training of ministers) completing his master’s degree (DeArteaga 35). During Edward’s time at Yale, he experienced a spiritual conversion that he described as an intense increase of divine awareness during which his soul began to passionately long for closeness to God and personal holiness (DeArteaga 35). The event caused him distress because, “... it did not fit the Puritan understanding of conversion, which was more intellectual and less experiential” (DeArteaga 35). Edwards was considered one of America’s earliest geniuses. God had to change Edward’s preconceived notions about what church life was all about. It paved the way for the Holy Spirit to act.



After graduating from Yale, Edwards became a pastor of a Presbyterian church in New York, but later he chose to assist his grandfather in leading a church in Northampton, Massachusetts (DeArteaga 35). Following his grandfather’s death, Edwards became head pastor of the church and started seeking the Lord for direction on how to lead the congregation. As he was pastoring, Edwards learned that a majority of his congregation had not experienced a true conversion of the soul. So, Edwards started preaching on repentance and conversion using imagery to stir the people’s hearts by addressing social and personal sins, under

the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Edwards' sermons were practical in that he called out the specific sins of the people and preached that works would not save, but only a change of the heart would save. **Lesson 6:** When it comes to sin and a need for repentance, it requires a boldness, putting aside the "fear of man" and the need to "please people". However, Edwards did not abandon his intellect or training preferring to use both to persuade people to repent of their sins. In fact, Edwards was considered a genius and constructed extremely logical and persuasive sermons. Having studied the scriptures 13 hours a day even in dim light, Edwards increased his insight into the word, while he began to lose his physical sight. **Lesson 7:** God uses whatever preparation a person goes through; every experience prepares him or her to achieve his or her



destiny. It is said of the Apostle Paul that he was a man of great learning, yet the Holy Spirit gave him great revelation, even at one point placing him in a trance. Additionally, as a result of these revelational experiences, Paul goes on to say that he had a "thorn in the flesh" which kept him humble because he had

to depend on God's grace. Some scholars believe that Paul was experiencing an eye condition, seeing with his spiritual eyes better than with his natural eyes. Likewise, Edwards had his spiritual eyes and mind open to God despite the fact he became nearsighted and had to read his sermons with the manuscript in front of his face with a steady voice without emotion (he did not whip up the crowd emotionally but used great descriptive imagery). The Puritans were discouraged from reading fiction and so their imagination was susceptible to the analogies that he drew upon. His most famous sermon was "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" based upon the scripture in Deuteronomy 32:35 where it states, "Their foot shall slide in due time" Abridged excerpts are as follows:

"THE EXPRESSION THAT I HAVE CHOSEN FOR MY TEXT, THEIR FOOT SHALL SLIDE IN DUE TIME, SEEMS TO IMPLY THE FOLLOWING THINGS RELATING TO THE PUNISHMENT AND DESTRUCTION THAT THESE WICKED ISRAELITES WERE EXPOSED TO. [BECAUSE OF LACK OF SPACE I HAVE ABBREVIATED HIS POINTS. HERE HE LOGICALLY BUILD THE CASE AGAINST THE UNREPENTANT/LOST MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION]

1. THAT THEY WERE ALWAYS EXPOSED TO DESTRUCTION, AS ONE THAT STANDS OR WALKS IN SLIPPERY PLACES IS ALWAYS EXPOSED TO FALL. THE

SAME IS EXPRESSED [IN] PSALM LXXIII. 18: "SURELY THOU DIDST SET THEM IN SLIPPERY PLACES; THOU CASTEDST THEM DOWN INTO DESTRUCTION."

2. IT IMPLIES THAT THEY WERE ALWAYS EXPOSED TO SUDDEN, UNEXPECTED DESTRUCTION; AS HE THAT WALKS IN SLIPPERY PLACES IS EVERY MOMENT LIABLE TO FALL, . . . ANOTHER THING IMPLIED IS, THAT THEY ARE LIABLE TO FALL OF THEMSELVES, WITHOUT BEING THROWN DOWN BY THE HAND OF ANOTHER; AS HE THAT STANDS OR WALKS ON SLIPPERY GROUND NEEDS NOTHING BUT HIS OWN WEIGHT TO THROW HIM DOWN.

4. THAT THE REASON WHY THEY ARE NOT FALLEN ALREADY, AND DON'T FALL NOW, IS ONLY THAT GOD'S APPOINTED TIME IS NOT COME. FOR IT IS SAID THAT WHEN THAT DUE TIME, OR APPOINTED TIME COMES, THEIR FOOT SHALL SLIDE.

THE OBSERVATION FROM THE WORDS THAT I WOULD NOW INSIST UPON IS THIS,

THERE IS NOTHING THAT KEEPS WICKED MEN AT ANY ONE MOMENT OUT OF HELL, BUT THE MERE PLEASURE OF GOD.

BY THE MERE PLEASURE OF GOD, I MEAN HIS SOVEREIGN PLEASURE, HIS ARBITRARY WILL, RESTRAINED BY NO OBLIGATION, HINDERED BY NO MANNER OF DIFFICULTY, ANY MORE THAN IF NOTHING ELSE BUT GOD'S MERE WILL...

THE TRUTH OF THIS OBSERVATION MAY APPEAR BY THE FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS.

1. THERE IS NO WANT OF POWER IN GOD TO CAST WICKED MEN INTO HELL AT ANY MOMENT. [GOD CAN'T BE OPPOSED; HE HAS THE POWER TO DO IT] ...[T]HEY ARE EASILY BROKEN IN PIECES: THEY ARE AS GREAT HEAPS OF LIGHT CHAFF BEFORE THE WHIRLWIND; OR LARGE QUANTITIES OF DRY STUBBLE BEFORE DEVOURING FLAMES...

2. THEY DESERVE TO BE CAST INTO HELL; SO THAT DIVINE JUSTICE NEVER STANDS IN [HIS] WAY,

3. THEY ARE ALREADY UNDER A SENTENCE OF CONDEMNATION TO HELL...SO THAT THEY ARE BOUND OVER ALREADY TO HELL: JOHN 3:18, "HE THAT BELIEVETH NOT IS CONDEMNED ALREADY." SO THAT EVERY UNCONVERTED MAN PROPERLY BELONGS TO HELL; THAT IS HIS PLACE...

5. THE DEVIL STANDS READY TO FALL UPON THEM, AND SEIZE THEM AS HIS OWN, AT WHAT MOMENT GOD SHALL PERMIT HIM...THE DEVILS WATCH THEM...LIKE GREEDY HUNGRY LIONS THAT SEE THEIR PREY, AND EXPECT TO HAVE IT, BUT ARE FOR THE PRESENT KEPT BACK

6. THERE ARE IN THE SOULS OF WICKED MEN THOSE HELLISH PRINCIPLES REIGNING, THAT WOULD PRESENTLY KINDLE AND FLAME OUT INTO HELL-

FIRE, IF IT WERE NOT FOR GOD'S RESTRAINTS.

7. IT IS NO SECURITY TO WICKED MEN FOR ONE MOMENT, THAT THERE ARE NO VISIBLE MEANS OF DEATH AT HAND. 'TIS NO SECURITY TO A NATURAL MAN, THAT HE IS NOW IN HEALTH, AND [NOT RECOGNIZE HOW] HE SHOULD NOW IMMEDIATELY GO OUT OF THE WORLD BY ANY ACCIDENT...

8. NATURAL MEN'S PRUDENCE AND CARE TO PRESERVE THEIR OWN LIVES, OR THE CARE OF OTHERS TO PRESERVE THEM, DON'T SECURE 'EM A MOMENT...

9. ALL WICKED MEN'S PAINS AND CONTRIVANCE THEY USE TO ESCAPE HELL, WHILE THEY CONTINUE TO REJECT CHRIST, AND SO REMAIN WICKED MEN, DON'T SECURE 'EM FROM HELL ONE MOMENT. [NOTHING IN THEIR DELUSIONAL PLAN CAN ALLOW THEM TO ESCAPE HELL.]

10. GOD HAS LAID HIMSELF UNDER NO OBLIGATION, BY ANY PROMISE, TO KEEP ANY NATURAL MAN OUT OF HELL ONE MOMENT.

APPLICATION

THE USE MAY BE OF AWAKENING TO UNCONVERTED PERSONS IN THIS CONGREGATION. THIS THAT YOU HAVE HEARD IS THE CASE OF EVERY ONE OF YOU THAT ARE OUT OF CHRIST. THAT WORLD OF MISERY, THAT LAKE OF BURNING BRIMSTONE, IS EXTENDED ABROAD UNDER YOU THAT HOLDS YOU UP.

YOU PROBABLY ARE NOT SENSIBLE OF THIS; YOU FIND YOU ARE KEPT OUT OF HELL, BUT DON'T SEE THE HAND OF GOD IN IT, . . .

THE WRATH OF GOD IS LIKE GREAT WATERS THAT ARE DAMMED FOR THE PRESENT; THEY INCREASE MORE AND MORE, AND RISE HIGHER AND HIGHER, TILL AN OUTLET IS GIVEN; AND THE LONGER THE STREAM IS STOPPED, THE MORE RAPID AND MIGHTY IS ITS COURSE, WHEN ONCE IT IS LET LOOSE.

THE BOW OF GOD'S WRATH IS BENT, AND THE ARROW MADE READY ON THE STRING, AND JUSTICE BENDS THE ARROW AT YOUR HEART, AND STRAINS THE BOW, AND IT IS NOTHING BUT THE MERE PLEASURE OF GOD, AND THAT OF AN ANGRY GOD, WITHOUT ANY PROMISE OR OBLIGATION AT ALL, THAT KEEPS THE ARROW ONE MOMENT FROM BEING MADE DRUNK WITH YOUR BLOOD.

THE GOD THAT HOLDS YOU OVER THE PIT OF HELL, MUCH AS ONE HOLDS A SPIDER OR SOME LOATHSOME INSECT OVER THE FIRE, ABHORS YOU, AND IS DREADFULLY PROVOKED; HIS WRATH TOWARDS YOU BURNS LIKE FIRE; HE LOOKS UPON YOU AS WORTHY OF NOTHING ELSE, BUT TO BE CAST INTO THE FIRE; HE IS OF PURER EYES THAN TO BEAR TO HAVE YOU IN HIS SIGHT; YOU ARE TEN

THOUSAND TIMES SO ABOMINABLE IN HIS EYES, AS THE MOST HATEFUL AND VENOMOUS SERPENT IS IN OURS. YOU HAVE OFFENDED HIM INFINITELY MORE THAN EVER A STUBBORN REBEL DID HIS PRINCE: AND YET IT IS NOTHING BUT HIS HAND THAT HOLDS YOU FROM FALLING INTO THE FIRE EVERY MOMENT.

END OF EXCERPT.

I required my students in American Literature to read the application part. They found it disturbing because of the image of a loving God so ingrained in their minds. What are your thoughts? For Edwards facing an unrepentant, sinful congregation, he needed to confront them in the most serious way: **Lesson 8:** For revival to come there needs to be a return to the "fear of the Lord".

Upon hearing this sermon, people would scream while holding on to the back of the pews. Others rushed to the front in weeping distress. The entire congregation was affected. Some fell as if they fainted. The news of the revival spread far and wide. Many people in the town no longer drank or caroused and the phenomena spread to other towns. However, some of the mainline churches began to react to the spiritual phenomena and the challenge to "unconverted" clergy accusations. **Lesson 9:** Ungracious accusations where brothers attack each other violates what the Holy Spirit wants to do.

A backlash developed that reduced the impact of the Awakening. Those who embraced the revival were called New Lights and those who opposed the revival were Old Lights because they had a problem with the "enthusiasm". **Lesson 10:** The devil will always use those who are in favor of the status quo regarding their religious culture or to keep their parishioners in their fold. An example of this was a preacher named Charles Chauncy, of a distinguished church in Boston, He rose in opposition to the revival (DeArteaga 45, 48). He opposed the method of Edwards' preaching and disbelieved the truth behind the physical manifestations of the Spirit (DeArteaga 46-47) Others rose in disagreement with the Awakening as well, including one anonymous writer who wrote that physical outbursts such as were being conveyed, were "seldom or never common among solid Christians". Eventually, this resistance to the Spirit's moving grew overpowering, and the First Great Awakening waned.

With the Great Awakening, came a fundamental change with the birth of Evangelicalism. The now distinctive American Church resulted in what became "the altar call", an emphasis on heart-felt religion, a release of a less educated clergy on fire to establish churches, a purging of the unconverted clergy, and a sense of individualism and personal responsibility, which led to the development of the separate character of the colonists. This new spiritual identity of the

churches helped encourage the American Revolution, as well as providing some mechanisms toward the separation. The evangelical church was birthed by a move of the Holy Spirit, which was lost on succeeding generations. **Lesson 11:** churches forget their origins and end up not being what they were originally. Movements (revivals) are fresh but are always in danger of being codified and routine without the presence of the Holy Spirit at work.

**May revival and awakening come to our Land!
Who will accept the call to be radical?**

Uniquely qualified as an editor, having taught college Composition courses for 20 years, Dr. Reedy serves as Editor in Chief and a contributor of Fullness Online Magazine. He holds a B.A. degree in Journalism & Communications, an M.A. degree in English-Rhetoric and Composition, and he has completed 30 hours of a Ph.D. program in Classical Rhetoric, Post-modernism, and Victorian Authorship (ABD).

Tom has served as a pastor and church planter for 30 years (12 years as a Baptist pastor). He received his education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div. and a D. Min.).

He served as a pastor of Southern Baptist churches until he was filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit (1985) with the gift of healings, prophecy, and a ministry of deliverance. He was commissioned as an Apostle/Teacher in 1990. Ras Robinson became his spiritual father in 1987, resulting in a vital connection with the "Fullness" message.

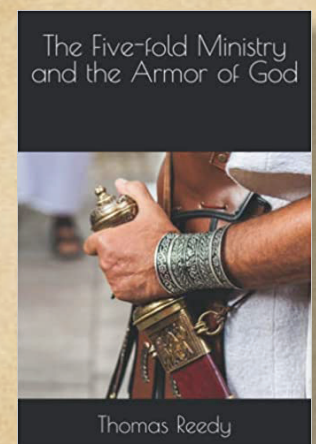
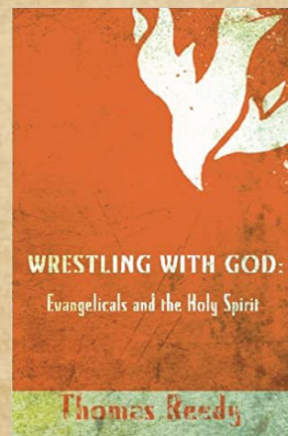
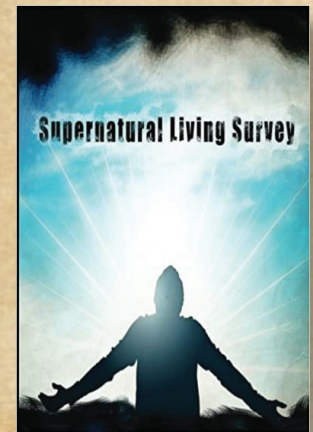
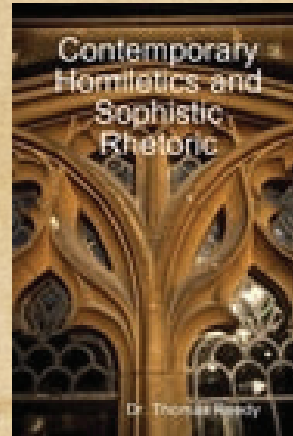
Dr. Reedy has published under his own publishing company, Roar Publications (Roarpublications@gmail.com), five books entitled *The Hand of Zerubbabel* (1994), *Wrestling with God: Evangelicals and the Holy Spirit* (2015); and *For the Joy: Praise and the Cross of Christ* (2020), *The Apostle: Metaphors of an Emerging Ministry* (2021), and *The Five-Fold Ministry and the Armor of God* (2021).

Dr. Reedy publishes online content on his website: www.thomasreedy.com YouTube: "Eyes Wide Open".



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REVIVAL

IN THE CHURCH

by Steven Dove

What does that mean to you?

What does it make you think of...a period of time where the power of God manifests itself, or a fresh anointing, maybe an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, or a visitation of your heavenly Father and a mighty display of His Glory that spreads and increases the church in power as well as numbers? Well, all of these things, of course, are true and have been going on for quite some time. From a group of soldiers to entire countries, there have been thousands of revivals occurring throughout the world going back in time.

During the 19th and 20th centuries, many manifestations of God's power were known as "*The Great Awakenings*". In the 21st century, many of us are familiar with or at least have heard of the Azusa Street Revival in Los Angeles back in 1906 which was where these moves of God became known as revivals. This revival lasted 'til about 1915 when eight men, waiting on God, were knocked from their chairs to the floor as if hit by a bolt of lightning. They began speaking in tongues and praising God loudly. Crowds gathered, and it went on from there with miracles and healings. Some consider the Pentecostal and Charismatic movements (and others)



as revivals. There are hundreds, perhaps thousands, of denominations where the Holy Spirit burns through them to pull people into a relationship with God.

Revival actually begins in the heart of God, our Father. Why would He saturate the church with Himself in different places and at different times throughout the earth to increase His presence and power in the church? Well, an earthly father would not allow his child to go thirsty, and it would break his heart to see his child live a subpar life. Guess what, our heavenly Father will not allow His church (His kingdom manifested on earth) to go thirsty either. Yes, sometimes the church, and us as individuals and as families, might run a little dry and need a refreshing drink of God's water (Spirit) to keep us flowing to the degree and purpose for which **WE WERE ORIGINALLY DESIGNED AND CREATED**.

He blesses His children! To truly understand the magnitude of what I just said, we need to back up and look at the definition of revival. exactly what does it mean to "*revive*" something? Revive means "*to improve in condition or strength, to restore to life or consciousness, to renew attention or interest in something.*" Man, and thus the church, was made in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26). The word likeness in that verse, simply put means to be like God. We know God never needs restoration, nor renewal for He is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). So how do you and I, and the church of the Lord Jesus Christ,

being filled with the power of the living God almighty, redeemed from the sin nature Adam plunged us into, get to the point where we need to be revived? Well, for the same reason the Children of Israel needed restoration in the old covenant. Let's look at Isaiah 57:14-15.

“And one shall say ‘Heap it up! Heap it up! Prepare the way, take the stumbling block out of the way of My people.’ For thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: ‘I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the heart of the contrite ones.’”

Here revive means to keep alive, nourish up, renew life, preserve or restore.

The reason we need revival is in verse 14: *“stumbling blocks.”* There are many modern-day stumbling blocks that can bring down our heart's zeal for the things of God, if we allow them. For the fire to diminish or leave, it must be replaced with something. To see some of the replacements let's look at the Parable of the Sower as Jesus was explaining how we allow Satan to take away the word. In Mark 4:18-19 it states,

“Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.”

Tribulation and persecution are also mentioned in the preceding verses, but let's focus on verse 19, *“cares of this world and desires for other things”*. Nothing's wrong with making a living and having desires, but if you put those things above an ongoing relationship with God (Matthew 6:33) you will end up striving on your own, not hearing the voice of God and not having God's desires for your life. Thus, your time and attention will turn more and more to striving the world's way to make ends meet and not in the rest, prosperity, and direction of God's will for YOUR life. So, the fire diminishes, but thank you Lord for the revival in our hearts again and again and as much as it takes to stay on track and keep God first in our hearts at full blaze!

Being in God's presence keeps us on top, fired up, running on all cylinders, as it were. When the work of the church dies down, it is in need of revival. As an example of revival, let's look at the characteristics of a campfire, or fire pit,



something with which most of us are very familiar. The fire is started and nourished until it is at a full blaze. After a while, when no logs are added to the fire, it begins to die down and will die out if no more logs are added or it's not stoked. Adding logs would cause a revival, or restoration of that fire, bringing it back up to where it was before.



Sometimes, God has to add a log (revival) in the fire (church) **TO BRING THE CHURCH UP TO OPERATE AS SHE WAS DESIGNED TO BE** to be like God, to do the works and even greater works as Jesus did as he walked the earth, drawing people into repentance and salvation. John 20:21 states,

“So Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.’”

Jesus' legacy didn't die out or wane, and neither were we intended to do so; however, if it happens in any area of your life, you can expect a revival. God loves us. I'm not criticizing the church because let's face it the world is surrounded by sin, pulling at every area of our lives. Satan doesn't own the earth; the Word tells us the earth is the Lord's. But he, Satan, does have a lease on this earth until he is evicted. If we are in the world, we are subject to his rule unless we operate from the inside of us, where the fire, the Spirit of God dwells. We stoke that fire and keep it fully ablaze through our relationship with the Lord. If that dwindles in any way, with the church or personally, trust me, God will send revival. A revival is never started by the church itself, but like the campfire, it is started by the one who made the fire (God) and it is stirred up by the wind (Holy Spirit).

Another thing to note about revival is that it is impossible to restore or renew something that never existed. You can't awaken something that was never here to go to sleep. Let's look at two revivals in the New Testament. Most of us are familiar with John the Baptist, who came before Jesus to prepare the way of the Lord. In Mark 1: 4-5, it says,

“John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.”

Notice that ALL the land of Judea and those from Jerusalem went out and were baptized. That is a whole lot of people; that's revival. One would think otherwise because Jesus wasn't there yet, and most didn't have a

relationship with God to revive. After all, the land had been silent, and God hadn't spoken in 400 years.

Well, let's not forget John 1:9. Here it says that Jesus is the true light that can light up EVERY MAN who comes into the world. So, this revival wasn't for dead people. The light is available for every man and woman, saved or unsaved, to know the Lord and get close to God. That's why the thirst for the knowledge of God is so great among mankind. They are seeking God and don't even know it. Now, many of us are familiar with the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2:1-4,41, where it states,

“When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to the divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

I find it interesting that the Azusa Street revival and the Day of Pentecost both started with a group of people waiting on God. In this passage many elements of revival are present, such as the issuance of the Holy Spirit to man, signs and wonders that made many amazed and marvel, and if you look at verse 41, about 3,000 souls were added to the church. Wow. This is the level in which God intended for us to operate. Many consider this to be the birth of the church, me included. But you might say how could this be a revival because there was no outpouring of the Holy Spirit on mankind yet? This would be more of a creation rather than a revival. To answer that I simply remind you go look back at Adam and Eve, the original man and woman. Though the bible doesn't straight out say they were filled with God's Spirit but it was evident The Glory of God was on them so strong that they didn't even realize or see that they were naked!

Exactly what is revival for? Is it so we can feel good, rejoice, sing, and dance in the Spirit, so we can bask in God's presence and draw closer to Him? Yes, those answers are absolutely true...but wait, there's more! Look at Ezra 9:9,

“For we were slaves. Yet our God did not forsake us in our bondage; but He extended mercy to us in sight of the kings of Persia, to revive us, to repair the house of our God, to rebuild its ruins, and to give us a wall in Judah and Jerusalem.”

Revival is an extension of God's mercy for sure, even as it was to Israel. However, they had a reason to be revived - it was to repair the house of God.

When revival hits the church today, or yourself, IT IS FOR A REASON also. Remember God is the same. We as Christians receive this supernatural outpouring and power to show the world His goodness and draw dying souls into the kingdom by signs, wonders, healings, miracles, joy and much more. Revival comes to restore us to the level we were, or to a higher level, to do that which God has instructed the church through His Word and us as individuals through His voice.



Steven Dove serves as an Elder at Fullness in Christ Church and oversees the Deacon ministry. Steven formerly served as a Deacon for 8 years and has been an Elder for five years. He is an avid follower of Christ and is also an anointed Bible teacher. He is a photographer and artist.

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SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF FULLNESS



REVIVAL



by Jennifer Peikert

For some people this word is scary, for some it is exciting and something they yearn for, yet for others it is the very thing they need. What is revival? Revival/revive according to the KJV Dictionary means: “*return, recall or recovery to life from death or apparent death, to bring again to life.*” Dictionary.com has the definition for revival as “*an awakening, restoration to life, consciousness.*”

Revival is not complicated. It isn't formulas, agendas, or programs to see revival come or to see God break out and move in our midst. **What it does take is HUNGER!!!!** God isn't looking for superstars in order to bring revival. He is looking for hunger - passionate, unrestricted hunger. He is looking for those who will believe. God has made it clear; He wants to move. God will move where there is room for Him to move.

So many are looking for revival, when God is wanting us to BE the revival. You and I cannot give away what we do not have. We first have need to be awakened ourselves in order to awaken others. God is looking for fireplaces in which to start His fire. Will you be that fireplace? Will you be the hungry ones? I am here to tell you from experience that when you give God room to move in your life, in your meetings, and in your churches, it can look messy. There is still order, but it can get messy.

**“God is
wanting us
to BE the
revival.”**

Let me give you an example. My husband and I were ministering in Honduras one time, and before the meetings the Lord told me it was going to get messy. I truly didn't know what He meant or what that it was going to look like. I found out very quickly. We had a meeting at a church that was in the process of being built, and it did not have a roof on it yet, and of course as we were getting ready for the meeting, it started to rain. The church had put out pop up awning type covers for us to preach under, and some were sitting under them. When it came time for the altar call/ ministry time there was no room to be under the cover to protect us from the rain. The people were so hungry for God and for what He was going to give and them for them that they didn't care about the rain. They wanted God, and they wanted Him to touch them and do what He wanted to do. This particular service has stuck with me. The hunger and desire for God over looked the fact that it was raining and it was getting messy. There was not a concrete floor. So, we were standing on muddy ground. But no one cared.

Now, for those of you who do not know me personally, I have naturally curly hair. When my hair gets wet, let's just say the outcome is not good! And of course, in that rain, my hair was very wet! But, it just didn't matter. God moved in so many incredible ways. People were healed, delivered and forever changed in

the messy rain. There were women in their absolute best. They were in high heels and dresses or skirts. They were standing in the rain waiting to be prayed for, waiting, hungry for God. The rain probably wasn't even a thought in their minds. Women were literally manifesting and getting freedom from demonic things laying in the mud!!!

The absolute beauty of that meeting has stayed with me. So many of us were soaked and many were covered in mud. Oh, but God moved and did so many things. Signs, wonders and miracles were in our midst. It was MESSY!!! Then I understood what God meant. I was a mess. It was messy, but at the same time it was in order.

When you make room for God and believe, all things are possible!

Joel 2:28-32 (NKJV) “And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants. I will pour out My Spirit in those days. And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord, and it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, as the Lord has said, among the remnant whom the Lord calls.”

These scriptures say He will pour out His Spirit on ALL flesh. ALL is ALL!!! It doesn't say a few or His chosen ones. It doesn't even say just sons and daughters of God. It says ALL. Dictionary.com definition of all is; “the whole of, the greatest possible, the entire universe.” He will do it. He said He would, and He will. He has already begun. People are getting saved through dreams from God; they are encountering Him through dreams. He is pouring out His Spirit on ALL!!!

He is ready, are you? I personally believe the Third Great Awakening has already begun. Many have been praying for revival and yearning for it. Get ready for the greatest outpouring of the Spirit of God that we have ever seen or experienced. Get ready for the messy and unusual. Get comfortable being uncomfortable. God is going to move among us with signs, wonders and miracles. He wants you to be a vessel He can use for these things and for you to BE revival. This is the greatest time in history for the Church. Forget how it has been done before, forget how it used to be. Because God is doing a NEW thing.

Isaiah 43:18-19 (NKJV) states, “Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old.

Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”

My husband and I have ministered in many countries, as well as the United States, and we have seen God move in so many incredible ways. Yet, I truly believe we haven't seen anything like what He is about to do. We have prayed for people and seen God open blind eyes, open deaf ears, put a knuckle in someone's hand where there was not one, and replace arches in a young boy's feet. We even had the amazing experience of a dead baby, who needed to be removed, come back alive. She told the doctor that there was a church meeting, and she was going to it and was going to be prayed for. She was ready to have the baby removed, yet, she was believing God. She came to the meeting we were having and came forward to be prayed for. We prayed for her in the meeting, and we all left. Two days later she went back to the doctor, and they heard the baby's heartbeat. God brought that baby back to life in her womb. She believed God, and He did it. I tell you these testimonies to glorify God and to show you that ABSOLUTELY NOTHING is impossible with God.

Luke 1:37 (NKJV) states, “For with God nothing will be impossible.”

Jeremiah 32:17 (NKJV) extols, “Ah, Lord God! Behold, you have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and an outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You.”

Revival is here. We must BE revival. God isn't asking us to DO in order to BE. He is wanting us to BE in order to DO. God wants to awaken/revive you first. Then you can give away what you have been given. Matthew 10:8 (NKJV) commands us to “Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.” We need to get out there and BE who God says we are and go heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out demons, BE revival. Allow God to awaken you, then go out and awaken others.

Revival is seen as a time of renewal in devotion and an increased zeal for God and His Kingdom. It impacts people, churches, regions and nations in many, many ways. The lost are saved, the sick are healed, people are delivered and the stagnant sleepers are awakened. Fires are rekindled. People's lives are changed, and the Holy Spirit has been known to increase all of these ministries during and after Revivals.

There have been many revivals and movements in the history of the church. There was the Finney Revivals, The Holiness Revival, The Welsh Revival, The Businessmen's Revival, The Toronto Blessing, The Brownsville Revival, the Jesus Movement and The Promise Keepers movement, among others. All of these have made instrumental impacts on the Church, people

and nations. Now we have the Third Great Awakening upon us. We were chosen for such a time as this.

Revival produces lasting fruit. Today, Church is prevalent, but not all are powerful. The solution is spiritual revival and awakening. I am not speaking negatively about any Church. I am saying we need to be revived and awakened. Let me say this: Everywhere Jesus preached there was a demonstration of power. Acts 10:38 (NKJV) “how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.” Paul said in

1 Corinthians 2:4 (NKJV) “And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and power.”

So, you want revival; I want revival, and the Church wants revival. We need it. We need to be awakened and revived. We need to BE revival. Let’s all be awakened and revived. Then we can go out and awaken and revive others. Don’t misunderstand what I’m saying here, we cannot manufacture revival or awakening. They are sovereign acts of mercy and grace by God, Himself. However, God loves to respond to our prayers.

The Church and God’s people have been praying for revival. He has heard, and HE is answering. He wants to awaken His people. Receive His revival for your own life. This will be the greatest outpouring of the Spirit of God we have ever seen. God is ready to demonstrate His power in unprecedented ways. He will pour out His Spirit, He will awaken us.

As I am writing this article, I hear Him say: “*Ready or not, here I come.*” I also hear Him saying, “*I am releasing wave upon wave upon wave of My glory. When you stand in My glory, you will get saturated and then carry My glory out with you everywhere you go. Glory Carriers and Atmosphere Changers is what I call you. Step into your identity. Carry it well. Go out and change atmospheres, go out and demonstrate My power. It is in you, release it NOW!!!!*”, says God.

This nation needs revival. This generation needs revival. This generation needs life changing, transforming revival. More than ever before, we need revival. Our children need to wake up, they need awakening. Our children, this generation, need an encounter with God. The harvest is ripe. The world we live in needs Jesus. It is TIME FOR REVIVAL!!!

The Toronto Blessing Revival was a very powerful revival. Many say it is still going. This revival has impacted so many people and even generations. So many hearts, bodies and lives have been touched. Revivals are not man created. They are brought by God Himself. Many have spoken against this revival as well as many others. So many times, when God does

something new and unconventional, the talkers began to talk. The naysayers show up, but God shows out. I say this to encourage the churches. When God moves in your churches and people begin to talk, let them talk. He will take care of it.

Let me give you an example of something that happened to my husband Jay and me. We were out of the country in ministry on a team, and we had all been preaching and demonstrating the power of God. Many had been saved, healed and delivered in the meetings. There were some ladies who decided to come to a meeting to prove that what was happening in the meetings was not real. They did not believe that what was happening was real; they didn’t believe God was healing. One of them came up for prayer for her fingers; she was in pain and had problems with her finger/ fingers. Now at the time, my husband and I were praying for this woman, we did not know her agenda. We just prayed for her to be healed. God supernaturally healed her despite her unbelief. We later found out what her agenda was; God proved to her He is the Healer. She left that meeting totally healed, glory to God!!! There will be people who will come against what God is doing, but He will handle it. There will be people who do not believe, but, just like this women, God showed her who He was in spite of the fact that she didn’t believe. He made a believer out of her.

Just because things are different than what we are used to does not mean it isn’t God. You and I need to get ready for the unusual. Recently, I have experienced some different and incredible things with God. He has been waking me with sounds and smells and then He speaks to me and gives me revelation. He has been speaking to me through sound. These things get my attention. It is new, but I know it is God. I love it when God does the unusual, the new. We have been experiencing incredible things with God. I encourage you to get alone with Daddy God and let Him speak to you, let Him show you things, let Him do things in you. Let Him revive and awaken you. You have gifts inside you that He wants to fan into flame and awaken. Then when He does this, go out and flow with Him.

John 14:12 (NKJV) “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

We have experienced the power of God manifesting in meetings in unprecedented ways. We were in part of a country as part of a team; we were in worship and the singer began to sing a prophetic song and release the sound of Heaven and God manifested. It was as if electricity was being released all over the building.

The youth were all sitting on one side of the room, and they all began to slide out of their chairs shaking under the power of God. No one was touching them, it was all God. This went on for 45 minutes. It was absolutely magnificent, orchestrated by God!!

No one had ever experienced anything like it, but we all welcomed it and have forever been changed by what happened. We made room for God to move and were open to whatever He wanted to do, and He did above and beyond anything we expected. I want to end this by saying REVIVAL IS HERE. The Third Great Awakening has STARTED and you were born for such a time as this.

Jennifer Peikert is a prophet and minister who travels with her husband Jay all over the world preaching the Gospel, healing the sick, being a prophetic voice to the nations and seeing signs, wonders and miracles everywhere they go. They have ministered in Japan, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Mexico, Honduras, Cuba and different places in the U.S.A.



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Dr. Reedy has published under his own publishing company, Roar Publications (Roarpublishments@gmail.com), five books entitled *The Hand of Zerubbabel* (1994), *Wrestling with God: Evangelicals and the Holy Spirit* (2015); and *For the Joy: Praise and the Cross of Christ* (2020), *The Apostle: Metaphors of an Emerging Ministry* (2021), and *The Five-Fold Ministry and the Armor of God* (2021). Dr. Reedy publishes online content on his website: www.thomas-reedy.com YouTube: “Eyes Wide Open”.



Budd Rodgers



Budd Rodgers is the Managing Editor of Fullness Magazine Online. He graduated from Texas Tech University with a degree in Business Administration. Budd has been in Ministry for 40 plus years in various capacities, including pastoring and church planting. He is the founder of Shepherd’s Voice Ministries Inc., a 501(c)3 prophetic ministry. He has an anointing to activate every generation to promote the kingdom of God and is available as an itinerant minister.

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DECLARING THE TRUTH



by Jennifer Peikert

Leaving The Past Stepping into the Future

As we have entered into 2023, God has continually been speaking to me about advancement. He is continually speaking to me about this: What is advancement? What does it look like? Advancement will look different for each one of us. I know that God has this for each of us in 2023.

Advancement is the act or process of moving forward, promotion in rank or standing. Many have felt stuck or have felt as though they haven't made any progress at all. 2023 is your year. God is all about progression and moving us forward.

You and I cannot move forward very quickly if we are looking back. Stop looking back.

Philippians 3:14-15 (NKJV) "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

Isaiah 43:18-19 (NKJV) "Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

I Corinthians 9:24 (NKJV) "Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it."

When a runner starts out on the course, he doesn't carry any unnecessary clothing or baggage. Because the excess weight will slow him down. He doesn't run constantly looking behind him because in doing so he cannot see what obstacles, dangers or people may be in front of him. No matter how long the race, he doesn't give up, he doesn't look back, but keeps on running

because his goal is the finish line. This, of course, is a description of a physical race. I now speak of a spiritual race where God is talking about advancing with Him.

We must keep our focus on God and run our race with Him. We must leave the past behind and move forward with Him, so that our past doesn't slow us down. We need to leave 2022 behind and ADVANCE with God into 2023 without baggage or old ways. God is pouring out NEW WINE, and He wants us to drink and drink and drink some more of this NEW WINE. Throw out the old and drink the NEW. Who wants to drink old wine when God is offering New Wine? This wine smells, tastes and looks different. It is time for you and me to get rid of all the distractions of the past, leave it all behind, forget it. Reach forward, press on and don't look back. ADVANCE with God.

Run YOUR race with God. Don't look at the race or journey someone else is on. Do not even look at the places you have been. Because God is going to advance you into the greatest ride of your life thus far.

So many times, we have our plan for our lives, and so that is what we think about and a lot of times we have it all laid out. We look at that plan and begin to figure out how we are going to make it happen.

Proverbs 16:9 (NKJV) "A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."

Isaiah 55:8 (NKJV) "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,' says the Lord."

Psalms 139:16 (NLT) "You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed."

God's ways and thoughts for us are higher than our ways and thoughts for our lives. He has already laid it all out for us; He is ready to advance us into those ways and Thoughts. He is ready to advance us into the days for our lives that He has already recorded. Are you ready? I do not say this lightly; it is a matter of believing and trusting God instead of ourselves to take us into our future. I can promise you this: His future

and plans are by far, greater, larger and much better than anything we could imagine. One of the amazing things about all of this is that He wants us to drink in His NEW WINE as we get **ADVANCED** by HIM. Wow, how can we go wrong? He isn't leaving you at the starting gate on your own. He is there saying, "Let's go, it's time to advance with Me." **ADVANCEMENT** is your destiny for 2023. **ADVANCEMENT** is what God has for you. Trust Him, stop looking back, step out of the past and walk into your future already laid out by God. Put down your agenda for your days, for your lives and pick up God's by believing and trusting Him. He will never leave you nor forsake you. What He says, He will do.

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV) "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."

Isaiah 14:24 (NIV) "The Lord Almighty has sworn, 'Surely, as I have planned, so it will be, and as I have purposed, so it will happen.'"

You will never go wrong by trusting and believing God for your future. The future God has for you is much greater and way more satisfying and fulfilling than what you have planned for yourself. So surrender your life and your plan for your life to God and advance with Him.

Many times we will think about how good things have been and how amazing God moved in us, through us and for us and we want to stay there. But, God doesn't want us to stay there, even though it was incredible, because He has so much more for us. Why would we want to stay where we are when God has so much more? Step out of your past and advance to your next journey. Get out of the past, choose not to live there. Believe and trust God and advance with Him. Your future is lying ahead of you. Drink in the NEW WINE and ADVANCE with Him!!!!

God is saying, "This is the beginning of the rest of your life. No longer look back, look forward and advance with Me. From this point on, as you believe and trust Me, we will only ADVANCE together. Keep your focus on Me and I will lead you and go with you into advancement for the rest of your life. It will be above and beyond anything you could ask or think."

People of God, let's do this!!! **ADVANCEMENT** with God!!! Leaving the past, stepping into the future. **HERE WE GO!!!!**

Jennifer Peikert is a prophet and minister who travels with her husband Jay all over the world preaching the Gospel, healing the sick, being a prophetic voice to the nations and seeing signs, wonders and miracles everywhere they go. They have ministered in Japan, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Mexico, Honduras, Cuba and different places in the U.S.A.



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By Budd Rodgers

The Shepherd's Voice

REVIVE US AGAIN!!

In this issue, our topic of revival, reformation, renewal and awakenings stir up many feelings. For a lot of us who were raised in Evangelical Christian denominations, we may think of fiery sermons, altar calls, people getting right with the Lord, loud and boisterous evangelists, Billy Graham or large crusades held in large venues like football stadiums.

Our writers in this issue, I believe, will not only increase our knowledge of revival, but will “trigger” a new hunger and thirst for a great move of God, not only personally, but for our nation and even in a world-wide occurrence. Some of you who are reading this issue may have heard the term “revival” but don’t really understand what it means or entails. Let me be very honest here with you. I don’t think I know what revival really is. Let me explain.

In the Baptist church I grew up in, it was common that our church held at least one “revival” meeting a year and maybe a second revival meeting if the powers that be decided to do that. Although these meetings were a frequent occurrence in the church where I was a member, there were times when something happened in some meetings that were a lot more special or exciting.

One year, our church held a revival when I was either in the 8th or 9th grade, our evangelist for the week was Brother Richard Jackson from the North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, Arizona. Brother Jackson was a native Texan who graduated from Southwestern Theological Seminary in Fort Worth and pastored several churches in Texas before he relocated to Phoenix and was instrumental in the rapid growth of that congregation reaching up to 22,000 members. I don’t recall how many people gave their life to the Lord from that week long revival meeting, but I would guess well over a hundred people got saved and we had probably over fifty baptisms result from that meeting. I had never witnessed a service like the Sunday night when we had a special

baptism service. It lasted well over an hour, of just baptisms.

Another memorable time, a couple of years later in my hometown, I recall that several churches in the whole county from different denominations came together to sponsor a crusade and I remember the evangelist was James Robinson from Fort Worth, Texas. I believe it was a 3-day crusade and several hundred people were saved and gave their lives to the Lord. In addition to these meetings there were events called “Lay Renewals” where meetings were held by “lay” people and not the clergy. There were several of these types of meetings across our denomination and multiple lives were changed.

So the question I have to ask myself is this. Were these meetings I just described considered “revivals”? People gave their lives to Christ. I am certain that lives were changed and there was a new atmosphere in the air during and after those meetings. But in the largest sense of the word, were these meetings manifestations of revival?

I believe that true revival or a move of God is more than evangelistic meetings held by a church or group of churches. Historically, all huge movements of spiritual change, including the Day of Pentecost described in Acts, the historical movements called the First, Second and Third Great Awakenings that happened in America, the Azusa Street revival that occurred in Los Angeles, California, the Latter Rain movement in the 1940’s and 50’s, the Jesus Movement, the Charismatic movement where numerous denominations, including Catholics were being “filled” with the Holy Spirit, the Brownsville Revival (also known as the Pensacola Outpouring) which started on Father’s Day, June 18, 1995 were all spontaneous moves of God that were initiated by the Holy Spirit.

Then came The Toronto Blessing, a term coined by British newspapers, referring to the Christian revival and associated phenomena that began in January 1994

at the Toronto Airport Vineyard church. The church was later renamed in 1996 to Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship and then later in 2010 renamed to Catch the Fire Toronto. All of these movements or revivals were initiated by God, and they continued for days and days, some of them into weeks, months and even years.

Now in recent days, the news (I'm talking secular news) is reporting a phenomenon that broke out at Asbury University. This revival started in a Christian worship service at an auditorium in a Christian college in Wilmore, Kentucky on February 8, 2023. Worshipers are now coming from all parts of the world to participate (Wikipedia). Most likely this non-stop meeting will continue beyond the time when this issue comes out to you on March 1st. By the way, in 1970, Asbury University held a revival that lasted 185 hours, or more than seven days. It intermittently continued for weeks and spread across the United States and abroad.

The manifestations that are coming out of this latest revival in Kentucky are being described by Dr. Kevin J. Brown, President of Asbury University by his quote in the press:

"We are experiencing a historic moment at Asbury University. Since our regularly scheduled chapel service on February 8, there have been countless expressions and demonstrations of radical humility, compassion, confession, consecration, and surrender unto God. We are witnessing what scripture describes as the Fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23)."

To find out more about this revival you may click on this link: <https://www.asbury.edu/outpouring/>. Most importantly regarding this topic, I believe our response should be this:

We don't need to understand revival, nor do we need to explain it and we certainly don't need to criticize anything about it that we might have trouble comprehending. We should be praying that every move started by God would continue to grow in strength and depth and that lives are touched by the Almighty!

I want to leave you with this thought. It came to me when I remembered a song, our church congregation sang in those days from the hymnal. The song went this way:

**We praise thee, O God, for the Son of thy love,
For Jesus who died and is now gone above.**

Refrain:

Hallelujah, thine the glory!

Hallelujah, Amen!

Hallelujah, thine the glory!

Revive us again.

2 We praise thee, O God, for thy Spirit of light,

Who has shown us our Savior and scattered our night.

[Refrain]

3 All glory and praise to the Lamb that was slain,

Who has borne all our sins and has cleansed ev'ry stain.

[Refrain]

4 Revive us again - fill each heart with thy love;

May each soul be rekindled with fire from above.

"Revive Us Again" is a hymn written in 1867 by William Mackay.

Revival is a lot more than a "feeling" but there definitely is a feeling. I believe it could be described as an outpouring of God's Spirit on people who are desperate to be closer to God, who want their lives to emulate the love of Jesus that can be seen and felt by the world around them. Out of all of life's priorities, it changes the perspective to what is most important in life and that priority is to live a life that pleases God. That ability to do so can only come about with the power of God and not from our own abilities.

**What do you say? Are you with me? Lord refresh us
anew with your HOLY SPIRIT! Saturate us with your love
and holiness!**

Amen and blessings to you all until next time - BR

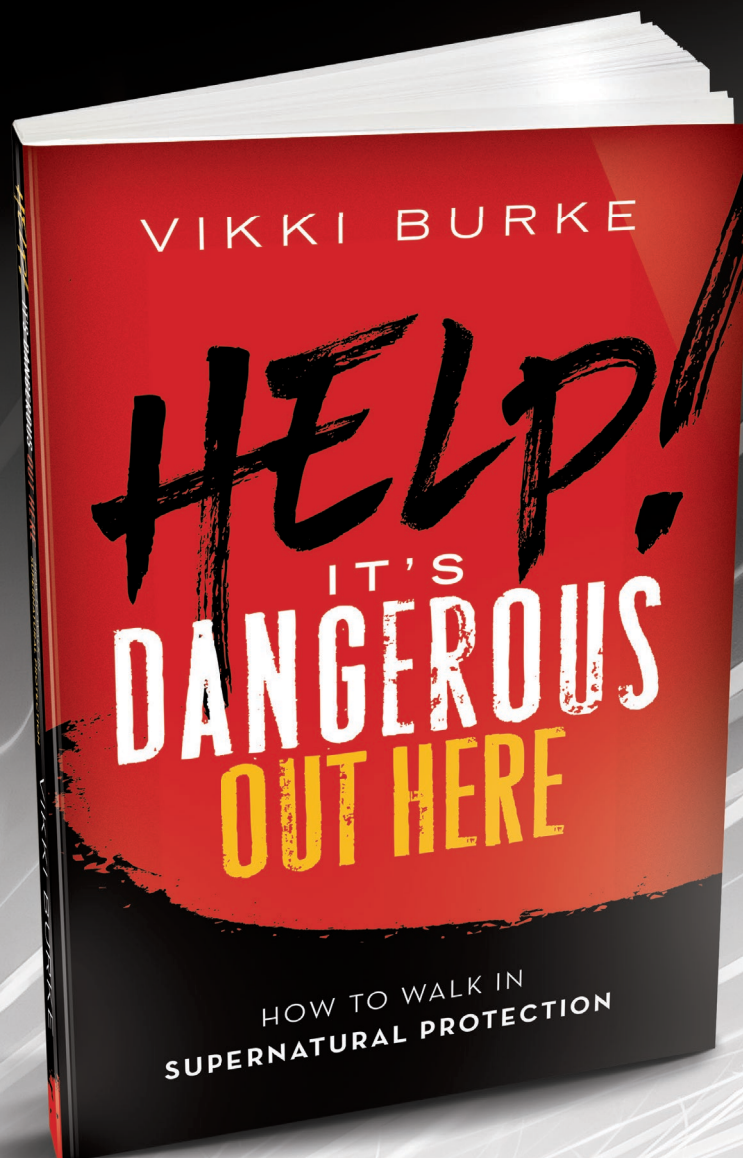


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2 Chronicles 7:14

if My people who are called

by My name

will humble themselves,

and pray and seek My face,

and turn

from their wicked ways,

then I will hear from heaven, and will

forgive their sin and heal their land.