

near that I wasn't anxious or worried, and simply began to give orders to Bill to do his best to see that the six children would all go through for God if my wife and I went to be with Jesus. Then the thought came across my mind, 'Why should I complain? My Lord suffered more than this for me.' His presence was so very real that, once again, I could say with Job, 'Lord, I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear, but now mine eyes seeth Thee.'

"Today I stand as a living witness that the Lord Jesus Christ, who intercedes for me at the right hand of God, is sufficient for body, soul and spirit—and finances, too!"

AMERICA MUST BE STABBED AWAKE!

By Paul Rees

To the keen eyes of the prophet Ezekiel there once appeared the moving picture of the Almighty coming down to search the streets and dwellings of Jerusalem. God looking for a man! A man who will lead out, who will return to the altars of the Lord, and call others to accompany him! A man who will pioneer the way to national revival! Amazingly enough, God could not find that key man. Therefore Jerusalem and Judah went on to their doom in 586, spiritually unawakened and unrenewed.

Now change the historical setting. Come down to the present. In place of Judah, think of America. In place of Jerusalem, think of your city or mine, New York, or Minneapolis, or Los Angeles. In place of the Temple, think of the Church. Then recall this word of Ezekiel's found in chapter 22, verse 30: "I have looked for a man among them to build up the wall and man the breach on behalf of the land." (Moffatt).

Are there any broken down walls in the life of our nation? Think, for example, of what is happening to the home and family life of these forty-eight States. Are there not numerous "gaps" or breaches through which a filthy flood is pouring? If so, then remember that God is looking for men—men who are alerted to the peril, men who will be fillers-of-the-gap and who will stand staunchly for spiritual recovery against all the forces of anti-Christ and apostasy.

The question I now raise is simple and searching: how can we—you and I—answer this call of God?

Show All Her Abominations

First, I should say that if you and I are going to be God's key men for revival, we must get our eyes open to the facts. "Show her all her abominations," is the command that came to Ezekiel with respect to Jerusalem. But would Jerusalem be shown? No! She preferred to live on in her fool's paradise of godless prosperity. Even the temple joined with the market-place and the dens of vice in doing outrage to the holiness of God, and doing it with blind arrogance and complacency.

Consider these flashes of arraignment from the chapter we are examining:

"You are guilty of the blood you shed, befouled by the idols you have made . . . The leaders of Israel within you have been overbearing . . . You scorn what is sacred to me, you desecrate my Sabbath. . . . Within you men live lasciviously . . . The local leaders are roaring lions that tear their prey . . . The priests violate my law and profane what is sacred to me . . ."

The Spirit of God takes no delight in publishing or parading these mean and mischiev-

ous failures of society and the church. He brings them up for one reason only: to ram them home to the conscience. We must be stabbed awake to them, or the bells of doom, soon or late, will toll above our helpless heads.

If you are going to be one of God's pioneers for revival, you must begin with yourself. One of the Proverbs might be taken, with all its bluntness, and applied to us who are called of God to further revival. It is the Proverb which reads, "The eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth." Proverbs 17:24. He refuses, in other words, to face the realities of his own life.

With a View to a Radical Cure

If we are to have spiritual revival in our churches, we must counteract the mania for confessing other people's sins rather than our own. Our criticism of other people is an emotional dug-out in which we are trying to hide from our own failures. It is deadly to our soul's good. It is fatal to revival.

About 1830 Charles G. Finney was the agent of the Spirit of God in bringing revival to the city of Rochester, New York, and its environs. As a result, more than 100,000 persons united with the churches as newly converted believers. Perhaps such a man deserves our respectful attention when he declares: "A revival of religion may be expected when Christians begin to confess their sins to one another." If no one else will support him in that statement, the Apostle James will, for he said, "Confess your faults one to another that ye may be healed." James 5:16.

Pioneering for revival is costly business. The price must be paid, not by the older brother, but by me! "Let us be clear once and for all," said Cecil Rose, "that honest self-examination and introspection are not the same thing. 'Introspection' is looking inside yourself and doing nothing about it. 'Self-examination' means allowing God to give you an overhaul with a view to a radical cure." It is the "radical cure" that we need, else we shall continue to be part of the problem instead of part of the answer.

WEDDINGS

At the Reformed Baptist parsonage, Saint John, on May 22, 1950, Albert D. Hooper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emory Hooper, of Black's Harbor, and Miss Mildred G. Miner, of Black's Harbor, were united in marriage by Rev. P. H. Green.

OBITUARY

Baby Dale Gilbert, six weeks' old son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Blaney, of Maple Ridge, passed away at General Public Hospital, Fredericton, April 28th. The funeral was held from the home, to the R. B. Church Sunday afternoon, April 30th, with Rev. J. A. Owens officiating.

May God comfort the sorrowing parents.

The six weeks' old son of Mr. and Mrs. Dean MacDonald died suddenly at their home in Newcastle Ridge, May 11. The remains were brought to Millville, where a service was conducted by Rev. J. A. Owens. Interment was in Hawkins Corner Cemetery.

To the bereaved parents we offer our sincere sympathy.

DOORBELL EVANGELISM

By Dr. Wayne A. Lamb

In "Pentecostal Herald"

Sometime ago a fellow pastor said to a friend, "If the people expect me to go around ringing doorbells, they will be disappointed. I have too much to do to visit in the homes of the people." This man did not stay in the ministry very long. Many of us could testify that some of our most effective ministry has been in the homes of our people when we visited and prayed with them. The pastor who neglects this phase of his ministry will not be very effective.

The same thing might be said regarding "doorbell" or visitation evangelism. All of us recognize that the majority of the population of our nation does not attend our church services. We can put on a revival campaign, or a "preaching mission," and do a tremendous amount of advertising, and then have few in the community, who are not members of the church, attend the services. Many of them could be won in our revivals, if they came under the influence of the evangelistic gospel message, but they just do not care. If the church is to win them for Christ, we must find them where they are. We must ring their doorbells, interview them in their homes, and seek their commitment to Christ.

Jesus, himself, was continually interviewing people personally in enlisting them as his followers. He also sent the 70 out, two by two, for them to witness in the homes of the people. His method was effective then, it is also effective today. There are several things about doorbell evangelism which suggest unlimited possibilities for the church in this modern day. In the first place doorbell evangelism keeps alive the evangelistic spirit in the church. When a church loses the passion for souls and has no program for winning people to Christ, it is doomed to die. "No Christianity is Christian that is not Christianizing." All of us should be interested in keeping alive the evangelistic spirit in the church. When a group in a church go out ringing doorbells, witnessing for Christ and leading others to a commitment for Christ and the church, it has a tremendous effect upon their own spirit and the influence will tend to spread throughout the congregation. Then when there are people continually coming to the altar of the church, publicly confessing Christ and uniting with the church, it has a tremendous effect upon the congregation. People will soon realize that this is the most important work of the church. More and more evangelistic zeal will burn in the hearts of the people.

In the second place doorbell evangelism utilizes the man power of the church. It gives laymen an opportunity for winning people of which many of them never dreamed. We have many laymen in our churches who are good, and whose hearts have yearned to be a blessing in the work of the Kingdom, and yet never had an opportunity for any vital spiritual work. Many of them have yearned to win someone for Christ, but did not know how to go about it. When we train them, give them a technique, and send them into homes on such a mission they find the greatest possible joy in the work.

One layman said to me, "You can't imagine how much this program of Visitation Evangelism has meant in my life. Until two years ago I had always attended church, listened to the sermon and dropped my offering in the offering plate, but I had never done anything for

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