

REVIVAL: DO WE NEED IT?

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bother me." That fact may be telltale. Why does it not bother us? Is it that we have become insensitive to sin and hardened by its deceitfulness?

The writer to Hebrews revealed his concern for Christians: "Exhort one another daily, while it is called today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." (Heb. 3:13).

The allowance of "little" (?) sins leads to an insensibility toward them and tends to belittle the exceeding sinfulness of all sin. As Matthew Henry says: "One sin allowed (regardless of size) prepares for another." Thus we are "hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." And thus we say, "It doesn't bother me."

How is it that we can make a bold and high profession even while we are guilty of gossip, backbiting, slander, and deception while we carnally criticize our fellow Christians and pastors? Yet some of us do. How can we say we have been crucified with Christ when we want our own way? Yet we do. How can we say we love the Lord with all our hearts when we won't pay our tithes and give generously to His cause? Yet we do. How can we say we are sanctified when we have a nasty tongue and a bitter spirit? Yet we do. "Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things that I say?" Yet we do.

It is not enough to sniff and sob in a prayer meeting over lost sinners. We ourselves must have concept of sin and holy hatred of it. We must have a vivid concept of the wrath of God.

Read the reports of genuine revivals (such as in the Congo, Ruanda, and the Hebrides) and you will see how revival brought a new sensitivity toward sin.

A partial account of the revival in the Belgian Congo reads: "The people were amazed at the sensitiveness of the Holy Spirit to what they called small sins . . . heart sins like murmuring, evil thoughts, and criticism they had thought He would not be so particular about. But when they came under terrible conviction over such sins, then they saw them as God sees them."

Doubtlessly there are situations in some of our churches existent for years which have stayed the Hand of God, broken the hearts and health of godly pastors, and made altars barren. Only an unusual movement of God can remedy these situations.

A Pentecost at any cost is needed. Some of us must prevail with God for all of us.

A revival will cause us to see sin as God sees it. Then we shall wail over what we wink at now. Then holiness will be a living reality, not just a dead doctrine.

Dear people, in concluding this article allow me to confirm my love toward you. These articles on revival have been searching and possibly severe. The reason for their being so is that it is the writer's conviction that we must deal with ourselves unmercifully, the writer included, in order to see revival. This conviction appears to concur with that of the prophets of revival. As Dr. Paul Rees has said: "The Spirit of God takes no delight in publishing the failures of men and Christians. He brings them up for one reason only—to ram them home to the conscience. We must be stabbed awake or the bells of doom will soon toll above our helpless heads." Even so, the spirit of love and concern has motivated these articles and the hope of hopes that our beloved Zion will remain as an apple of His eye.

"It may be they will present their supplication before the Lord . . . and it came to pass . . . that they proclaimed a fast before the Lord to all the people."

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

Norton, N. B.:—While talking with our Highway editor recently, I was asked to write a report of our work here. First of all, I am glad to say that God has been good to us.

After Beulah Camp we had our first D. V. B. S. with Miss Sheila Graham as director. We feel that this was a great benefit to the church and we are already planning for a greater School next year. Each evening of the D. V. B. S. period Miss Graham brought a challenging message to the Church. We were pleased to see more than twenty seekers bow at the altar of prayer, some to be saved, others seeking sanctification. We praise the Lord for these and other victories seen in former services. On Sunday, Sept. 23rd. we had a baptism, eleven following the Lord in this ordinance. We are looking forward to special services next month at Norton and Mercer Settlement. Rev. R. H. Nicholson will be our evangelist. We request the prayers of God's people for these services, also for campaigns planned for Case Settlement and Grey's Mills. The Lord has a strong remnant at Grey's Mills and the people desire revival. We are praying that the Lord may stir us until desire becomes a sense of duty.

The young people continue to be a source of courage and help to us here. Of our number, more than twenty-five have a definite testimony for the Lord. We are trusting to see unsaved ones attending our services coming to Christ soon.

The people of all the churches of the circuit have been good to us. The Lord has used them in supplying our every need. We are thankful to the people, but to God be the glory. The promises and prospects before us when we came here two years ago have become blessed realities. With new promises and stronger faith in God, we look forward to greater victories in the days ahead.—Jack Stevens, Pastor.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The denominational treasury is in immediate need of funds. Bills incurred throughout the summer months are still outstanding. To date we have been unable to pay for the work done this past summer on our buildings at Beulah.

Money for these needs must come from the "General Fund Budget." We have heard from only seven churches so far this year. Pastors, please make an effort to forward at least a portion of this budget as soon as possible.

L. K. Mullen,
Alliance Treasurer

MORNING DEVOTIONS BROADCASTS

CFNB, Fredericton, N. B. 8.30-8.45 a.m.

October 27—Rev. B. C. Cochrane

" 30—Rev. N. E. Trafton

CJLS, Yarmouth, N. S. 8.30-9.00 a.m.

October 17—H. C. Mullen

" 19—Rev. K. E. Gorman

" 27—Rev. S. W. Ingersoll

SONG EVANGELISTS

Deverne Mullen: Oct. 17-28, Ravenna, Ohio (Nazarene)

Nov. 7-18, Toronto, Ontario (Nazarene)

New Address: Pefferlaw, Ontario.

Paul Mullen: Oct. 10-21, Massena, N. Y. (Pilgrim Holiness)

Oct. 24-Nov. 4, Copetown, Ontario. (Nazarene)

The King's Highway