

Camp Meeting

Rev. O. G. Wilson, in "Wesleyan Methodist"

Camp meeting is an event looked forward to by many from one year's camp to another. These camp attenders have prayed for a personal refreshing from the Lord prior to camp time, and have asked earnestly that all of God's people be revived. These happy warriors have saved their money so as to be able to meet this additional cost, and have layed by a neat sum for the expense of the camp that they might bear their share of the financial load.

Then there are those whose plans for camp meeting take in only the Sundays of camp. They will see many friends, enjoy a fine picnic dinner or crowd their way into the dining hall as though they were privileged guests. They carry none of the spiritual load of the camp and very little of the financial load.

The sincere prayer of The Wesleyan Methodist is that this year the onlookers and camp followers will be transformed into warriors for God—warriors who consider themselves expendables in this hour of desperate need.

The time is short! The harvest is ripe! There is a reaching out for God on about every level of society. The cults are hurrying down every street with their emasculated gospel. It is imperative that the great camp meetings of America make luxuriant equipment, much-honored ministers, and fun secondary nonessentials, and major on the work and leadership of the Holy Ghost.

Arthur B. Strickland, in Herald of His Coming, says: "A careful study of enduring moral and social reforms shows they have come out of religious awakenings.

"The great moral and spiritual depression today makes a great revival of Bible religion a national necessity.

"What God did in similar periods of our history, He can do again. The Church today faces situations not unlike those faced by the Church in the past—a spiritual awakening was God's way out".

The Almighty watches world movements. He waits for the Church to become the instrument He can use.

"The Church of Jesus Christ is not on the eve of perishing. It is on the eve of revival!

"The question is not, Will the Church be revived? One may as well as, Will the sun rise tomorrow? Not, when will the Church be revived? but, how can we hasten the revival?"

Let every camp committee, every camp worker seek out a deepening of his own spiritual life prior to camp opening.

Examine the preaching of the past. Has it been Bible-centered in which the great doctrines of the Christian church were lifted up; or has it paddled about in the muddy waters of modern opinion; or has it majored on personal whims and notions?

In the camp meeting services, give no place to fanaticism under whatever color it comes. Allow no one to divide the people of God over questions on which men of equal piety and scholarship differ.

See that the doctrine of entire sanctification is clearly taught as a second crisis in the life of the believer, witnessed to by the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Let it be made crystal clear that entire sanctification is not a terminus but the door to the full life of holiness and that there remains very much land ahead to be possessed.

This is the year for great campmeetings—holiness camp-meetings that bring men and women, boys and girls into the glorious experience of entire sanctification, and give them a good start in the life of holiness.

Let every lover of camp meetings pray and believe to this end.

IF WE HAD THE MONEY

We would get the task completed in our generation

By Paul B. Smith
In "Herald of His Coming"

The bottle-neck of world evangelization is not men but money. Missionary work involves two groups of people, the goers and the senders.

To suggest that everyone ought to be a missionary on the foreign field is just as foolish as to say everyone should be in the army and sent over-seas during war. Every nation realizes that it takes two kinds of people to wage a successful war.

There must be man power on the firing line, but there must be also those who are able to keep him there and supply him with ammunition.

God does not give everyone the privilege of working on the front lines of battle. Some are called to maintain the supply line at home.

The great problem that confronts the Christian world today is this—the task of the world's evangelization is not being done. Where is the bottleneck? Do we lack men, or do we lack money?

We lack money. Men are available. Never was there a generation with so many well-trained young people, anxious to do the will of God. Obviously the break down is not men. It is money.

In my evangelistic work I usually set aside one night to preach on missions. At the close of the service I invite Christians thirty years or under who would answer God's call to the mission fields to come forward. Inevitably almost every Christian young person in the meeting will stand up.

Suppose I were to make an appeal for funds to the businessmen in the same audience and say, "How many businessmen or women will stand up and say: "If God wants me to give Him fifty per cent of my income for foreign missions, I will do it." What kind of response would I get? One man, half a dozen men, or a score of men out of an audience of 2000 people?

More than likely there would be no response whatsoever. We expect others to lay down their lives for God, but most of us are not willing to lay down our bank accounts.

We have the men. But we do not have the money. If we had the money, we would get the task completed in our generation. The bottleneck of world evangelization is not men—but money.

ADVICE TO MINISTERS

Pray every night, and pray and shave every morning.

Keep your conscience clean, also your linen.

Let your light shine and shine your shoes.

Press your advantages, your opportunities, and your trousers.

Brush the cobwebs from your brain, and the dandruff from your collar.

You cannot put fire into your sermons unless there is fire in your heart.

It is better to lose a good fight than to win a bad one.

Call in the homes of men if you would have them call in the house of God.

Never allow temporal trivialities to displace eternal verities.

The approval of God is more to be desired than the patronage of a rich, unscrupulous pen-holder.

Always be content with what you have, but never with what you are.

—Free Methodist Advance

The King's Highway