

## The Revival We Need

by H. C. Morrison, D.D.

There is no way to estimate the value of a genuine revival of true religion—a time when the preacher and his congregation, with the sympathy and prayers of the devout people of the various churches of the community, give themselves to prayer, to listening to the Word, and to the seeking of the salvation of souls.

It is impossible to estimate just how much sin is prevented by the conversion of seventy-five or one hundred and fifty people in a community, many of them young, others who are older and becoming adepts in wickedness, and all the influences that are evil. There is a scripture which says, "Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins." Human nature is such, sinfulness is so general, so widespread, such a constant and daily and hourly thing, that every church and community is in great need of hearing the more earnest preaching, warning, condemnation, exhortation, and entreaty characteristic of revival preaching.

Unfortunately, today, we have both preachers and laymen, not a few of them, who are unfriendly to revivals of religion. They have no sympathy with the idea of the people of a community uniting themselves in prayer for close communion with Christ, and the earnest seeking of the lost, to bring them to repentance and saving faith. It is difficult to understand such people. We have revivals of education; of our political ideas and movements; of agriculture; of trade; of commerce; and of vast building programs when people are aroused and become enthusiastic on all sorts of great movements for the betterment of mankind. Why should not the truly saved people have periods of special exertion for the salvation of the unsaved? Why should we not set apart times to pray, to visit, to exhort, to warn, and to gather in the sanctuary of the Lord in united effort for the salvation of the lost? For my part, I do not believe in the people who do not believe in revivals!

I am in the evening of life; the end of the way may not be far ahead, and I wish, with all earnestness, to exhort my young brethren of the ministry that they become soul winners; that they set apart times for revival, and press the good work from week to week. They will thus grow in grace, come into closer and more intimate fellowship with Christ, and see the salvation of souls.

There is no way to calculate the outcome of such an effort, and what may be the results of such an undertaking for revival. I well remember a revival meeting which took place in a log meeting house which I think could not have held more than two hundred and fifty, or at the most, three hundred people, some sixty years ago. I think there were at least twenty conversions in that revival. Three of us were called into the ministry, and by the grace of God, we have offered salvation to vast multitudes; we have belted the globe with the glad message of a Saviour who is mighty to save to the uttermost. It would be difficult to estimate the number of persons saved under the ministry of the three of us who entered the ministry and have preached with power and gracious results. Numbers saved under their ministry have been called to preach, and so the good work goes on.

The little group of neighbors gathered in a little log meeting house to listen to a very earnest young farmer boy preacher, had no dream of the work that was being wrought and the wonderful spread of the gospel that was going out from the mourners' bench there in that old log Methodist Church.

The King's Highway

Let's have revivals! Pay no attention to unbelievers. Wrestle with God in prayer, and preach the old gospel of faith in Christ. Hold revivals in the city church, the village meeting house, the old country church, a mill shed, under a tent, under a brush arbor, or under the spreading branches of the trees in the forest by the roadside. Win the lost to Christ. Start gracious influences to going that will abide throughout all eternity!

—Pilgrim Holiness Advocate

## THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER TO CONVICT OF SIN

by R. A. Torrey, D.D.

The officers of Chicago Avenue Church were greatly troubled at one time that there was not more conviction of sin in the meetings, and had a number of prayer meetings that God might send His Holy Spirit in mighty convicting power.

Not long after that, one Sunday night as I was preaching, I noticed a man in the front seat in the gallery to my left, leaning forward listening most intently. A great diamond flashed upon his shirt front and he had every appearance of a sporting man. He proved to be a travelling man but was also leading a sporting life.

In the midst of my sermon, without any intention of drawing the net at the time, but simply to drive a point home and make it definite, I said, "Who will accept Jesus Christ tonight?" Scarcely had the words left my lips when this man sprang to his feet and cried so that it rang through the church like a pistol shot, "I will," and sank back into his seat overcome with emotion. His action produced a sensation in the audience like a shock of electricity. I saw it was no time to finish the sermon.

I was not there to save sermons but to save souls, and I immediately gave the invitation. I said, "Who else in this building will accept Jesus Christ here and now as his personal Saviour?" All over the church men and women, young and old, began to rise to their feet and a large company that night accepted Jesus Christ.

Among the number was an old white-haired colonel belonging to a very wealthy family in the east, but who was entirely overcome with strong drink. His family had sent him out to Chicago and boarded him at a hotel there while he drank himself to death, but that night the Spirit of God touched his heart.

## HOLINESS POSSIBLE

by General Booth

All God's dealings with the race prove that he hates sin with an infinite hatred, and loves his sin-cursed children with an infinite love. With infinite remedial agencies at his disposal, what will his redeeming grace be likely to attempt with regard to us—a partial or an entire cure of the malady of sin? Mary Magdalene, being willing to receive a complete salvation from Jesus, did her blessed Lord cast out four devils and leave three in to torment her and tempt her to dishonor her Master, or did he "forgive her much," and give her a complete deliverance? What would a skillful earthly physician do whose son had been fatally poisoned? Would he use every possible antidote to drive out all the poison, and that immediately, or would he leave a portion of the virus in his system to be fought gradually and to make him a suffering invalid for life? There is but one answer to such a question. How much more is it probable that our sin-hating and infinitely compassionate and omnipotent Heavenly Father would provide an instantaneous and complete salvation for his "grievously tormented" children?