

Catch the Wind: Part 1

by Brad Allen

Brad Allen's sermon explores the profound impact of the Lewis Revival and the role of prayer and the Holy Spirit in spiritual awakening.

Duration: 59:02

Scripture: Psalm 126:1-4, Isaiah 64:6, Matthew 6:33, Acts 9:1-9, Acts 10:9-16, Revelation 1:10-11, Revelation 3:17-18

Topics: "Revival"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher tells a story about a group of people who were crying out to God in a farmhouse. Duncan Campbell, a preacher, was called to come and join them. When he arrived, he noticed a small group of men who seemed to be possessed by demons. Despite this, the group continued to pray and worship God for months. One night, a deacon named Kenneth McDonald prayed for God's blessing, and they all sang a psalm. As they finished singing, people flooded back into the church, filling every available space and crying out to God for mercy.

Transcript

Tonight I want to honor Pastor Randy, the shepherd of a congregation. That's an awesome task. And I was a pastor for 40 years.

I tell everyone I... Now last November I had been preaching 57 years, last November. I started preaching when I was 2. But we honor you, Pastor. I... We went to bed last night in the motor home and I got to thinking what an opportunity it is for me to be here.

An old boy grew up on a farm in western Oklahoma. You know, we didn't know anything out there. Until I went off to college, the longest trip I'd ever made was up under the house hunting eggs.

And I just... Just the privilege of being here to preach. I got to thinking while I was lying in bed, I got to thinking what an opportunity it is. And it reminded me a story on opportunity.

I just got to share it if you don't mind. It's all right for Christians to have a little fun, isn't it? Years ago... Now train travel is not popular at all today. I guess maybe Amtrak's the only train you can ride on these days.

But years ago train travel was popular. They had passenger cars back then where over on the side of the car was a narrow aisle and there were compartments you'd go in and sit in. And in these compartments, there was a bench over here and a bench over here and people would sit on these benches facing each

other.

On this particular train ride, on this bench sitting over here was an old general of the army and his young 19-year-old aide who was a private. Over here facing them, sitting in the compartment, was an old white-haired grandmother and her beautiful 18-year-old granddaughter. The train was going down the track.

The train went into a tunnel. Black as night, couldn't see a thing. In the midst of the tunnel, they heard the sounds of a kiss and a slap.

They came out of the tunnel into the bright sunlight, all four of them seated ramrod straight. They didn't know who had kissed whom or who had slapped whom, but they were all four thinking in their mind. The old general of the army, he thought in his mind, what an insolent young pup.

He had the audacity to kiss that sweet young girl. But why'd the old lady slap me? The old grandmother was thinking in her mind, what an old coot. He had the nerve to kiss my granddaughter, but thank goodness she had the sense enough to slap his face.

The sweet granddaughter was thinking in her mind, what a situation. That sweet young boy kissed me, but why did Granny slap the old man? The young private was thinking in his mind, what an opportunity. I get to kiss the girl and slap the old man.

So it's an opportunity for me to be here tonight. Thank you for coming. How many of you were not here last night? Raise your hand.

Okay, several of you. Let's play catch-up very quickly. Great revival.

Tremendous revival. One of the greatest revivals in all of church history. It happened 1949 to 1953 on the island of Lewis, off the west coast of Scotland.

Lewis is one of the Hebrides Islands. The preacher in that great revival was the old Scottish Highlander preacher, Duncan Campbell. Duncan Campbell was born on the mainland of Scotland.

At the age of 15, he was converted to Jesus Christ, and at the age of 19, he went off to World War I. As a member of the Scottish cavalry, he was stationed in France. In a cavalry charge, he was horribly wounded, badly wounded. He was picked up off the battlefield by a Canadian cavalryman, and on that horse's back, a miracle occurred.

I don't know. Is there anybody here that has been born again, you have been saved, but you still struggle with the flesh? Anybody like that here? He said that was him. He struggled with the flesh.

And on that horse's back, Duncan Campbell prayed a one-sentence prayer, O God, make me as holy as a saved sinner can be. And he said God did it. God filled Duncan Campbell with his Holy Spirit.

He was transferred back to Scotland. He spent 13 months in the hospital. Then he spent five years as a member of the faith mission, a pilgrim, a missionary with the faith mission, going out into the rural area there where he lived with his mother and dad, just talking about Jesus Christ.

He didn't even call himself a preacher at that time. At the age of 25, he and Shona Gray got married, and he became a pastor. He served three churches.

He served first at the village of Ardvassar on the southern tip of the island of Skye, one of the Hebrides Islands. Then he served in the town of Ballantore on the northwest coast of Scotland. And then he came to the center of the country and served 10 years in the city of Falkirk.

24 years he served as a pastor. The words, not my words, they're Duncan Campbell's words, he said they were years of living in a barren wilderness because he lost the fullness of the Holy Spirit of God. Dear people, it is easy, it is easy to lose the fullness of the Spirit of God.

You know, the Bible tells us to grieve not the Spirit. You know what that means? It's easy to hurt the Holy Spirit's feelings. It's easy to hurt his feelings.

Duncan Campbell lost the fullness of the Spirit. Oh, he was a successful pastor. People loved him.

He preached good sermons. He did everything a pastor ought to do. But he said, in here I knew I wouldn't write with God.

November the 15th, 1947, at the age of 49, Duncan Campbell, in the parsonage in Falkirk, Scotland, came back to a fullness of the Holy Spirit. God filled him again. He completely surrendered his life.

While God was down in Falkirk, Scotland, working on a preacher, God was also up on the island of Lewis working in the heart and lives of a few people up there. Have you ever noticed that when God really gets ready to do something, he works on both ends of the situation and brings it all together? Now God, now I really believe this. I really believe this.

I believe that God has been working on a preacher out in Oklahoma and a people of God in Northport, Alabama, and he has brought us together. He's brought us together. Let me tell you what had been going on up on the island of Lewis.

On the island of Lewis, there are two main denominations, the Church of Scotland. If you bring the Church of Scotland over here, it's the Presbyterian Church. There's the Church of Scotland and the Free Church of Scotland.

They split back in 1843, became two separate denominations. The Church of Scotland, and by the way, I hate this. There's not a thing I can do about it, but there is an error in my book.

On page 64 in my book, it says that the Free Church of Scotland held a presbytery meeting in the village of Ness. It wasn't the Free Church. It was the Church of Scotland.

I don't know unless I chase down all my books and mark that out, the word free. Now, the presbytery meeting in the village of Ness up on the north end of the island, a presbytery meeting was made up of the pastors of the churches and elders, leaders in the church. They came together for a presbytery meeting.

In this meeting, they drew up a declaration and voted for this declaration to be read in every church of Scotland on the island the next Sunday morning. I have the full declaration in my book, but let me just give you the highlights of it. The declaration, they were deploring the low state of religion on the island of Lewis, and then down toward the end, they said, especially among the young people.

There were some of the churches of Scotland on the island where no young person ever came to church. Well, this was to be read the next Sunday morning. Now, there's a little village called Barbas, B-A-R-B-A-S.

This is where God exploded on the island of Lewis first. The pastor of the church of Scotland in Barbas was a man named James Murray Mackay. He got into the pulpit the next Sunday morning and read this declaration.

The next day on Monday, he went down south of the church to a humble little cottage where two old maid sisters lived. These two old sisters were members of the church. They were godly women, but because of their health, they were unable to attend church.

He went down to read the declaration to them. The two old sisters, Peggy Smith was 82. Peggy was blind.

Her sister, Christine Smith, was 84. Christine was almost bent over double with arthritis. Pastor Mackay read the declaration to them, and he left.

A few days later, Peggy Smith, the blind sister, called for her pastor to come back to their cottage. He went down, and she said, Mr. Mackay, and I need to say this. I'll use it quite a bit.

On the island of Lewis, they do not call their pastors. They don't call them pastor. They don't call them reverend.

They don't call them brother. They call them mister, Mr. Mackay. Old blind Peggy said, Mr. Mackay, I've been in prayer, and God gave me a vision.

In this vision, I saw the church of my father's, the Barbist Church, crowded to capacity with people, especially young people. Mr. Mackay said, well, Peggy, what do you suggest we do about this? And she said, I suggest we pray. You find some men in the church.

You and some of the men in the church, you go up in the north end of the parish and find a place to pray, and Christine and I will pray here in our home. Let's covenant together. We'll pray every Tuesday and Friday night.

We'll start praying 10 o'clock at night, and we'll pray until 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning, and we'll pray for God to come in all of his glory. Mr. Mackay found six men in the church. There was Kenneth MacDonald and Sandy MacDonald, Roderick MacLeod.

There was Colin MacLeod and Angus MacLeod, and the old blacksmith, John Smith. Remember him. I'm going to mention him again later.

What a man. So these six men and the pastor, they found a little barn up north of the Barbist Church to pray in. When Nancy and I went to Lewis, that little barn is now gone, but I walked around where the barn was, and it was like walking on holy ground, I tell you.

And they set into praying, those seven men in the barn and old Peggy and Christine in their home, every Tuesday and Friday night, 10 until 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning. They prayed night after night, week after week, month after month. During the fourth month of praying, one night in that little barn, about 1.30 in the morning, Kenneth MacDonald stood to pray.

Kenneth MacDonald was a deacon in the Barbist Church. He stood to pray, and listened to his prayer. He said, God, you have said in your word, who shall ascend to the hill of the Lord, and who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, he shall receive the blessing of the Lord.

He said, Lord, I don't know about these other men here. But he said, I do know this. He said, it seems like so much humbug to me for us to be gathered here night after night praying if we don't have clean hands and pure hearts.

And old Kenneth MacDonald then, he said, oh God. Now, he lifted his hands to heaven. He wasn't a Southern Baptist.

He could do that. He lifted his hands to heaven and said, oh God, are my hands clean? Is my heart pure? And when he asked those two questions, suddenly Kenneth MacDonald fell forward into the straw and went into a trance. Now, if that bothers any of you, go read the Bible.

In Acts chapter 10, when God appeared to Peter and said, go up and preach to the house of Cornelius, the Bible says Peter went into a trance. When Saul of Tarsus was on the road to Damascus, and the risen Lord appeared to him, Saul of Tarsus fell. When John was on the Isle of Patmos, he said, I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day.

I heard a voice behind me. I turned to see who it was, and when I saw him, I saw one likened to the Son of Man, and when I saw him, I fell at his feet as though I were dead. I have the suspicion that if we ever get as close to God as we ought to be, we'll fall before him.

We won't strut around like peacocks. And Mr. Mackay, the pastor, said, the fire of God fell in that little barn. He could hardly wait till the next morning to get down and tell old Peggy and Christine what had happened.

But when he got down to their house the next morning and told them, they weren't surprised because God had fallen on their cottage at the same time. A few days later, old Peggy, the blind sister, I wish I'd have known these two old sisters. My soul.

Peggy called for her pastor to come back to the house. He went down and she said, Mr. Mackay, I've been in prayer, and God gave me a message to give to you. God told me to tell you to invite some preacher named Duncan Campbell to come and preach a meeting at our church.

And she said, I don't know who Duncan Campbell is. I never heard his name until God told it in prayer. But God told me that Duncan Campbell would be here within a fortnight.

That's two weeks. Mackay got in touch with Duncan Campbell. He was down preaching on the island of Skye.

Asked him to come to Barvis and preach a meeting. Duncan Campbell said, it's impossible for me to come. I'm planning a convention.

Maybe I can come next year, but not now. So Mackay went back down and told Peggy. Said, well, Duncan Campbell said it was impossible for him to come.

Now, I just love old people. They're just as blond as two before. Blah.

It's impossible for him to come, Peggy. And Peggy said, that's not what God said. God said he'd be here in two weeks.

Man said he couldn't come. A few days later, Duncan Campbell got in touch with Mackay, and he said, I've had to cancel this convention. I can come if you still want me.

First week in December, 1949, Duncan Campbell rode the ferry from the island of Skye up to the island of Lewis. When the ferry docked at Lewis, the pastor, Mr. Mackay, and one of the church elders met the ferry. They said when Duncan Campbell got off the ferry, he said he was wearing a big old overcoat that is way too big for him.

It was just hanging on him. And he was wearing great big old galoshes, big old boots that were way too big for him, and he came tromping off the ferry. The church elder walked up to him and said, Mr. Campbell, might I ask you a question? Are you walking with God? And Duncan Campbell replied, well, at least I can say this.

I fear God. They got in the car and started back out to the village of Barbus, the town of Stornoway is the only town of any size on the island. Besides Stornoway, there are just scattered villages out around the island.

And they started 12 miles out to Barbus. Now let me explain just a little bit about Lewis. Now in the town of Stornoway, they planted some trees through the years, but once you get out of Stornoway and drive out across the island, there are no trees.

I mean zero. No trees. There are peat bogs and heather, sheep grazing everywhere.

They were driving out, and this revival was starting that night, the meeting. They hadn't done any publicity. They hadn't put anything on the radio.

There were no handbills printed advertising. The only thing that had been done, there was an announcement made from the pulpit of the Barbus Church that some preacher named Duncan Campbell was coming to preach a 10-day meeting. Duncan Campbell came to Barbus, to the island of Lewis, to preach a 10-day meeting.

He didn't go home for almost three years because God came. I had a man ask me before church tonight, would you be willing to stay here three years? And I said, if God comes, I'd be glad to. I'd be glad to.

I need to tell you a little bit about worship on the island of Lewis. First of all, the music. There are no musical instruments in the churches.

They sing a cappella. They don't have any hymnals. They don't sing any hymns.

They do not sing any gospel songs. The only thing they sing are the psalms. They just sing the psalms in church.

Their beliefs. Now, probably a lot of you have heard of five-point Calvinists that believe predestination, election, five-point, you know, extreme predestination, so on. On the island of Lewis, they're just almost ten-point Calvinists.

They're so strict. They would not dare give a public invitation in the church services on Lewis. They'd be afraid they were interfering with the work of the Holy Spirit.

So that's kind of the setup. I have to tell you this. When Nancy and I were on the island of Lewis, I was interviewing elderly people who were converted to Christ during this great revival.

By the way, I might say this. We were there in October of 2001, and since that time, every person that I interviewed has gone home to glory. I'm glad I went when I did.

Of all things Nancy and I wanted to do while we were there, we wanted to attend a service in the Barbist Church. We were staying in a hotel in the town of Stornoway. I had rented a car.

There are no automatic transmissions on the island of Lewis for rent. So I spent all the time over there sitting on the wrong side of the car, driving on the wrong side of the street, shifting a five-speed with my left hand. We found out church, their midweek service is not Wednesday night like America.

It's Thursday night, 7 o'clock Thursday night. So we got dressed up. Let me tell you this.

A pastor friend, he was pastor on the mainland of Scotland, he warned me before we went. He said, now Brad, if you and Nancy go to church on the island of Lewis, you be sure and take a black, preferably a black suit, but a dark suit, white shirt only, conservative tie, and black shoes. That's all you can wear.

Nancy, you take a black suit, and whatever you do, Nancy, be sure and wear a hat. All the ladies wear a hat to church on Lewis. Okay.

We took all that. We got all dressed up in our funeral attire. That night we went to church on Lewis out at Barbas.

I was the only man in church that had on a white shirt. All the rest of them had on a colored dress shirt. Nancy was the only woman in church that had a hat on.

But we got to church that night at 20 till 7. We sat down. I was sitting on the end of a pew. I found out later it was one of the church elders.

At 5 minutes till 7, he came over and leaned down to me and said, Pardon me, but are you a minister? And I said, Yes, I am. And he said, We don't have a minister tonight. Would you preach? Pastor, I literally thought I was going to faint.

Literally. I got to preach in the Barbas church. I've thought about that hundreds of times.

If I'd tried to promote myself, if I'd tried to send emails and say, Hey, can I preach? It couldn't be that. God was gracious. God allowed me to preach.

What a blessing. What a blessing. Okay.

Duncan Campbell, Mr. McKay, the church elder, they're going back out to Barbas. And the pastor, McKay, he says, Now, Mr. Campbell, we start tonight. We'll make it short because we know you're tired from your trip.

We'll have some prayers. We'll sing some psalms. And then you preach a little bit.

And then we'll get started in earnest tomorrow night. They gathered that night. There were about 300 in the service that night.

That's pretty well capacity in the Barbas church. Duncan Campbell said they did that. They sang some psalms, had prayer.

He spoke some. And he said, Really, he said it was a very dry service, very wooden service. When the service was over, when he finished, no invitation.

He pronounced the benediction and the people got up and filed out the doors out there. He stayed in the pulpit. And he said the doors were open.

And he said, I could see the people out in the front church yard. And he said they were out there, but they weren't leaving. They weren't going home.

And he said they weren't visiting. He said, I could see everyone was standing out there just in a tense silence. He left the pulpit.

And he walked down this aisle. He said, I was going out to join the people out in the front church yard. And he got right about here.

And Kenneth MacDonald, the deacon who had prayed that prayer in the barn. He said, Kenneth MacDonald came right up beside me right there. And said, Mr. Campbell, God is hovering over us.

And he's just about to break through. Wouldn't it be gracious if he broke through here tonight? Duncan Campbell said when Kenneth MacDonald said that, all of a sudden he fell to his knees and he began to pray. Prayed just a minute.

And all of a sudden, Kenneth MacDonald just fell over in the aisle and went into another trance. Now, I want you to understand who these people are. They are reserved, staid, Presbyterian Scotchmen and Scotch women.

When they come to church, they are silent. They are just like this. They don't visit in church.

They sit there in silence. Very, very reserved people. When Kenneth MacDonald fell over, church elder ran in the door and said, Mr. Campbell, come out here and see.

Duncan Campbell went out on the front porch of the church. In this crowd of 300 people that had been in church service, now there are well over 600 people out in the churchyard. Where'd they come from? Well, they came from the houses.

The Spirit of God had fallen on the houses of Barbus and they had streamed toward the church house. Another place they came from, there was a big young people's dance in the community that night and the Spirit of God had fallen on the dance and now all the young people have come to the churchyard. The church elder said, Mr. Campbell, what are we going to do? Duncan Campbell said, let's sing a psalm.

And they all began to sing. When Zion's bondage God turned back, as men who dreamed were we, then filled with laughter was our mouth, our tongues with melody. There are four verses to that psalm.

When they finished singing that psalm, the people just began to flood back into the church house. Less than half of the crowd could even get in the building. Duncan Campbell made his way back in.

He said he was going to come back to the pulpit and preach. And he said, when I came back in, every available seat was taken. People were sitting in the window sills.

He said every aisle was filled with people and these old reserved, quiet Scotsmen and Scotswomen, they weren't sitting in the aisles. They were lying in the aisles, weeping and crying out to God for mercy. He stepped over bodies coming down the aisle.

Most Scottish churches, the pulpit is up high and usually there's kind of a semicircle staircase here and one over here. Duncan Campbell said he got to this staircase and there was a young lady who was lying on this staircase. She was a local schoolteacher.

And he said this young schoolteacher was crying and saying, oh, God, is there any mercy for a sinner like me? You'll be glad to know there was. She was converted to Christ. She spent the rest of her life as a missionary in Thailand.

Duncan Campbell stepped over her and he came up to the pulpit and he started preaching. He preached just a moment. He said, nobody could hear a word I was saying because of all the weeping and all the crying out to God.

So he said, he said, I just stepped aside, folded my arms, and he said, I just stood there and watched God work. At 2.30 in the morning, Duncan Campbell decided to go home. He's staying in the parsonage over here across the street.

He and the pastor went home. They left. Left the building filled with people weeping and crying out to God.

When I first came across that, I thought, my soul, a Baptist pastor would be fired the next day if he tried that. You know, pastor is supposed to be the person, you know, a pastor, supposed to stay and turn off the lights and stay until the last cat's killed, you know. Duncan Campbell, Mr. Mackay, they left.

People asked him later, said, you mean you left the building filled with people crying out to God? Yes. You mean you didn't stay and counsel with them? He said, no, God is the supreme counselor. He said, he said, they may not be saved tonight and they may not be saved tomorrow night, but he said, I can promise you one thing, if they're seeking him with all of their heart, they're going to find him.

So they left to go home. They got out in the middle of the street and a young man came running up to Duncan Campbell in the street, said, Mr. Campbell, you've got to come. You've got to come down here to the police station.

It's just south of the church a little ways. I don't know, 300 yards, maybe something. Come down to the police station.

There's a big crowd of people there at the police station and they're out in the highway and some of them are sitting, some of them are lying in the highway and they're weeping and crying out to God, you've got to come and help. Well, who are these people? Well, this is all the crowd that couldn't get back into the church house and now they're down at the police station. I kept running into that in my research and it didn't make any sense to me until I got to Barbos and I knew why.

Why did they leave the church yard and go to the police station? They weren't out in front of the police station at all. Next door to the police station is the little cottage of old Peggy and Christine Smith. The

people of that village knew where the seed of divine power in their village was.

So Duncan Campbell, he starts down toward the police station and on the way he hears a sound over here in the ditch and there are two young men, they're in their 20s and they're weeping and crying out to God, they're in the dark in the ditch. They were converted to Christ, they spent the rest of their life as Church of Scotland pastors. He went on down to the police station, ministered to these people and now the race is on, revival has come, God has come.

The revival, first of all, it started up north, started moving north from Barbos. It went up to the northern end of the island toward the village of Ness. One night Duncan Campbell received a call, come up to this certain farmhouse.

There's a group of people up there, they're crying out to God, come and Duncan Campbell walked seven miles to this farmhouse. He got there at 2 o'clock in the morning and when he got there this farmhouse was filled with people weeping. He started preaching.

He had preached a few minutes and suddenly the back kitchen door of this farmhouse opened and a small group of men came in the kitchen door and Duncan Campbell said it was very evident they had not come to worship God. In his words he said you could see demon possession in the eyes of these men. He kept on trying to preach but he said suddenly he was bound, he couldn't preach, couldn't preach.

Well Kenneth MacDonald, that deacon, he was there and Duncan Campbell just said, Kenneth, you handle this, you pray. Kenneth MacDonald started praying. He prayed several minutes and then all of a sudden in his prayer he said, God, would you excuse me just for a bit, I want to address the devil.

And he started talking to the devil. He said, devil, you're in this meeting and you're here to frustrate the purposes of God and on the basis of the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross, I order you out of this meeting. And then he said last, he said, be gone, devil.

And Duncan Campbell said the fire of God fell. He started preaching again. Several people were saved including all of those men who had come in the back door.

They were all converted to Christ. Finally the revival swung around to the south, going south of Barbos. All I can do, you see, I could talk to you all until sunrise, tell you what happened there.

Let me just pick out some of my favorite things that happened. Four miles south of Barbos is the village of Arnall. A-R-N-O-L.

Arnall. For quite some time the revival had not come to Arnall, probably because there was a pastor in that village who was bitterly opposed to the revival. Let me say this.

The revival happened in the Church of Scotland. The free Church of Scotland bitterly opposed the revival. You know why? They said, yes, we need revival.

But if it comes, it has to come in our church, not theirs. I tell you what, I've reached the place, now I'm a Baptist preacher, but I've reached the place where I don't care. I don't care where God comes, I just want him to come in great revival.

Revival had not come to Arnall at all. Duncan Campbell got some of the, he called them, he had a name for them the rest of his life. He called them the praying men of Barbos.

Small group of men. He got these praying men of Barbos and they went down to Arnall to pray. They found a building, little workshop building to pray in.

I was just so hoping that when Nancy and I went to Lewis that that little building was still standing and it was. Got a picture of it in a little book. Little workshop building.

They gathered there that night to pray. They started praying at nine o'clock at night. Duncan Campbell said we prayed until one, about one-thirty in the morning.

And he said nothing was happening. He said dry prayers, nothing happening. He said he looked over here and there sat old John Smith, the blacksmith.

And he just said John would you pray? And John Smith stood to pray. By the way, you know every, every culture has its own traditions. On Lewis, you stand to pray, you sit to sing.

Now don't ask me why, that's just the way they do it. They stand to pray, sit to sing. John Smith, the old blacksmith, stood to pray.

Listen to his prayer. I don't, I don't know if I'd ever have the nerve to pray like this. He said God, did you know your honor is at stake? You promised in your word I will pour water on him who is thirsty and floods on the dry ground.

And he said God, I'm thirsty. And he said God, if you don't do what you promised to do, how can I ever believe you ever again? And then he asked it again. He said God, did you know your honor is at stake? And Duncan Campbell said all of a sudden that little workshop building began to violently tremble and shake.

It shook and it shook. If that bothers any of you here tonight, go read the book of Acts. The place where they were gathered was shaken.

Duncan Campbell said that building shook and shook and shook. He said after a while finally it settled down. And only as old Duncan Campbell, he said I immediately dismissed the prayer meeting because I knew that God had taken the field.

Two o'clock in the morning they filed out of that little building, stood out here on a moonlit night in the village of Arnall, two o'clock in the morning. And Duncan Campbell said we watched and the lights in the village of Arnall began to come on in the houses. And people began streaming from their houses toward this little workshop building with torches, candles and lanterns, clearing stools and chairs saying is there room for us.

Revival came to Arnall that night. By the way, the pub, the beer joint in Arnall, it closed that night. Never did open ever again.

Toward the end of that week there was a 15-year-old boy saved in the village of Arnall. His name was Donald McPhail. Duncan Campbell called him little Donnie, little Donnie.

Duncan Campbell said concerning little Donnie McPhail, this teenage boy, he said little Donnie McPhail is closer to God than any other person I've ever known in my life. Now when I was there, now like the village of Arnall, they don't have street names. The villagers are so small.

There are house numbers on the houses. And I went to a house 28 Arnall. I interviewed an elderly man, Donald McCloud, 83 years old.

He was converted to Christ during this revival. Toward the end of that week when the revival came to Arnall, little Donnie McPhail was converted to Christ there at 28 Arnall, that house. The next night he brought his mother.

They had a meeting. He brought his mother over here to this house. It was outside that house.

And he said, mother, right here is where I was converted to Christ. You can be saved right here at this spot. And she was.

The next night he brought his father. Dad, this spot right here, you can be saved. And he was.

Two weeks later, Donald McPhail was out in the heather praying. And God filled little Donnie McPhail with his Holy Spirit in a marvelous way. One day, Duncan Campbell came to the McPhail house to talk to little Donnie.

His mother said, well, Mr. Campbell, he's out in the barn praying. So Duncan Campbell went out to the barn. He opened the barn door and looked in.

Donnie McPhail was over in the corner on his knees. He heard the barn door open and he looked up, saw Duncan Campbell. And he said, Mr. Campbell, would you pardon me for just a bit? I'm having an audience with the king.

Isn't that good? I want to tell you something about little Donnie McPhail. South of the island of Lewis is the island of Berneray, a little small island. Donnie McPhail was, he was about 17 by now.

And they had invited Duncan Campbell to come down to the church on Berneray and preach communion services. Now, communion over there is totally different than American churches. Communion season, they start on Thursday night, they conclude on Sunday.

They have church night and day, Thursday night, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, building up, building up to taking communion, taking the Lord's Supper on Sunday morning. So they asked Duncan Campbell to come to Berneray and preach communion season. He went.

He started preaching on Thursday night, Friday, and he said it was as dead as it could be, dead, dead, dead. He called back up to Barbas, to the praying men of Barbas, and he said, can some of you men come down here and pray, and if possible, bring little Donnie McPhail with you. So here they came.

They brought little Donnie. Well, in the morning, they had their devotional time, Duncan Campbell and these praying men of Barbas and little Donnie McPhail, and they were reading there in Revelation where John, heaven was opened, and he gazed up into heaven. That was their devotional that morning, church that night.

Duncan Campbell said, I got up to preach, and he said it was so dead and dull. He said, I preached for a few minutes, and he said I was just tongue-tied. I couldn't preach.

He said, I just stopped. He said, I looked right over here about where Nancy's sitting, and on the front row, there sat little Donnie McPhail, and he said little Donnie was sitting there with his head and his hands like

this, stooped over, and the wood floor in front of Donnie McPhail right there was wet with his tears. And Duncan Campbell just said, Donnie, you're a lot closer to God than I am.

Would you pray? And little Donnie McPhail stood to pray. Now, Duncan Campbell said, he said, this is the only time I ever saw this in all of my life, never again. He said little Donnie McPhail stood to pray, and he said, God, he just lifted his eyes.

He said, God, I seem to be gazing into heaven, and I see you seated on the throne. And he said, God, I see power there. Let it loose.

And he came back around, and he said it a second time. He said, God, I see power there. Let it loose.

And Duncan Campbell said, just like that. There were two sections of pews. He said, this section of pews, the people in these pews right here, all at the same time, just boom.

He said, they went back in their pews like this, stiff like this. They stayed that way for two hours. But he said, this section of pews over here, they all at the same time, they just crumbled up and fell into each other in the pews and began to weep and cry out to God.

God came to burn the right that night. Little Donnie McPhail grew up. He and his wife went out.

They spent their life as missionaries in the country of Yemen among the Muslim people. I knew when Nancy and I went, I knew that little Donnie McPhail had retired, moved back to Arnall. Oh, I was hoping to meet him.

But when we were there, he was over in Ireland preaching. I did get an email address, and for a few years, little Donnie McPhail and I exchanged the emails quite a bit. And I think it was December of 2006 that I emailed little Donnie McPhail, told him something.

I don't remember what it was. And his wife answered back and said, Brad, my Donnell went home to glory in August. Another story.

Off the southwest coast of the island of Lewis is the little island of Bernera. Now, the one south is Berneray. This is Bernera.

Little island, four to five hundred population lives on the island. Today, you can drive out on this island. There's been a bridge built.

But in Duncan Campbell's day, there was no bridge. Duncan Campbell was over in Bangor, Ireland. He was to preach the closing message at a convention in Ireland.

Now, the night before he was to preach the next night, he said, I was sitting on the stage at this convention in Bangor, Ireland, and he said, all of a sudden, the Holy Spirit said, you go to the island of Bernera and go immediately. Well, he said, I didn't know any, I'd never been to Bernera. I didn't know anybody that lived on Bernera.

But he said, I knew in here. So he went to the chairman of the convention and said, I have to leave. Well, when? He said, right now.

Well, he said, you're preaching tomorrow night. Duncan Campbell said, no. The Holy Spirit said, go and go immediately.

So Duncan Campbell got on a plane and flew back to Glasgow, Scotland, then flew out to Stornoway. The next day, he flew out to Stornoway. Someone in a car took him down to the southwest coast of Lewis, and a man in a rowboat rode Duncan Campbell out to the island.

He said, when he got off on the dock, there was a little boy, he said, I guess he was nine years old, maybe, on the dock. And he said, I told this little boy, you go, now, there's just one church on the island. You go out and tell your pastor that Duncan Campbell is here.

And the little boy said, we don't have a pastor. He said, Hector McCannon is in charge of the church now. Hector McCannon was the local postman, the mailman.

He's in charge. He said, you go and tell Hector McCannon that Duncan Campbell is here, and if he asks what Duncan Campbell, just tell him the Duncan Campbell of the Lewis revival. The little boy took off.

He came back in a little bit, and he said, Mr. McCannon said, he's been expecting you. He's already set a meeting at the church tonight, and you're preaching. That night, the church is right outside the village, kind of up an incline, kind of up at the top of the hill.

The people, they all walked out, walked out to the church. Duncan Campbell preached, and he said it was very ordinary service, very ordinary. He pronounced the benediction, turned the people loose, and he said, he and Hector McCannon were standing on the front porch of the church, watching the people walk back down the hill, back toward the village.

And he said, all of a sudden, this mailman, old Hector McCannon, took his hat off and held it over his heart and said, Mr. Campbell, stand. God has come. Duncan Campbell said when he said that, down the hill, all those people, all of a sudden, they began to fall.

They fell into the heather. They fell into the ditches, weeping and crying out to God. As they were able, as they were able, they made their way back to the church, came in.

That service lasted until 5 o'clock in the morning. God came to the island of Verner that night. I guess, I guess I ought to dismiss you people.

We never know, we never know what God is able to do. You see, he's speaking to some people here tonight. I want to read two paragraphs, little paragraphs, over toward the end of my book.

I mean no disrespect in the statement that I am about to make. Barbas is one of the most desolate spots on the face of the earth. In every direction are peat bogs and heather, not a tree in sight.

Fierce winds continually blow off the Atlantic Ocean. The climate is as inhospitable as any you will find anywhere. And you can drive down the road from the north end of the island to the south end of the island from Ness to Swinebos, to Barba, to Shatter, to Barbas, to Arnall, to Carlaway.

And the drive is both lonely and thrilling. It's both monotonous and captivating. It's both ugly and beautiful.

How can one explain it? On the drive, you see the scattered houses along the road, the sheep grazing aimlessly beside the road, the heather holding fiercely in the peat, and you realize that God, the mighty

God of heaven, put his love upon this place. But when you think about it, Barbas has no organ, no piano, no guitars, no orchestra, no choir, no hymnals, no boys' organization, no girls' organization, no women's meetings, no church camp, no church staff. They only have Sunday morning worship service, Sunday night worship service, and Thursday night service.

And maybe, maybe in all of this, we can vaguely remember that we have left behind some basic spiritual principles. Maybe our emphases in our modern-day churches have gone awry. Now, is it possible that we who have large churches, active programs, we who are in such a hurry to be better, do better, reach more, is it possible that we are really weak, blind, naked, and wretched while little Barbas is mighty, vibrant, and holy? We need God to come.

Are you here tonight, and maybe you've never received Jesus Christ as your personal Savior? You've never been saved. And you need Christ in your life. You may be a member of a church.

You might have got baptized, sprinkled, ducked, poured, baptized frontward, backward, but you're lost from God. Would you accept Christ tonight? And maybe you're here tonight, and the cry of your heart is, Oh, God, do it again. God, do it again.

Do it again in my heart. Do it again. I want to give an invitation tonight.

I want to invite you to come, accept Christ as your Savior. It won't cost you a penny. Salvation, salvation is free.

It's not cheap, but it's free. It costs Jesus Christ his life on the cross. Would you come? Maybe you want to come tonight and say, you know, I'm saved, but I'm not filled with the Holy Spirit, and I want to be.

I want to be. You come while Nathan sings right now.

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