

On Eagles' Wings Pt 68

by Don Courville

This sermon calls for a deep spiritual revival in the church through prayer, repentance, and a return to the teachings of the cross.

Duration: 32:39

Scripture: Exodus 14:13, Deuteronomy 34:5, Isaiah 48:21, Matthew 6:33, John 7:38, Ephesians 4:14, Hebrews 4:10

Topics: "Radio Show"

Description

The video is titled 'Desert Survival Series' and is based on the life of Moses. The pastor expresses a burden for the church, stating that it is currently in a subnormal state and needs to be saved in order to save the world. He discusses the possibility of revival breaking out through a crisis, such as coffins rolling in from the Mideast. The pastor emphasizes the need for believers to awaken to their high calling in Christ, their responsibility as Christian stewards, and to possess their blood-bought possessions in the risen Lord. He introduces the Desert Survival Series, which teaches how to walk by faith, develop discernment, and be desert dwellers, using examples from the life of Moses.

Transcript

Well, I welcome you back again to On Eagle's Wings. I haven't said anything yet about the war in the Mideast. I've been watching it like you.

I've even given some serious thought to taking some time on this program to talk to you about revival and prophecy. I've been doing a lot of studying, or maybe not a lot, but some studying on past revivals. The thing that I am most intrigued about is how those revivals of the past, the ones where God worked deeply to affect lands, were carried on for months and years after, to where people were revived and stayed revived, stayed alive, stayed hot for Jesus.

We're going into the spring season. When we have our revival times, we set up, we say we're going to have revival from April 4th to the 10th, or whatever. And actually what we mean most of the time is we're going to have evangelistic meetings.

A revival is of the nature where God does the work. God sets the schedule. God sets the agenda.

The main thing we can do is pray for revival. Now, we can set up some meetings, and God can bless, and God does bless, and God is blessed in this area. Just recently I talked with a couple pastors that had

made a trip hundreds of miles to come to this town where I'm at, where God worked for almost two months, over two months, in revival.

And they never talked with the main pastor that was involved in the revival. They did talk to another man that had used his building, and he had had some part in it. And they went away deeply affected.

I even understood that there were some tears that they shed. And I happened to meet these pastors. I was at a pastor's meeting here a few days ago, actually a week ago, from when this is being recorded.

And I asked them about their trip up to Alliance, Nebraska. And they said, God did visit that town. And what God has done here is already gone out into three publications.

Last week we had Pastor Jules Ostrander share with you in the week before. And I hope that you will contact him if you'd like to know more about what God is doing. You can call him.

His phone number is area code 308-762-5236. He has invitations now to go to the east coast, the west coast, and one up in Kansas. And he's planning on a trip already in March going across Canada sharing.

People want to know what is happening, and they want to know how to have it themselves. I have a deep burden for the church, and I have a deep burden for pastors, and I have a deep burden for you. My struggle on this program is to know what the heart of God is from me to you.

In other words, I want to give you what God wants you to receive. I have a burden to teach you the cross. And I have a desert survival series that I call it on the life of Moses that I've been praying and asking if God would want me to share this with you.

Because you see, one of the things that happens so many times is that we get the what we need to do, but we never get the how-to. And this series that God gave to me after we experienced revival up in our part of the country in 1985, was what God gave me to share with my people on the how-to of the cross. And I entitled it the Desert Survival Series, and I took it from the life of Moses.

Moses, the man of God. But yet on the other hand, I have a burden about the church, not just to share with you personally and the pastors, but the church. Our church, churches today, are what someone has called sub-normal.

We are low. And someone said the church must herself be saved or she cannot save the world. The pastor here that I am now currently working with and under and trying to help out, and I'm learning some things too, we often say that revival could break out in this land through one of two means.

One, if the coffins start rolling in from the Mideast, five or ten thousand a week, there won't be a county in this country that won't be affected. And already people are going to the churches and praying, but what will it do to us if we see five or ten thousand coffins a week begin to roll into our towns? Our water fire economy finally does it close down, and there's no food to be had, no money for jobs. Will it take that to turn us back to God? Is the church ready for revival? Are you ready? Is your church ready for this land? We are praying for an awakening.

Someone has said her prayer, which is her faith, expressing itself in words, instead of being the cry of a spiritual giant, is but the wail of an infant in the night. Her visible life is far more a profession and outward respectability than a holy, attractive, world-conquering, Christ-producing reality. Before the world can be

made a better world, the church must be made a better church.

How can she be terrible as an army with banners, when many of her soldiers are either in sickbeds, or sitting by the campfires, or holding parleys with the enemy? We're at war. We're at war right now with another nation. But the church is at war, too.

Satan is at war with God, and if you're on God's side, then you're at war. How can we, when we're at war, be off on furlough? Rest and recreation is the order of the day for the church. What we need is revival to wake us up.

Life again. Someone said that we must enter a crusade against the growing worldliness of the church. This is robbing the church of its purity and power, and placing it in an embarrassing position, so that she cannot proclaim the whole counsel of God.

Worldliness only requires one condition for its success, and that is that we do not fear it. The church never had so much power over the world as when she had nothing to do with it. I was talking with somebody the other day on how hard it is to find a pure church.

Matter of fact, it's just about impossible. We have engrafted the standards of the world, the music of the world, and by the way, that booklet that I'm offering on rock music is still available. I've even been thinking about just offering it to you pastors that will write for me, to me for it.

You have a burden about it in your church, and you really want to know, and you're sincere, you just write to me, and as the funds are available, I'll just give you that booklet free. This isn't a great radio ministry like some of them that are around. We don't have lots of funds rolling in and stuff like that.

We're not asking for it, but if you're a pastor and you write to me, I'll see that you get that booklet as God supplies. Otherwise, I've been offering it for five dollars. It's about rock music in our churches.

In our youth's lives, we have done something, I believe, that is grieving the Holy Spirit in this area, and it is called worldliness in our music. You know, someone said, what hurts me most is that the world does not oppose us. I've also heard somebody say recently that the next attack on the church is going to be the illegal attack from our government, and that it will be effective and thorough in hitting the churches.

Are we ready for revival in America? Someone also said the demons do not fear us. Of course, we remember the incident in the 19th chapter of Acts where the man who was demon-possessed overcame the seven sons of Sceva, so that they fled out of the house naked and wounded, and the demons still say to us, Jesus I know, Paul I know, but who are you? Someone said also that the church has flung a smokescreen around her true spiritual condition by building enormous church edifices and by spending vast sums of money in promoting and popularizing her conventions and campaigns. Her leaders bask in the spotlight of Hollywood glare.

The noise of the machinery of propaganda is louder than the still small voice of the Spirit. The fame of men and movements is greater than the fame of the Redeemer. We'll have so-and-so come to our church if he has a great name or a big title or a lot of degrees or a fancy degree, but we won't have some little small prophet that has the voice of God speaking through him to our church for meetings.

No, we like to have our ears tickled. We like to be soothed. We like to have the big signs up.

We like the glory and the praise of man. God is grieved with the church. The glory of Pentecost was a spontaneity.

The revival at Pentecost was a spontaneous evangelistic effort. There is no advertising of Peter and the Apostles as special speakers, and we're getting ready for our spring fling with revival, play our game, get a couple souls saved, or if we have a real big church maybe we'll get a dozen saved. There's no advertising.

God the Holy Spirit told them to wait and pray, and when he hit everybody knew it. There is no planned method of evangelism. The supreme fact of that first and purest revival was the reception of the Holy Spirit by a waiting church.

Are you waiting for God to come? The unavoidable consequence was expressed in one line, and in the same day there were added unto them three thousand souls. And by the way, those three thousand converts were willing to go to the cross and die, which is a missing element in the gospel today. We're leaving out the cross, the crucified life, that when you come and take up your cross and follow me as Jesus said, you're leaving all.

You're willing to leave it all and follow Jesus no matter what the cost. Count the cost. But we say today, you come to Jesus, you just believe in Jesus and you can be saved, and there's no cross.

Nothing is said about taking up your cross and following Jesus, that it might cost you your job, that it might cost you some strained family relationships. It may cost you with your time. God may say, I want you to go as a missionary to another country, but we say, no, you come to Jesus.

There's not much of a cost. Christ has paid it all. It's just a cushion.

It's going to be great to be a Christian. Well, it is great to be a Christian, and I wouldn't go back to being an unsaved person for anything. All the misery and the struggle and the heartache and the emptiness, and there was no hope, no hope for me without Christ.

And I was religious. I was in church every Sunday and Wednesday nights, youth meetings all the way up. I was there, but Jesus wasn't there.

He wasn't in my heart. And the day that He came in, I remember I felt so cleansed. You know, some of you need to be cleansed.

You don't know what it's like to be clean. All you know is dirt and filth, and you continually sit before the screen and fill your mind with more filth and dirt. And if you're a Christian and you're doing that, and you're wondering what's wrong in your life and your church, you just stop and look at the stuff that's going in.

And so we fill ourselves with all this dirt and stuff, and then we come up to the board meeting, and we're going to say, well, we need to get a speaker in and have some revival meetings. And God is saying, no, you need to look at your own heart and start right there. If my people which are called by my name shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will heal their land.

I think the thing that you need to do in your church this spring, instead of setting up meetings, is set aside that time and just pray. Use every one of those nights and get there and just pray and pour out your hearts to God and confess your sin. That'd be unusual.

The things that we've seen in the revival meetings is we set aside times for God to visit us and to work in our churches. We've set aside times for revival for us that the unsaved have come to get saved, and they have got saved naturally, and it hasn't been an artificial means. You know what? Fire can always be relied upon to bring a crowd.

Sensational methods and startling advertisements are unnecessary to announce a fire. It announces itself. You just get it to burning and a crowd will come.

You're trying to get people into your church, doing all kinds of things, spending all kinds of money on advertising and promotion. Maybe the deacons are upset with the preacher because you're not growing, and the preacher's upset with the people because they're not growing. And what you need is a fire in your hearts.

Well, we're in a fire-starting business, spiritually speaking, and I am excited to see what God is doing right here. The last two weeks we had this pastor sharing and he called me up yesterday and he said, revival is still happening. A man had just went around making a thousand dollars worth of restitution, and I don't know how many thousands of dollars of satanic stuff that he had in his house.

Tapes, materials that he didn't recognize were from the devil. And God finally got a hold of him, and I asked him, is this man in our church? And he said, he is. He's a member.

How many in our churches today are filled with stuff like that? Well, they just come in as members just a couple, three months ago. They just come in, and as they've sat under the preaching of the Word and being in a revival atmosphere, they have to do one of two things in this church. They have to get out and go somewhere else and find another church, and there's a couple churches here that are really growing because of what God's done in this church.

Or either they get right with God. And my friend, I can't help but wonder if that wasn't the way it was in the early church. And I think it was, and that's what we want in America, to be like the early church.

Someone said, it's not the special spurts of the church that count, but the steady, vital ministry of the church in our everyday life. As Holy Jehovah has so beautifully said, it is not the new birth which initially arrests the world, but the new and glorified life. It is not, therefore, by spasmodic revivals, however grace-blessed they may be, that we shall excite the wonder of the multitudes, but by the abiding miracle of a God-filled and glorious church.

What we need above all things is the continuous marvel of an elevated church, set on high by the King, having her home in the heavenly places in Christ, approaching all things from above, and triumphantly resisting the subtle gravitation of the world, the flesh, and the devil. End of quote. The clarion call comes to us from Isaiah's prophecy.

Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion. Put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city. Shake thyself from the dust.

Arise, sit down, O Jerusalem. Loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion. The church is like a great giant sleeping.

She is like Jonah asleep in the storm. She is like the disciples asleep in Gethsemane. The great need is for the trumpeteers to arise.

Many dear saints love the exquisite sermons and jazzy quartets, but hate the trumpeter of the resurrection. One of the realities of revival in the cross that I've had the experience is that people don't like a trumpeter. They don't like the voice of one that speaks truth.

They like to have their ears tickled. Especially we that have leadership positions do not like to face the fact that we are in sin. That there's something wrong.

And pastors are the worst of us in pretending that everything is just fine. And we're the most resistant to fall upon our face before God and say, oh God, there's something wrong in my life. What is it? Show it to me that I can deal with it.

We like to play games. And we are crying out to try to wake up God, and God is awake and he's telling us to wake up. Believers, do you want to be aroused? We must awake to our high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

We must awake to our responsibility of Christian stewardship. We must awake and possess our blood bought possessions in our risen Lord. The Prophet cried out, O Jerusalem, the holy city, O captive daughter of Zion, rouse thyself, clothe thyself, cleanse thyself, shake thyself, loose thyself.

You know it's a terrible condition to be a captive. You've seen those pictures on TV of our captives over there in Iran and how they beat them. Their faces are puffed up and you can see the blood bruises.

That's what Satan does to his captives. He beats you and he beats you and beats you and he beats you down. Jesus is not in the beating business.

He's in the building business, lifting you up. And I'm for you, my friend, I pray for you. Every Sunday as this broadcast goes out into the four states, I pray for you.

I pray that God will speak to your heart, that God will lift you up on eagle's wings. This program is designed to be a ministry, a help to the local church, to the pastor. As far as I know, I don't know of any others in the land that are focusing on revival in this aspect.

There are others that have a revival ministry in the teaching and developing of the word, and I have a great burden to teach the word. That's my gift, not really in doing this stuff. I just have a burden to get you interested enough to cry out and call on God to help.

Matter of fact, if I go into this series, this desert survival series with you, it'll be a teaching ministry for you. Is God speaking to you? I have an invitation to speak up in northern Missouri and possibly will be coming back down into your area, and if you'd like to meet with me, then you get a hold of me. Tomorrow I'll be making a phone call to establish a date to see when we'll do this, and if I can help you, you write, and it'll be forwarded on to me to this address, and we'll talk.

If you want me to come to your church, if the scheduling can work out, I'll come. Are you desperate? Are you desperate? The sin of the church is that it is earth-bound. Shake thyself from the dust.

We're living in lower-level spirituality. God wants us in an upper-level spirituality. Shake thyself.

Many are longing for a tidal movement of the Spirit to sweep through our churches, but we do not need to wait for that. The remnant of old cried to Jehovah, Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord, as in the ancient days in the generations of old, Isaiah 51.9. And God answered them with this pathetic rebuke.

Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion.

It is not the Lord who is asleep. It's not Him. It's us.

And He wants us to repent and get right with Him, and it starts by humbling ourselves. What God has done to me in the last five, six years has been nothing but humbling, and He continues to do it. He did it last week, even deeper.

And the more I let Him humble me, the more power there is of Christ. The garment of power is hanging on the door of Pentecost. Will you put it on? We read the menu, but we fell to order.

He that believeth on me, out of him shall flow rivers of living water, Jesus said. We must appropriate our resources. They're not dried up.

They're there. All that the Apostles had, we can have too. The church's potential is the same as it was in the apostolic days.

How about it? Where are you at? Are you living in the power of Christ? Are you seeing your prayers answered? Last week we were at, the pastor here and I were at a pastor's conference, and we prayed specifically that God would do some certain things, and He did those things to the T. And one of the things that we asked was quality time. Would one of the pastors there, quality time, not when we were just in speaking services, but when we could sit down and minister to Him the cross. And God gave us that opportunity, and that man was broke.

God did a work in his heart. He was a new man when we left that city. A new man.

He was so excited he was like a kid with a new toy. He was excited. He knew the crucified life too, but there was an area in his life that he not, had not yielded up to the cross.

And when he gave that to Christ, when he saw how Satan was using that as a handle to beat him, and he gave it to Christ, he was set free. And if I was to mention him, many of you would know him. He was an assistant pastor at a large church in this country, and he's now in his own church.

Many of you would know his pastor in the other church that he was in. And unless he wants to, I won't say anything. I'd like to get his testimony on tape.

It was the most powerful thing. The things he went through, the rejection he went through, all of the trash that he went through, it brought him to the point to where he was not real. But when God got a hold of him and shook him, he was real.

You know, in taking a break here and switching over to Moses, Moses was known as the man of God. He was a man of God. He loved God, and he had a testimony that was powerful.

You know, in Deuteronomy 33, it says, and this is the blessing, where with Moses, the man of God, blessed the children of Israel before his death. And he said, the Lord came from Sinai. I'd never noticed that before, but he says, the Lord came from Sinai and rose up from Seir unto them.

He shined forth from Mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints from his right hand, when a fiery law for them. Yea, he loved the people. All his saints are in thy hand, and they sat down at thy feet.

Every one shall receive of thy words. Did you know that God loves you? God loves you enough to orchestrate circumstances to such a way to where he can get your full attention. God loves you.

God went to a lot of trouble to come down and live in this world with us for thirty-three years, and then die on the cross for our sins. He went to a lot of trouble, self-expense, pain, and sorrow, and suffering, just because he loves us. No one loves me like Jesus.

No one cares for me like Jesus. And once I found out that Jesus was all I needed for life, it has changed my life. And once I found out that all I needed to do to be set free was to let him be my Savior and Lord, it has set me free.

The Scripture says, he that is entered into his rest has ceased from his own works. This is why I'd like to take you through the life of Moses and show you what the crucified life is like, so you can get some handle on it, how to put it into practice. And maybe in our closing minutes, I could give you a little word of introduction.

You know the testimony of Moses in the Scriptures in Deuteronomy 34, verse 5, it says, so Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab according to the word of the Lord. Right there was his testimony. He was the servant of the Lord.

Some of you are the servant of men. Men. You serve men, rather than God first.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God. You're not putting God's kingdom first. God took Moses and put him through the ringer, so that he could lead the children of Israel to rest.

And the lessons there are powerful. And the Desert Survival Series is designed to teach you how to walk by faith. Actually, how to mount up on eagles' wings.

Teaches you how to develop discernment, as Hebrews 5 says, and to discern doctrine, as Ephesians 4.14 says. It teaches us how to be desert dwellers. Isaiah 48.21 is a tremendous passage, which says, and they thirsted not when he led them through the desert.

You know, it makes a big difference if you go off on a trip into a place that you don't know of who your leader is. There was one place I wanted to go when I was over in Israel many years ago, and so I hired me a cab driver, of all things. And he took me over to a certain area, and I went there, and we went over to another area, and then I wanted to go over to the Jordan River.

And he says, no, Abbie, I won't take you over there. And I said, why? I want to go over there. He says, no, because this was 1968, one year after the war.

He says, no, we go over there, and they'll shoot at us from both sides. It's good to have a guide, so you don't get into zones where you're shot at from both sides. Moses was a desert dweller.

He learned some things there. God said, and they, the scripture says, and they thirsted not when He led them through the deserts. Some of you are leading a dry life.

There's no joy. There's no peace. There's no power.

There's no purpose. It's because He's not leading you. When He leads you through the wilderness, He makes a way.

He provides for all your needs. You know what? God said in Isaiah 43, 19, I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. If you're going through a trial right now, and a hardship, whatever it is, God can bring it to your mind right now.

If you say, I don't have any trials. Well, that's great if you don't. I'd like to meet you.

But if you're going through trials and temptations and struggles, God can make a way through that wilderness. But let me tell you something. One of the most powerful tools of the devil is in the mind.

And he's going to come along and continually bombard you and tell you that you cannot make it. I just heard this morning about a lady in our church that's homeschooling her children. And her mother come up and said, you won't be able to homeschool your daughter because she's in a lower grade and you just can't handle it.

And that was a handle for Satan to work on her. And he's beat her with it. And hopefully she's beginning to see that that was a lie from the devil.

Because she can do it. And her husband can do it. You know what the devil says when you go into the desert? He says you will die in the desert.

You're going to die in that trial. You can't make it. You're not adequate.

By the way, this pastor we talked with, this was a handle that Satan had on his life that he was not adequate for the ministry. And that is true. I'm not adequate.

You're not adequate. None of us are adequate for the ministry. But you know what Jesus says? Jesus says, come ye yourselves apart into a desert place and rest a while.

Well that seems like the most unlikely place in all the world to rest is in a desert. In the middle of your trials to be at peace and to be calm and to be at rest is the strangest thing in the world. And here's the secret.

It's not where you're at, but whose you are and in whose hand you're resting. You can have the greatest storm going on around you. And I like storms.

I like to see the lightning and the thunder. I like to see the blizzards and all that. We just had one last night.

I like to be out in it. If I can get back in and get warmed after a little bit in those blizzards. But there's a great calm in knowing God and the storm.

And let me leave you with this. If you will learn to bloom in the desert, then you can bloom anywhere. If you'll learn to fly on eagle's wings through your trials, through your temptations, through your hardships, through that thing that you think is going to crush you, you can make it through anything.

And then once you learn the crucified life and how to fly on eagle's wings and let God bear you up, you can lead others to the cross also. But you can't lead someone to a place you've never been there yet. You can't do that.

So if you'll learn to bloom in the desert, then you can learn to bloom anywhere. Let him lift you up, my friend. Let him bear you on eagle's wings.

Let him be your life. Let him be your strength. They that weigh upon the Lord shall renew their strength.

They shall mount up with wings as eagles. They shall run and not be weary. And they shall walk and not faint.

Until next time, may God richly bless you, my friend.

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/20/SID20145.mp3>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/don-courville/on-eagles-wings-pt-68/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net