

A Man of God - Part 10

by Leonard Ravenhill

Leonard Ravenhill's sermon calls for a passionate return to revival and authentic faith in the church.

Duration: 8:28

Scripture: Proverbs 3:5-6, Amos 8:11-12, Matthew 7:21, Hebrews 11:6, James 2:17

Topics: "Revival", "Genuine Faith"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the need for revival and a return to the fervent pursuit of God's presence. It challenges the complacency in churches and calls for a deeper hunger for God's Word and prayer. The speaker shares personal experiences of revival and the impact of passionate, dedicated prayer meetings on the community. The message underscores the importance of genuine faith, obedience, and a radical commitment to God, even in the face of societal norms and pressures.

Transcript

That's why I like to read a book like this one on the accounts of revival. I mean, it's something we don't know a thing about, dear God piteous. We say we have the same Bible, the same Holy Ghost, why do we get the same results? The menace of many of our meetings is we're trying to get people saved, they don't know their loss.

Come forward. The Lord loves you, the Lord loves you, the Lord hates you. Why do we put a bumper sticker, God loves you? God is angry with the wicked every day.

All the wicked should be turned into hell, we'd soon be in trouble. Fools make a market fit. But we don't do that, we don't even preach it.

But I know there's a hunger across America by the phone calls I get. Guys are coming to a stone wall now. There isn't a church in this town that's having a move of God, they say.

They'll pray till their veins get together. The prophet Amos said, Behold the days saith the Lord, the days cometh saith the Lord, that I will send a famine in the land. Not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord.

And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it. Is that literally like no Bibles, or is it that the word isn't a living word? It doesn't, I mean, you can read it. I go and hear a fellow and he preaches, there's no passion,

there's no tears, there's no, you know, I'd rather, like Richard Baxter, I preached as if to never preach again, and as a dying man's a dying man now.

You think this fellow's a professional, he gets paid, and when he steps out to the pulpit, he says, Hey John, what about a round of golf on Wednesday or Thursday? And immediately they switch from the spiritually eternal to some stupid thing. I wouldn't take any notice of them anyhow. I'd say, Pastor, live it, live it, live it.

Don't tell me to pray, meet with me in the church. When I got saved, and then after I touched the doctor's sanctified, it goes to the blank in my life, and the first thing I went to the pastor, I said, Pastor, I want a prayer meeting on Wednesday night, on Friday night, for the young people. Oh, well, it's not good for young people and me together, so you come and supervise it in here.

So we started a prayer meeting on Friday night at 7, and we prayed till 9. I started a prayer meeting at 7 Sunday morning, and I lived outside the boundary of town. I walked to the prayer meeting, walked home for breakfast, walked home for the morning service, walked home for lunch, walked back for the afternoon service, walked home for supper, walked for the night service, night service, and God began to move, and people in the neighborhood got saved that had never happened before. But, you see, once you've been in that, it's like, like, I say, not Colonel Brinkle, but Major Thomas said, no, Major Russell, that once he got back in the fire of the Welsh Revival, everything, he didn't burn, he got on the train and going home, he couldn't get back to London quick enough to tell that the Holy Ghost had fallen, and then, I mean, the first greatest revival in England was the Western Revival, that went to 90, no, the Western Revival, and then the next one was the Salvation Army, which went into 70 countries in 90 years, not 70, but 70 countries.

Dear God, they had the most amazing night prayer meetings, and training students, and getting down to the Bible and prayer, and every week they were taking to a night of prayer, they were taking to street meetings, somewhere in London, they were meeting Sid head-on, visiting taverns, talking to the harlots, which nobody does now, except just about Dave Wilson and Tim Delaney, down in, in the Motor City, they were doing the same thing. But we're, we're all sitting inside, I told John Wiggler, I said, why do you sit inside a four-wall singing, let the earth hear his voice, it doesn't make sense, let the earth hear his voice, get out, stand on a box, call a man to witness, call a woman to witness, sing a hymn, he can't preach very much to crowds, but before long, you say we're going to be here every Saturday night for the next winter, or summer, and they come with expectations, they planned a shopping, like people used to do with us, they planned to come shopping on Friday night and Saturday night, because we're in the town square, and we didn't miss for three years, and our young people came, you didn't have to whip them, they came eagerly, you know, giving a chance to witness, I said, if anybody stands on this box, who isn't telling the truth, you interrupt them, because I'm the lead in this, I'll check on them, don't let a man talk when he's not walking, if he's walking, if a man is in your factory, your office, if they're not telling the truth, come and tell me, you know, chase them off, well, we didn't need to advertise in the paper, dear God, I was the best known man in town, even though the cathedral was only 300 yards away from this magnificent cathedral, I only got 500 Saturday night, I stood outside and lined up like a moving house, but the cathedral got 50, so where do you go? I mean, the cathedral is ornate, it had gold plates on the, or gold communion things and candlesticks on the altar, it was like a miniature western established stained glass windows, but what is that for the glory of God? I mean, our place was packed an hour before time, our prayer meetings were packed, we had three prayer meetings a week and three street meetings, and that's why that church kept in continuous revival for the three years I was there, and it's still there today. Well, brethren, what I want to say is that either the Bible is absolute or obsolete, which is it? Is God all he says he is, is Hebrews 11, 6,

what we need to rediscover, he that cometh to God must believe that he is, what does it matter about swagger and all the rest, I know it's, it's objectionable, it hurts, and people tell me now, they're already cracking jokes about swagger, if, if God told me I could go on preaching, a guy told me the other night, somebody said, well, if God says you can go on preaching, the message is inviting God, telling him there's a cop following him out the road in a car, that's a, another's demons they appear to be.

I think it all boils down to one of the oldest hymns we have ever sung, trust and obey, there's no other way, no other way. It's hard on the flesh, it's hard against the lifestyle of preachers round about us, but what does God want? I'm not going to the judgment bar of the assemblies of God or the First Baptist Church, I'm going to the, I'm going to the judgment bar of Jesus Christ, and I live with that every day. It's his words that will judge us.

Yes. It's what he said. Well, you think, it's not what's just in the book of life, Joseph said to me one day, he said, Leonard, I don't think I'm ashamed of what I've done since I was saved, it's what I could have done that troubles me, and not what I did, but why I did it.

God has been away the mortars. I mean, I heard D. Campbell Morgan say, I had talked with a friend of mine the other day, and he'd been preaching in a church I love to go to, and Campbell Morgan said, how did he get on it? He said, oh, he said, I enjoyed myself. He said he did.

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