

# A Man of God - Part 4

by Leonard Ravenhill

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*Knowing God is the key to revival and making a difference in the lives of others.*

**Duration:** 9:36

**Scripture:** Proverbs 22:6, Jeremiah 6:16, John 17:3, Acts 2:1-4, James 5:16

**Topics:** "Personal Revival", "Holy Spirit"

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## Description

This sermon reflects on historical events and individuals who were deeply impacted by encounters with God and the power of revival. It emphasizes the importance of knowing God personally, the significance of prayer and seeking the old paths of faith, and the transformative impact of genuine encounters with the Holy Spirit. The narrative highlights the need for a revival of spiritual fervor and dedication to God's Word in today's society.

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## Transcript

Daddy used to buddy with the King of England. When I used to do, in World War II, I went to one of the largest Air Force camps in the nation and I had to go up a hill and to the right, in the moonlight, I could see this estate where C.T. used to live with a private racecourse. Well, C.T.'s daddy went to London and mixed up with all the society.

Then he had about this Yankee preacher, a let's go. Well, when he got there, somebody asked the man to pray while, what do you call him now? While Moody was on the platform going to preach, they sang to him and said, pray. This guy went on and on and Moody jumped up and said, let's sing a song while this fellow finishes.

So immediately they were happy, you know, the guy wasn't tied up to formality. Well, they listened and C.T.'s, I think his father got saved there. As a result, he took the three most famous cricketers in England.

C.T. was the Babe Ruth of English cricket. Well, they went and the whole society like that went. Well, C.T. joined up with the other six and they formed the Cambridge Seven and went to China.

I mean, there's all kinds of things happened out of that. One revival of an illiterate man that didn't care if they laughed at his clothes and everything. And he received opposition.

Well, nothing happened like that till the 1920s or 26 or something like that went. When George Jeffreys went to whole crusades in England. And Stephen Jeffreys had greater works than that.

And they got to a time without a penny. And believe got to fill an auditorium with 3,000 people in a week and they did it. And they weren't great expositors.

Brother Edmund Hill in Jeremiah, the prophet says, Thus saith the Lord. Yes. Stand ye in the ways and see and ask for the old paths.

Yes. Where is the good way? Walk therein and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, we will not walk therein.

Well, going back to Brother Larry, I said, we've turned the lights out in the street. We've no more street meetings. We've turned the lights out Sunday night.

Many churches don't have a Sunday night meeting. Wednesday night, that's about the biggest tragedy. People said, don't you think we should get the Bible back in school? I said, that's not the first problem.

Get it back in the home. Why don't, how many people, ask the deacons in your church, ask the pastor, how many of you have family worship? They don't have it. As soon as supper's over, they have to go and get on TV and leave it till the kiddies go to bed.

They don't know the Word of God. I had a man here, and his daughter came to bring me some mail. She's 14.

I said, well, David, how much Scripture do you remember? Oh, I haven't memorized any. I said, can you memorize the Ten Commandments? He couldn't say the Ten Commandments. Two days after, a young guy came.

He lives across town. He has seven children. The eldest boy is 13.

He's memorized every word of every chapter in Proverbs. And the other boy is 10. And he's memorized 12 chapters of Proverbs, every word.

The man gets up with his wife at 4 to 4.30 in the morning. They have an hour together with the Word of God to get the children up just after 5, and then teach them the Word of God and prayer. And then the children have a rest, and the mother teaches them the rest of the day.

She's homeschooling them how they're doing it. But those little kids are walking Bibles. We don't know the Word of God.

Two things we don't know. In fact, I said to the seminary men, do you know God? Well, I didn't know, no. I answer yes or no.

Oh, I learned Hebrew. I didn't ask if you know Hebrew. Do you know God? You've asked 10 young people in your church to answer in less than 50 words, why did Jesus come into the world? To save us from hell, to save us from sin.

And so they go on. But what does Jesus say in John 17 too? That they may know Thee, the only true God. And that's the answer.

We don't know God. If we knew God, we'd set the world on fire. If we knew God, we wouldn't beg for money.

We know things about God, but we don't know God. We don't know God. But I want to tell you then, in 1932, I preached in Swansea, South Wales, in a little upper room, and there was a lady there with white hair.

And she said, do you know my husband? I said, I didn't know he had one. And she said, well, my husband is Major Russell. I said, well, who's Major Russell? In the British Army? No salvation on me.

She said, would you come up and have a meal with us? I said, well, this is a crusade. And they said, only after Friday off. I said, I'll take the bus and come up to the place that's called Robina.

I'll come up Friday afternoon. She said, well, come in the afternoon tea, and we'll talk. So here's a grey-haired fellow sitting.

And I said to her, well, it's a privilege to come and talk with you. How old are you? She said, well, I'm 82. And I said, I'll tell you some things.

When you're my age, I said, I've never lived to be 82, and I'm 84 now, nearly 85. But he shared the office with William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army. I said, what were the days like? Days like heaven on earth.

He said, God, the Holy Ghost came. And he mentioned a certain place which is on the Strand in London. He said, now it's a theatre.

In those days, it's a hall you hired. And movies weren't, houses and theatres weren't open on Sundays, so you could rent them on Sundays. So you used to rent them Saturday and Sunday.

And he said, he said, I'd been in that meeting. He said, people won't believe you when you tell them. And then I was, that was 1932 or so.

It's almost 60 years back. And he said, when you tell them, they won't believe you. I said, well, they'll believe me, not tell me.

I said, I want to know. I don't care if it puts my nose in the ground. I don't care what you say.

As long as you realise that just as you're a link with the past, at my age or age, I'll be a link with another generation that doesn't know God. So I said, well, I'll tell you what happened. He said, William Booth could preach like nobody else from Jeremiah.

The harvest is past, or somebody said it. Oh, his favourite was, and he had a gruff voice. He said, I was running with a football, and they were worried, they were now doing the swelling of their jaw.

The fire of Ollie, which meant, say hallelujah, say the old royal hallelujah, you know. And he said that, that what William Booth could, he could get men trembling, he said. He said, as a matter of fact, you give them a hymn book of maybe 25 pages, and they sit with it on their lap and shred it while they were, they were so disturbed.

He said, you could see where these men had been. All the back tubes were full of shredded hymn books. The same thing happened in 1926.

I talked with, I talked with the greatest revivalist that Ireland's ever had, W.P. Nicholson. He said, by the way, he said people used to shred the hymn books when they listened. They were under conviction, they were so nervous.

And sweat would run off their noses, not that it doesn't happen anymore. Anyhow, going back to this, he said the old William Woodpeat held five boys, and he could make a shake. And he said, but he couldn't make an alterco.

So, he would say, now come to the mercy seat, come to the mercy seat, come, run for your life, you're going to hell. And he couldn't get anywhere. He'd shout out, where is Lawley? Where is Lawley? Well, Commissioner Lawley was one of the stalwarts of the Salvation Army, like Bringo.

And he said he was under the platform, and he'd come out, and they used to hang close to each other, you know, like, somebody gave me your suit, it would be hanging down on me. And Commissioner Lawley's coat was down to his ankles. And he said, come out on all fours and do this, there'd be a cloud of dust.

And then Lawley would begin to make an appeal, you know, come to the mercy seat, and he said, the altar would be lined up, sometimes they wouldn't come. He said, the General would turn around and roar at us, you know, pray! Everybody looked down and prayed. Unusually, this would break.

But he said, this day they prayed. And nothing happened, so he said again, pray! And he said, everybody's nervous. He looked sadly to the old boy, he's angry, he's angry.

And he said, pray! And he said, Lord, Lord, move right now, move right now. And he said, nobody came, so a third time he'd roar, you know, get hold of God, he said, this meeting is going to go to hell, these people are perishing, some of them are wealthy, some are poor, some are ignorant, some are backslidden, pray! And he said, the Holy Ghost would take all the men on the back seat and lift them bodily over the congregation and drop them on the altar. I said to Pentecostal, you saw that, you'd run for the door, you'd say, Spiritism or something.

I said, there was an unwritten law in the Salvation Army, they called their churches a core, you know, like the Army does, C-O-R-P-S, core. And it was an unwritten law in the Salvation Army that when you finish your stream meeting at 9 o'clock Saturday night, you go to pray till midnight. And he said to me, we had men that would pray, and one old man particularly would say, he'd jump up, maybe 12 or 1, and raise his hand and shout, victory, victory, there'll be 10 tomorrow.

And he said, there'll be 9 or 10 saved. Or he'd say, there'll be 15, there'll be 13 or 14. He said, there was only one or two hour every time.

But he said, remember we had stream meetings, we got baptized with rotten eggs. In those days, there were...

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