

# Elijah - Part 6

by Leonard Ravenhill

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*The key to revival is repairing the altar that was broken down and keeping vows made to God, and we must look to God for power and guidance.*

**Duration:** 9:09

**Scripture:** Genesis 14:23

**Topics:** "Repentance", "Revival"

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## Description

This sermon emphasizes the importance of repentance, restitution, and rebuilding altars in our lives. It highlights the need to repair broken relationships, fulfill vows made to God, and seek humility and tears before Him. The speaker challenges the audience to focus on God's power and revival rather than the difficulties of the world, urging a deep surrender and reliance on God's provision.

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## Transcript

Repentance has to be where it's possible, it's not always possible, but there has to be restitution. You know, you could lose your tenderness for God even in a Bible school, any Bible school. You might get so involved with your buddies and friends around and what you're doing, you forget even to write home to the mother and daddy that cared for you for 20 years.

And they won't care too much for your spirituality. Now, if you're on the Dean's list, anybody else's list, if you're negligent to all the people that have raised you all those years and wept over you and sacrificed to raise you and so forth and so on. I believe that half of the reason for hold-up of revival is that we've not rebuilt our altars.

It's so fascinating, isn't it? I mean, supposing the Lord called you to a new place, you'd say, oh boy, that's great. I didn't like the last days too much. I'm glad the Lord's made an opening.

Or some other Bible school you're in. You'll still have to come back before God and in humility and tears repair that altar that was broken down. Those vows you made you didn't keep.

Maybe you made some last week or the week before. I'm going to start praying at least one hour a day. I'm going to get at least one hour Bible study apart from what I have to do in the ordinary curriculum of the school.

I'm going to take more of my money or something. Whatever vow you've made, whatever vow I've made, you have to build the old and I believe it's a key, repair the altar that was broken down. Now, let me jump through this because time's gone.

Do you remember that when this man had to hand over his reins of office? He handed them over to who? Come on now, Elijah. What was the first thing Elijah said? Yeah, but actually when he came into power and he got his mantle, what did he say? Okay, where is the Lord God of Elijah? But notice when you read in this 18th chapter of the first book of Kings, it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet came near and said, Lord God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Israel. Why did he say that? Why didn't Elijah say the same thing? I'll tell you what I think.

For the simple reason that Abraham and Isaac, the Lord God of Israel, the Lord God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Israel, were so far, far, far away in history. But Elijah says, so I don't have to go all that way back. I've just seen a man anointed with the Holy Spirit of God by the name of Elijah.

You know, one day a Holy Ghost revival will be better for all of us than 10 years in Bible school. Let the fire fall so you don't just stand up and confess, but we're laid prostrate before God. People say, well, that's not going to happen.

I got a tape. I won't tell you where it's from, but I got tape this week. It's about a man by the name of Bonke, B-O-N-K-E.

Right now he's working in Africa, though he is a German. He's quite a guy. I'd love to meet him.

Fasten your seatbelts a minute. It may get rough right here. He's having a tent made.

It costs \$5 million and it seats 34,000 people. He'd better not bring it to Van or he'll cover the whole city. And God has come in tremendous power on him there in Africa, certain areas.

He says he's had a vision of God. You know, the southern tip of Africa is Cape Town. Then it goes right up through all those new nations now to Cairo.

And he's had a vision of God sending revival from Cape Town to Cairo. It's all right to go back to Finney. He's very popular around here.

It's all right to go back to some of the saints that used to be around, but does any man in our day stand up with all the hosts of the devil around him? Could you imagine Elijah standing and saying, oh, there are the Baalites, there are the astrocytes, and there are the false prophets, and he's surrounded with them. I'd better watch my step. No, he becomes more bold.

People say today, well, Finney didn't live in our day. No, he didn't. He didn't have to combat Mormonism, or liberalism, or Mormonism, or Mooneyism.

Sex wasn't a sport in his day like it is today. Marriage vows are not broken at the rate of one in every two marriages. Oh, you can pile the statistics up by saying God's named.

Why don't we quit looking at the difficulties and look on God? This man has all the difficulties, but God's been breathing on him. So a wealthy lady in Johannesburg, one of the richest women I was going to say America, in Africa sent for him. Mr. Bonker, you have the message of God for our day, and I want to finance you.

Come down to my mansion. So he went with his wife and children and saw this mansion and walked through the doors. It was breathless with the antiques and all the gorgeous things there.

And the lady called a butler and said, would you bring file number so and so, and brought a great big bucket full of bonds and stocks and said, I want you to take these. Do you have a lawyer? Yes, we do. You know, the name of his group is Christ for all nations.

And he says, it's not Christ for all donations. Well, did your lawyer check on this? Yes. What did he say? He said these stocks and bonds at a conservative estimate are worth 60 million dollars.

And she said, 50 percent of that money is yours to evangelize. He went home and he said the Lord gave him a vision. He was standing in a river up to his neck.

And he looked in front there was a hippopotamus with its mouth open welcoming him. And he wouldn't go forward, he'd get swallowed up. He looked behind, there was a hippo behind him.

He looked to the right, up to the left, there was a hippo there. He said, well, Lord, what's this all about? He said, if you move forward and take any money from that woman, the hippopotamus will swallow you. So he went back and told her, I want you to hear this just because everybody goes begging.

He said, lady, thank you, I can't take a penny of your money. Do you remember when Abraham came from the battle of the five kings against four? And the king of Salem came and said to him, I'll give you this, that, and the other. And Abraham said, I won't take a pair of shoestrings lest you should say I have made Abraham rich.

The Lord said, have I failed to pay your bills? No. Well, then what do you want her money for? So he said, goodbye. And she was disgusted.

A bit later he needed money. So somebody said, well, you know, the popular way today is to get faith promises. And he said, you know, I got the most elaborate cards you ever saw in your life for a faith promise.

Oh, you could have framed them, they were so gorgeous. And he invited 600 of the most wealthy people in South Africa to the best hotel in Johannesburg. And they poured in to see this man that is living again through the acts of the apostles.

And he was praying and the Lord said, what are you going to do? He said, just let people pledge money for your kingdom. The Lord said, have I failed you? No. Well, why are you giving the cards away? He called his office and said, would you please destroy all those faiths? What are the most beautiful pledges you ever saw in your life?

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