

Our Desperate Need

by S.B. Shaw

The sermon calls for an old-time revival, a revival brought about by the mighty working of the Spirit of God, to turn people back to God and overcome sin and worldly desires.

Scripture: Proverbs 3:9, Isaiah 58:1, Jeremiah 20:9, Acts 2:37

Topics: "Revival", "Repentance"

Description

S.B. Shaw preaches about the urgent need for an old-time revival, emphasizing the importance of turning away from sin and worldliness to serve the true and living God. The sermon calls for a revival where the Word of God is preached without compromise, sin is overthrown, and worldly desires are abolished. It envisions a revival that awakens believers to their responsibility for souls, uncovers Satan's deceptions, and makes heaven and hell living realities. The ultimate goal is a revival that brings multitudes to salvation and gloriously defeats the powers of darkness.

Transcript

Is it not time to cry aloud and spare not, to lift up our voice like a trumpet, and show the people of God their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins? Surely the need beside which every other need sinks into insignificance is an old-time revival.

We are no pessimists. We do not for a moment lose sight of the fact that the foundations of God stand sure. We do not for a moment question that God has His thousands that have not bowed the knee to the world, the flesh, or the devil, nor been swept from their mooring by the present floodtide of false teaching and doctrine. These unite in declaring that the only remedy for the evils we deplore is an old-time revival - a revival brought about by the mighty working of the Spirit of God in awakening and quickening and saving power. Oh for a revival that will turn the professed people of God back from their idols of sin and worldliness to serve the true and living God - back from their "broken cisterns" to the "Fountain of living waters." A revival in which the Word of God will be preached without compromise or apology in the power of the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven. A revival that will overthrow sin of every kind, popular as well as unpopular. A revival that will take every desire for worldly amusements and abolish every ungodly scheme for raising money for the support of the gospel. A revival that will take the people out of their worldly clubs and societies and secret lodges and put them into the "secret place of the Most High," where they will "abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

A revival that will save the people of God from covetousness and love of the world and all uncleanness of spirit, mind, and body. A revival in which professors of religion will have their eyes opened to see and feel their responsibility for souls, and in which they will confess with broken hearts their former backslidings, their carelessness and indifference. A revival that will unearth and uncover every device of Satan for deceiving souls, whether found in the Church or outside of it, "For the secret of the Lord is with them that FEAR HIM; and He will show unto them His covenant." A revival that will make both the Church and the world to realize the shortness of time and the importance of eternity. A revival in which judgment light will shine not only on the unsaved but in which God's people will see their duty and realize their opportunity as those that have lost sight of the things of time in the light of the coming judgment. A revival that will make heaven and hell, living realities by the revelations of the Spirit in harmony with the Word. A revival in which the sinfulness of sin will be so revealed that instead of excusing and pleading for it, souls will turn from it in utter loathing, and cry out, "Oh wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from this body of death". A revival that will sweep away selfishness and narrowness and all sectarian spirits, and bring those that now spend their time in criticism of each other down on their faces together before the Lord, crying out for the salvation of lost souls.

A revival that like a tornado will sweep away all the old dried-up sermons, and all the cold formal prayers, and all the lifeless singing, and like a whirlwind will carry everyone that comes in its path heavenward. A revival that will fill the hearts of saints with holy love, and so burden the hearts of God's ministers that the word of God will be like fire shut up in their bones. (See Jer. 20:9.) A revival that will help the people to honor God with their substance, and so have their barns filled with plenty. (See Prov. 3:9,10.) A revival that will open the windows of heaven by bringing all God's tithes into His storehouse. A revival that will so fill the saints with love that they will rejoice in the opportunity to give their time and money, and if need be their very lives, for their brethren and for the salvation of a lost world. A revival in which the presence of God will be so revealed that multitudes will fall under the power of God and cry for mercy as they did on the day of Pentecost. A revival that has so much of Heaven and so much of God's glory in it that all the world will be compelled to see and feel its mighty influence. A revival that will gloriously defeat the powers of darkness and hell and make earth and heaven ring with shouts of victory over a multitude of souls snatched from the eternal burnings and run for God and heaven - yea, a revival that will never need to be revived, but that will sweep on like a mighty wave of the sea that nothing can hinder, until time shall be no more!

For such a revival our heart cries out to God! For such a revival we are ready to watch and toil and pray. For such a revival we believe the blessed Holy Spirit is interceding in many hearts. Such a revival God is able and ready to give. But for this He must be inquired of by His people to do it for them. (See Ezekiel 37.) May God grant it, not for our sakes, but for His own name's sake and for His own honor and glory! Amen and Amen!

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