

THE Watchword

"On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen;
All day and night they will never keep silent
You who remind the Lord, take no rest for yourselves,
And give Him no rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth."

Isaiah 62:6-7

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The purpose of this newsletter is to encourage prayer and passion for a true revival of apostolic Christianity.

The following material is offered in the hopes of provoking zeal and providing a vision of what the church could be if we would fervently pray.

PRAYER MAKES HISTORY

"When on March 9th, 1791, John Wesley was carried to his grave, he left behind him a good library of books, a well worn clergyman's gown, and a much abused reputation. But also an England moved to the very depths and a Church thrilled through and through with an awakened spiritual life."

John Wesley was a man who truly possessed both apostolic vision and gifts, but most importantly he was a man who lived in view of eternity. "Consumed by the thought of the shortness of time, the great work to be done, and the need for haste in doing it, on he marched, preaching, pleading, warning and guiding..."

Wesley pleaded with men to repent and by faith make peace with God or suffer in an everlasting hell. People who had entertained false hopes of salvation had their masks torn away by the plain preaching of Wesley. Under the influence of his urgent preaching, men would weep and wail, while others were broken and scattered across the open fields like dead men.



METHODIST MEETING HOUSE

Wesley believed that those who failed to warn the sinner and backslider of the agonies which await the impenitent, themselves stood under the judgement of Christ. He was determined to declare the whole counsel of God, offering the love of God in Christ and giving warning of the dreadful consequences of rejecting the gospel. Wesley wrote, "Before I can preach love and grace, I must preach sin, law and judgement."



John Wesley

John Wesley, as well as the other early Methodist preachers were both bold advocates and living examples of entire sanctification. Wesley with unceasing zeal preached that complete holiness was the primary fruit of a vibrant faith in Christ. Counseling another minister, Wesley wrote, "...till you press believers to expect full salvation from sin, you must not look for any revival."

"The damned shall live as long in hell as long as God Himself lives in heaven."

Thomas Brooks

"Amid all his arduous labours, his innumerable engagements, his coming and going, Wesley lived a hidden life of intimacy with God. When worn out with overwork he often found new strength in answer to prayer. Writing concerning one of these occasions he says, 'I then thought, cannot God heal either man or beast by any means? Immediately my weariness and headache ceased, and my horse's lameness in the same instance.'"

It was Wesley's strict habit to daily spend one hour in prayer in the morning, and then another hour in the evening. John Wesley shook the world by his preaching because he first shook heaven and hell with his praying. His preaching had a sense of eternal urgency because he had touched eternity on his knees.

Quotes from: *Revivals - Their laws and leaders*, by James Burns ;
Deeper Experiences of Famous Christians by James Lawson

"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness." (2 Peter 3:10,11)

PRINCIPLES OF REVIVAL

"Revival marks the awakening of the church; indeed such a time is commonly termed "an awakening." When asleep one is out of touch with the world of reality, and needs to be awakened... the church asleep is not only void of power but also of holiness. Only when the people of God are awakened are they clothed with the beautiful garments of practical righteousness. Is there not a need of holiness today? Is there not a downward tendency on the part of individual believers seen in lukewarmness toward the Lord, compromise with the world, and complacency as to themselves? Then there is an undoubted need for an awakening. Holiness is not optional but obligatory. God demands it. Without it no man shall see the Lord. (Matt 5:8; Heb 12:14) But revival is a time when God comes and rains righteousness upon us. (Hosea 10:12) **If there is no revival of righteousness, there is no revival at all.**"

Arthur Wallis - *In the Day of Thy Power*
Christian Literature Crusade

BOOKS WORTH READING

Revival Now
through prayer and fasting
Gordon Cove

'a detailed instruction on how to properly approach prayer and fasting.'
Schmul Pub Co.

The Calvary Road
Roy Hession
'a challenge to personal revival through brokenness and humility.'
Christian Literature Crusade

A TIME TO PRAY
Western Hills Church
Sun 8 am auditorium
Mon-Fri 6 am auditorium
Sat 8 am basement