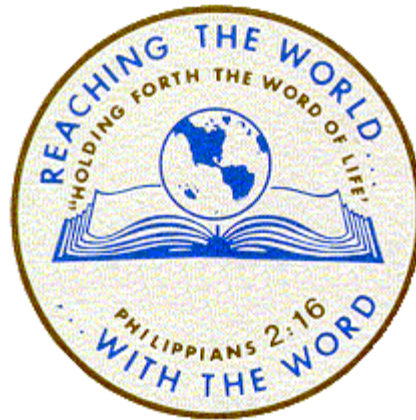


Bill Chapman
Evangelistic Association



Proclaimer Archives
1998

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Leonard Ravenhill Was Right!

Volume 21

January 1998

Number 1

Beloved:

Leonard Ravenhill (1907-1994) was a British evangelist who lived in the U.S. since 1950. He was internationally known for his message of REVIVAL. His books include: WHY REVIVAL TARRIES, SODOM HAD NO BIBLE, REVIVAL PRAYING, AMERICA IS TOO YOUNG TO DIE, REVIVAL GOD'S WAY, and TRIED and TRANSFIGURED.

In his book *Sodom Had No Bible*, Ravenhill states in the Introduction: "I offer it as my considered judgment that the MAIN REASON why we DO NOT HAVE Heaven-born, Spirit-operated REVIVAL in our day is that WE ARE CONTENT TO LIVE WITHOUT IT." Dear One, Ravenhill is RIGHT. Need I remind us that we have just lived through ANOTHER YEAR WITHOUT REVIVAL.

He continues to be RIGHT when he writes: "LESSER BLESSINGS MAKE US HAPPY." If it is TRUE (and it is) that we are CONTENT TO LIVE WITHOUT REVIVAL, then it MUST also be TRUE that we are CONTENT TO LIVE WITH:

- "T" SHIRT CHRISTIANITY...The wholesale Merchandising of THE CHURCH!!
- ACCOMMODATING (better known as COMPROMISING) PREACHERS...Enough Said!!!
- POWERLESS PULPITS...are like Guns without Ammunition...WORTHLESS!!!
- PRAYERMEETINGLESS CHURCHES...Prayer Meeting!...WHAT IS THAT??
- NO COMMITMENT PEWS...Comfort yes!...Commitment NEVER!!
- ROCK AND ROLL CHOIRS...Who better to sing today's Christian(?) DITTIES?
- "RECOVERING " CHRISTIAN ARTISTS...i.e., Sandi Patty...recovering from ADULTERY!!
- "REHABILITATED" PREACHERS...Forgive yes!...return to the Ministry...NEVER!!

Please allow me to quote Ravenhill one more time. Ravenhill says: "REVIVAL IS WHEN GOD GETS SO SICK AND TIRED OF BEING MISREPRESENTED BY THE CHURCH THAT HE SHOWS UP HIMSELF." Beloved, make no mistake about it, THE MAIN INGREDIENT in THE RECIPE for REVIVAL is none other than THE SOVEREIGN, HOLY GOD OF SCRIPTURE! May HE visit His Church in REVIVAL FIRES in 1998.

Thank YOU for your help. Know that YOU are loved by this preacher.

Now a word from HIS WORD...**Psalms 71:17-18**.

What Ever Happened to Church Discipline?

Volume 21

February 1998

Number 2

Beloved:

It is NECESSARY in our hardened and apostate age for the CHURCH to be called back to the New Testament doctrine of CHURCH DISCIPLINE. In our day, THE CHURCH has become TOLERANT OF SIN even when it is found in her own people. This warrants THE WRATH OF GOD upon the CHURCH'S INDIFFERENCE TO HIS HOLINESS. The PRESENT DAY CHURCH seems more willing to IGNORE SIN than to DENOUNCE it, and more ready to COMPROMISE God's Law than to PROCLAIM it. It is a tragic FACT that MANY churches REFUSE TO TAKE SIN SERIOUSLY. We have NO RIGHT to DIALOGUE about SIN. That was EVE'S MISTAKE in the Garden of Eden. Satan's suggestions should have been PROMPTLY REBUKED; but instead they were DISCUSSED (Genesis 3:1-5).

Beloved, the CHURCH cannot stand before her enemies while IGNORING SIN in her own ranks. It would be DIFFICULT to show another doctrine of CHURCH LIFE which is more commonly IGNORED by TODAY'S CHURCH than CHURCH DISCIPLINE. Make no mistake about it! CHURCH MEMBERSHIP today is MEANINGLESS to MANY because of the lack of CHURCH DISCIPLINE in our CHURCHES!

THANK YOU for praying for my meeting with the Post Falls Baptist Church, Post Falls, Idaho. Our Lord blessed with souls saved in most every service. Pastor Bill Hohenstreet and his dear people are building a wonderful LOCAL CHURCH there in the great Northwest.

As we are now into our 21st year of REVIVAL-EVANGELISM, my PRAYER is one of THANKSGIVING and PRAISE to our HEAVENLY FATHER for surrounding me with FOLK like YOURSELF to HELP in this MINISTRY. Thank YOU for YOUR FAITHFULNESS. I am counting on YOU in '98. I love YOU dearly in Him who loved us and Gave Himself for us!

Now a word from HIS WORD...**I Peter 1:14-16.**

So True!

Volume 21

March 1998

Number 3

Beloved:

Consider the following traits of genuine Revival:

- "REVIVAL is ALWAYS a Revival of HOLINESS, and it begins with TERRIBLE CONVICTION OF SIN"
- "There are Times when in REVIVAL PREACHING, as in any FAITHFUL Preaching, THE LAW OF GOD must be THUNDERED. But ALWAYS the Message MUST come back to the CROSS."
- "The REASON why the WORLD does NOT take Christianity SERIOUSLY is because Christians DO NOT!"
- "Revival does NOT persuade the World that the Christian Faith is FUN but that it is ESSENTIAL."
- "Together with OUR PRAYERLESSNESS, it is probably the UNHOLINESS of the lives of CHRISTIAN LEADERS today that convinces GOD that WE are NOT really SERIOUS about REVIVAL."
- "Our PRAYER should be : I WANT TO BE AS HOLY AS A SAVED SINNER CAN BE."

PLEASE NOTE!

We now have a NEW AREA CODE as of March 22, 1998. Our Ministry telephone number is now: (828)-586-8788.

THANK YOU, BELOVED, for YOUR Faithful Support. I love YOU dearly in our Wonderful Lord Jesus.

Now a WORD from HIS WORD...**Psalm 19:14.**

Medical Update

Volume 21

April 1998

Number 4

Beloved:

Last November (1997) my brother, who is three years younger than myself, had a very severe Heart Attack. We came very close to losing him. Because of his Heart Attack, Peggy and I thought it best that I have a Complete Physical Examination. I had not had one for several years.

Because of my Travel Schedule in December and January, I did not see our Family Doctor until the first part of February. He immediately found that I had A VERY PRONOUNCED HEART MURMUR that could be heard throughout my body. He told me the REASON for the Murmur was A Very Faulty AORTIC VALVE of my Heart. My Doctor then sent me to a Cardiologist who had me go thru a series of tests here in Sylva. Because Faulty Heart Valves MUST be REPLACED, he then referred me to another Cardiologist in Asheville, N.C. I entered Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville for a Heart Catheterization at the end of March. On April 1, 1998 I had OPEN-HEART SURGERY for AORTIC STENOSIS (Aortic Valve Replacement) and one Secondary BY-PASS. I will be in recovery for Six to Eight Weeks and will not be able to do my work until late July.

Thank YOU for all YOUR Help. I NEED YOU NOW MORE THAN EVER. I am doing fine thus far. Please continue to PRAY. I will keep you informed as to My Progress. Peggy is a GREAT NURSE and DRILL SERGEANT! I Love YOU dearly in HIM.

Now a Word from HIS WORD...**Psalm 111:1**.

Thank You! Thank You!

Volume 21

May 1998

Number 5

Beloved:

Your Cards, Letters, Phone Calls, Flowers, Visits, Gifts and PRAYERS have been a GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT to this Preacher during these days of recovery from my OPEN HEART SURGERY April 1st. Doctors say I am well on my way for a complete recovery. Peggy has been MORE THAN WONDERFUL as NURSE and DRILL SERGEANT.

A SPECIAL THANKS to Pastor Gene Mathias of the Cornerstone Baptist Church in Auburn, KY. This dear MAN Of GOD drove seven hours to sit with Peggy while I was in Surgery April 1st. He has returned again this month to deliver a SCHWINN AIRDYNE EXERCISE BIKE (the kind used at our local Hospital Heart Rehab Center) that I purchased in Bowling Green KY... again another seven hour one way trip. THANKS BRO. GENE!!

WELCOME RADIO STATION WHBK

On Sunday, May 17th, we added WHBK to our Radio Ministry...THE VOICE OF VICTORY HOUR. The station is located in Marshall, N.C. and the program will be aired each Sunday from 7:30AM to 8:00AM. Please PRAY for this new opportunity to air the Message of REVIVAL.

SERENDIPITY BIBLE?

Recently I received a 1998 BIBLE CATALOG from Christian Book Distributors. They boast of having over 750 kinds of Bibles and translations. One of these Bibles is the SERENDIPITY BIBLE. According to the Dictionary SERENDIPITY means..."An aptitude for making desirable discoveries by accident." Beloved, the God of Scripture will REVEAL His TRUTHS to you from His Word but NEVER BY ACCIDENT! Whatever happened to THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD?? No wonder there is SO MUCH CONFUSION among God's People these days concerning the BIBLE!

THANK YOU again for all Your LOVE, PRAYERS, and GIFTS during these days. I do hope many of YOU will visit us this summer. YA'LL COME!! I love YOU dearly in our Wonderful Lord Jesus.

Now a Word from HIS WORD...**James 1:16-18.**

The Presence of God

Volume 21

June 1998

Number 6

Beloved:

In his book, REVIVAL: A PEOPLE SATURATED WITH GOD, Brian H. Edwards says:

"The PRESENCE of GOD is the KEY to understanding what REVIVAL is. If there is ONE aspect of WORSHIP today that is LACKING, it is **the FELT Presence of God**. Whatever our label or style, whatever our claims or convictions, CHRISTIAN CHURCHES today are NOT generally noted for the OVERWHELMING SENSE of the PRESENCE OF GOD. This is WHY we can BEHAVE SO CARELESSLY in WORSHIP.

'The deep work of the HOLY SPIRIT IN REVIVAL IS ALWAYS noted for the EXPERIENCE THAT CONVINCES US THAT GOD IS PRESENT. Of course we believe the Promise of God that HE is always with us, and especially when Christians meet together even WITHOUT a SENSE OF HIS PRESENCE. However, REVIVAL is altogether DIFFERENT! GOD is KNOWN to be there and even THE UNBELIEVER is compelled to acknowledge such (I Corinthians 14:25). **In REVIVAL the Presence of God becomes A TANGIBLE FELT EXPERIENCE.**"

BELOVED, this FELT PRESENCE OF GOD **DEFIES HUMAN EXPLANATION** and therefore CANNOT be created by HUMAN DEVICES. It is as DUNCAN CAMPBELL has stated: "This **AWARENESS of GOD is THE CRYING NEED OF THE CHURCHES TODAY...**" AMEN! and AMEN!

Thank YOU for YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT in these days of such CONSPICUOUSLY ABSENT FELT PRESENCE OF GOD. Please continue to PRAY for my complete Recovery. I am doing fine. Recently preached my FIRST T.V. message since my surgery. I love YOU dearly in HIM.

Now a word from HIS WORD...**Exodus 33: 13-18**

No Proclaimer This Month

Volume 21

July 1998

Number 7

No Proclaimer this month

Lowering of the Flag

Volume 21

August 1998

Number 8

Beloved:

Recent events, (the Killing of two Capital Policemen and the Bombing of our Embassies in Africa), have caused this Nation to lower our flag to HALF-MAST as a sign of National Mourning.... and may I say, RIGHTLY SO! However, while we, as a Nation, are in this FLAG LOWERING MODE may I suggest a THIRD REASON for flying our Flag at HALF-MAST.... AND LEAVE IT THERE!!... That REASON being ... The TURNING OF THE WHITE HOUSE INTO A WHORE HOUSE.... The TURNING OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE UNITED STATES INTO AN OFFICE OF ILL-REPUTE.... And THE NATION, according to the POLLS, is saying..... RIGHT ON MR. PRESIDENT! May GOD have MERCY on us!

Make no mistake about it...**THE REVIVAL OF PAGANISM is taking place before our eyes.** No recent FLOODS, WILD FIRES or DROUGHT can be compared to the FLOODS OF FILTH, THE FIRES OF THE FLESH or the DROUGHT OF DECENCY we are witnessing in our SIN SICK SOCIETY. **And what are THE CHURCHES doing "in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation" (Philippians 2:15b)?**

Oh, we are **VERY BUSY trying to be RELEVANT**...You know...UPBEAT and TRENDY! If You want to see a TRUE PICTURE of our PULPITS....THEN look at our PEWS!...BOTH are POWERLESS! **The IMPOTENCE of the CHURCH is ALARMING and because of Her POWERLESSNESS SHE is UNFIT to ATTACK the MORAL and SPIRITUAL Climate of PRESENT DAY AMERICA.** No doubt the Prophet JEREMIAH would say to us, "**Therefore the SHOWERS have been WITHHOLDEN, and there hath been no LATTER RAINS; and THOU hadst a WHORE'S FOREHEAD, thou REFUSEDST TO BE ASHAMED**" (Jeremiah 3:3).

Thank You dear ones for Your FAITHFULNESS to this REVIVAL MINISTRY. I return to my Traveling Schedule next month as I am scheduled to preach in two churches. I count on YOUR PRAYERS and LOVE YOU dearly in our WONDERFUL LORD.

Now a Word from HIS WORD.... **Ezra 9:5-6.**

No Proclaimer This Month

Volume 21

September 1998

Number 9

No Proclaimer this month

Making a god Out of Culture

Volume 21

October 1998

Number 10

Beloved:

Scripture tells us that while the Apostle Paul was in ATHENS..."**his spirit was stirred in him when he saw the City WHOLLY GIVEN TO IDOLATRY**" (**Acts 17:16**). Just imagine what a STIRRING would be in his spirit today should he be able to visit AMERICA. Without a doubt, the **number ONE industry** in AMERICA at PRESENT is **IDOL MAKING!!** America is a NATION of WORSHIPPERS of FALSE gods! And from this MEGA MULTITUDE of gods....THE CHURCH certainly has HER SHARE!!!

It is by DIVINE DESIGN that our SOVEREIGN, HOLY GOD placed the FIRST Commandment FIRST (**Exodus 20:1-5**). GOD, in HIS OMNISCIENCE, knew that HIS PEOPLE would be confronted with "THE IDOLS OF CANAAN" (**Psalms 106:34-39**). These "IDOLS OF CANAAN" did what no ARMY in Canaan could do...Brought TOTAL DEFEAT to GOD'S PEOPLE.

I want us now, however, to narrow our thinking to **ONE Idol (false god) that is ROMANCING THE CHURCH** at present...Namely, the false god, **CULTURE!** Never in my lifetime has THE CHURCH been so INTIMIDATED by CULTURE. This **INTIMIDATING** is leading to **DOMINATING**. Seemingly, everything THE CHURCH is involved with at present MUST bow at the altar of the False god, CULTURE.

The present CHURCH GROWTH MOVEMENT could NOT survive without this IDOL OF CULTURE. YOU see, **the so called, "MARKET DRIVEN CHURCH" in reality is THE CULTURE DRIVEN CHURCH.** Everything in CHURCH LIFE MUST be made **PALATABLE to PAGAN CULTURE** to satisfy this IDOL. The CROWD that has SOLD OUT to the god of CULTURE would have us believe...one can BELIEVE like a CONSERVATIVE yet BEHAVE like a LIBERAL.

Beloved, this kind of THEOLOGY (so called) will SHIPWRECK THE CHURCH. **Southern Baptist Conservatives may have won THE BATTLE FOR THE BIBLE but we will LOSE THE WAR if we place STYLE (the church chasing ACCEPTANCE by CULTURE) over SUBSTANCE (TRUE BIBLICAL THEOLOGY).** Whoever said it, said it well: "He who marries the spirit of the age soon finds himself a WIDOWER."

Thank YOU for your FAITHFULNESS in SUPPORT of this Preacher and REVIVAL MINISTRY. YOU are a BLESSING! I love YOU dearly in our Lord.

Now a Word from HIS WORD...**Psalm 115:1-17.**

The Most Difficult!

Volume 21

November 1998

Number 11

Beloved:

What JOY it is to KNOW that **we do not STAND ALONE** in the Spiritual Warfare for SPIRITUAL AWAKENING—TRUE REVIVAL. Most of the Ministries in this Nation have many more Prayer and Financial Supporters than does this REVIVAL MINISTRY. HOWEVER, I am convinced there is NO MINISTRY ON EARTH that has SUPPORTERS that are MORE FAITHFUL than those our WONDERFUL LORD has given to this Ministry. PLEASE KNOW once again that WITHOUT YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT MINISTRY of LOVE, PRAYERS, and GIFTS it would be IMPOSSIBLE for this Revival Ministry to carry out THE WILL OF THE LORD as we know it to be for our Lives.

THE MOST DIFFICULT letter I write each month is **my SINCERE LETTER OF THANKS to our SUPPORTERS of the B.C.E.A.** The DIFFICULTY lies in my desire to express in words of HUMAN LANGUAGE how much YOU and YOUR Support means to this Ministry.

Beloved, **no Army in history has been ANY BETTER than its SUPPLY LINE!** Each month as I receive YOUR LOVE GIFT, I just want to take a trip to YOUR HOME and let YOU know FACE TO FACE how much we LOVE and APPRECIATE YOU in our Lord Jesus. YOU are VITAL to this REVIVAL MINISTRY. YOUR FAITHFULNESS is such a BLESSING...IT OVERWHELMS me!

I pray THANKSGIVING '98 finds YOU REJOICING in our WONDERFUL LORD JESUS. I truly THANK HIM for using YOU in the Life and Ministry of the Preacher. My heart is filled with Gratitude and Praise TO HIM!! Thank YOU for YOUR GIVING, LOVE and PRAYERS. I love YOU dearly IN HIM!

Now a Word from HIS WORD...**Romans 1:9-11.**

Reviewing the Past

Volume 21

December 1998

Number 12

Beloved:

This MONTH is not only the Conclusion of 1998 but it is also the Conclusion of 21 years of REVIVAL MINISTRY...TOGETHER! Here at the B.C.E.A., THE TESTIMONY of this Ministry thru these 21 years is simply this...**BY HIS GRACE and FOR HIS GLORY!!**

When our LORD called me from the Pastorate of the Northwest Baptist Church in Miami, Florida in January, 1978 He assured me of this FACT..."**THE WILL OF GOD WILL NEVER LEAD YOU WHERE THE GRACE OF GOD WILL NOT SUSTAIN YOU.**" After these 21 years I can only say, AMEN and AMEN to this TRUTH.

Beloved, we have NEVER been in DEBT. Not one time, in all these years, have we failed to PAY IN FULL our Monthly Obligations. PRAISE HIM for HIS FAITHFULNESS in meeting the NEEDS of...20 years of Radio Ministry: **THE VOICE OF VICTORY HOUR**...5 years of T.V. Ministry: **UNTO THE CHURCHES**...21 years of Publication Ministry: **THE PROCLAIMER**...21 years of Mission Ministry: Preaching in several Foreign Countries and supporting various Missionaries and Ministries...and I MUST PRAISE HIM for allowing me the WONDERFUL PRIVILEGE of Preaching in HIS CHURCHES in 25 States. Thank You LORD!

Rejoicing in the Present

The REASON we can Rejoice in the Present is because our REJOICING is to be IN HIM..."**Rejoice IN THE LORD alway: and again I say REJOICE**" (Philippians 4:4). Beloved, this is why we need REVIVAL..."**Wilt thou not REVIVE US AGAIN that THY PEOPLE may Rejoice IN THEE?**" (Psalm 85:6).

Remembering the Prospect

You may say, Preacher, how can we Remember the FUTURE?...EASY! Remember what GOD'S WORD says concerning the FUTURE (our Prospect). Beloved, **OUR PROSPECT (to look Forward with Hope, Expectation and Anticipation) is as SURE as THE WORD OF GOD is TRUE!! GLORY! GLORY!! GLORY!!!**

Peggy and I pray GOD'S BEST for YOU and YOURS during this Christmas Season and may our LORD JESUS be EXALTED in Your life in 1999. Thank YOU for your Daily Prayers and Faithful Support. I Love YOU dearly IN HIM.

Now a word from HIS WORD...**I John 5:20.**