



***Provoking
Revival***

Daniel Schott



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GLOBAL EVANGELISTIC NETWORK E.V.

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FOREWORD

Months of preparation and weeks of intensive praying were behind us, when the GEN team had the first *Wake Up!* in October 2010. Although we had experienced a lot of resistance before the meeting, we were thankful to God for our first revival service of this kind.

When looking for an appropriate Bible passage for the preaching at the *Wake Up!*, I felt again and again, the Lord pointing me to 2 Chronicles 7:14. I would have liked to preach about something else, but I decided to obey the Lord. Looking back I am very grateful! The Holy Spirit used the word to touch the visitors and to start with something new in the area.

Since then we can look back at a number of *Wake Up!*'s. God confirms His word with demonstrations of the Spirit's power.

People are being healed, set free, and blessed. Thank you Jesus!

In this book we would like to pass on the blessings. Our colleague Werner Storm tediously tried to transcribe my fast flow of words. Afterwards I made changes, corrections, and worked through the text numerous times. However, one can still recognize that the text is a transcription of a preached sermon.

This book should not be viewed as an academic writing on the topic of revival. Nevertheless, the validity still holds. The content is easily understood and reaches out to the hearts of the readers. Bible quotations are taken from the *New International Version*. I take the liberty to address the reader personally.

I am inviting you to open your heart for the next few minutes. Jesus himself wants to meet you personally, and He will change your life radically. This book has the potential to catapult you into new dimensions of Gods glory, to set free blessings over your life, to heal and to deliver you. Jesus likes surprises. Read this book with expectation and be ready to obey the Holy Spirit.

He knows about your hunger for more of Him, and He wants to show you, how you can experience revival in your life. Set ablaze

by the fire of the Holy Spirit you will become a carrier of God's fire and hopefully you will kindle fires in many people around you. Revival is possible!



INTRODUCTION

I am sitting in my room in a Christian guest-house in Kigali, the capital of Rwanda – again on a mission trip for the Lord.

Today I was invited for coffee by the hosting pastor. It is a sunny afternoon, and we are enjoying wonderful coffee from Rwanda in the garden of a hotel. Not much is happening at the pool filled with clear blue water. Some tourists are enlivening the terrace set out with natural stones. They are enjoying their meals and the magnificent view onto Kigali. Surrounded by this idyllic atmosphere of the garden we are sitting in our chairs, enjoying the small breeze and talking. Talking!

We are in the hotel *Des Mille Collines* – better known as *Hotel Rwanda!* If you have seen the film with the same title and have cried, you know which hotel I mean. The hotel

offered refuge during the 1994 genocide in which people were slaughtered so brutally. 1268 men and women are rescued through the courageous intervention of a hotel manager. In the battle to survive, people drink the swimming pool water. They survive.

What today is a modern hotel was a place of incomprehensible despair and at the same time a place of hope and rescue, 17 years ago.

I am moved by the visit at the *Hotel Rwanda*. Once more I realize: *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; Jesus has come that they may have life, and have it to the full* (according to John 10:10).

I am asking myself, whether such an inhumane tragedy could have been prevented. Perhaps somewhat like the revival under John and Charles Wesley which prevented a bloody revolution in Great Britain? I think so! History shows that the principles described in 2 Chronicles 7:12-16 can very well be used in today's times:

...the Lord appeared to him at night and said: "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a temple for sacrifices.

When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, if my

people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.

I have chosen and consecrated this temple so that my Name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.

(2 Chr 7:12-16)

These verses are from the time after Solomon had finished building the temple. The temple was dedicated to the Lord. The glory of God had come down. At night the Lord appears to Solomon and says: *I have accepted your temple, your house that you have built for me.* God points out, that His eyes, ears, and His heart will keep special attention to the prayer that would arise from that temple. God says to Solomon: *I have chosen this temple. When you pray, I will be in the temple. And I will answer.* That was God's promise under the Old Testament covenant. God always wants to be close to His people. He engages with His people and is prepared to come into our temple.

Under the New Testament covenant we are able to enjoy a much greater glory. God is not

in the temple in Jerusalem anymore. God decided to live in the body of man, by the Holy Spirit. Thus the Bible calls our bodies the temple of the Holy Spirit:

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own. (1 Cor 6:19)

The Holy Spirit – God is now living within each newborn Christian! God is here! God is within us!

God is not in the temple in Jerusalem anymore. God decided to live in the body of man, by the Holy Spirit.

God implies here, that He wants to live in that house and that He wants to have His eyes and His heart in that house. God is not anywhere in the universe. God is really close to you. He is in your heart, if you have the Holy Spirit in your heart. There God is present within you. And there you have so much potential! Christians are moving power stations – filled with the power of God – highly explosive! In these latter-days God will reveal His glory in the children of God:

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits in

eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. (Rom 8:18 -19)

This He wants to do through you. God wants to provoke revival through you.



WE NEED REVIVAL

THE HEAVENS ARE CLOSED!

When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people ... (2 Chr 7:13)

The words from verse 13 pinpoint exactly the situation in the western world and almost worldwide, today. We have not had rain for many years – no spiritual rain. It rains a lot, but not spiritually.

The locusts are devouring the land and plagues are spreading. This is the situation in which we are stuck today. I long for the rain! A new wave of the good Holy Spirit! You can help to bring about change! God wants to let it rain again! God wants the rain to fall on us! God is ready! Are you?

God wants to send new rivers of living waters. He wants to fill you up. He wants to overflow you. And He also wants to give you so much that you can pass on to others. It got very dry here in Germany. Instead of Holy Spirit we have hierarchies and liturgy, and we are trying to substitute the Holy Spirit. That does not work! That is always very dry and clumsy. However, God is saying: *I want to pour out the Holy Spirit in new abundances over you.* God is ready! Are you ready?

We are fighting among Christians, fighting among Christian leaders. We are fighting among the churches. One is talking trash about the other. And still many are doing as if they were the most loving Christians in the area. However, God is saying: *This is*

drought. This is not the Holy Spirit. This is manipulation! God is saying: I want to act totally afresh amongst you! I want to be your God again! I want to send rain. It has been dry in Germany long enough!

No, we cannot produce a revival. However, we should do everything possible so that revival can happen. People, who are having revival on their minds, will never instigate churches and ministries against each other, but will promote unity.

The Locusts Are Destroying the Land!

When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people ... (2 Chr 7:13)

What you can nowadays get on your plate in some noble restaurants or what is caught by children as harmless insects, has the potential to change the course of world history – locusts!

Here a short description of migratory locust:

Migratory locusts appear in irregular intervals en masse in vast areas of North Africa. The last huge plague of locust took place in 1988. The swarms with its several hundred, or up to three billion animals, partially eclipsed the sky.

In a feeding swarm one can find up to 50 million animals per square kilometer. A locust, weighing only two gram can eat its weight in green plants daily. One ton of locusts can devour as much as 2,500 humans would need to live on. However, one ton of locusts are only 500,000 animals!

Migratory locusts start swarming as soon as they find favorable conditions. When their larvae can develop well due to enough vegetation, a faster reproduction rhythm starts. The number of animals can more than decuple within a few months. When grown-up animals keep meeting up with conspecifics, the swarming process is triggered.

It is especially unfavorable that swarms in the search of food, travel distances up to about a hundred kilometers daily. In a month they can over-

come distances of up to 3,500 kilometers. Furthermore, the result of the new locust brood will again release big swarms in the middle of August until end of September. A big swarm can strip bare an area of about 60 square kilometers within a few hours. With this the nutritional basis for billions of North Africans is at stake.¹

It does not rain and the locusts eat up everything. Did you see the locusts? Not the small little grasshoppers. I do not mean them. But the swarms that are going over Germany, and are destroying churches! From the inside out, devouring everything! They eat up relationships between different churches and within the churches. Demons are clinging on to people and they hold on fast. And then, all of a sudden friends become enemies! And enemies become friends! What is wrong? You do not recognize your brother! Why? There is a “locust” on your neck! It is a demon clinging on to you and breaking all your relationships. *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy...* (Jn 10:10a). But he must not have any success with Christians again!

God wants the locusts to get so hot from the fire of the Holy Spirit that they will burn. If you are a hot Christian, when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, than these demons, will not come close to you! Unfortunately Christians are full of hatred, envy, jealousy, accusation, malicious gossip, and this breaks up churches.

Christians should be so hot spiritually, that all the “locusts” would disappear out of their lives!

We are having pastors who are alcoholics! Not just figuratively speaking! No, there are charismatic churches, where the pastor

cannot do without his morning slug. We are having churches where people of the praise and worship team are asleep. Something is being destroyed. Somebody is eating up something. And that is the devil! Because we have given him room! Christians should be so hot spiritually, that all the “locusts” would disappear out of their lives!

The Plague Is Spreading!

When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to

devour the land or send a plague among my people ... (2 Chr 7:13)

We have a plague spreading around the world. Sickness has found fertile soil! People are getting sick, churches are getting sick – physically sick! This is happening, because we have given the devil place to live. But there is a solution! You can escape!

Besides all the physical sicknesses we are also facing psychic illnesses. Many Christians are possessed with the plague of pornography. Statistics show, that even Christians are deeply involved in pornography. The divorce rate in churches is just as high as the divorce rate among non-Christians. Things are going totally wrong and are spreading like a plague! It is epidemic. However, God is saying: *I want to send revival. I will destroy all that, and I will create something new.* You can be a part of it!

Why?

I am asking myself why it is happening. Where are all the locusts coming from? Where does the plague come from? Why does it not rain any more, spiritually speaking? Why are

we not experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit? Why are we not seeing healings in the same measure as before? What is wrong? The answer is simple: People are infected by a virus. Do you know about this virus? It is the S-I-N-virus. If you are infected by it, it will spread within you and will bring about death. That is fatal. The payment of sin is death, the Bible says (Rom 6:23). And if there is sin in your life – no matter whether you are a Christian, whether you are paying your tithe, or whether you have a say in the church – when sin is in your life, it will kill you! Sooner or later – if you do not repent.

God's message to most Christians today is very simple: *Repent!* We have to repent again – turn around. Yes, we Christians have to repent before all others. Willingly one is criticizing the government and pointing at the capital city. *After all the government is doing everything wrong! It is their fault!*

And God is saying: *The problem is not in the government. The problem is in the body of Christ.* It is hard to believe, but this is the position of the Bible. The problem is in the body of Christ. The body of Christ is broken, torn apart, decaying.

But the good news is: There is an antidote against this sin-virus. And that is the

blood of Jesus! The blood of Jesus cleanses you from all sins! This is the best message there is.

It is wonderful to experience, how people are set free through the power of the blood of Jesus. Often they come burdened, broken, and full of sin. But by the power of the blood of Jesus their chains fall off suddenly, and they are freed, happy, and without sin. This can also happen to you today. God wants to cleanse you totally from your sins.

Some have understood already. They go to church every Sunday – or even on Wednesdays (the very “spiritual” ones). They come to collect a “dose of the power of God”, a “dose of the blood of Jesus” and they say to themselves: *I am clean again until the next weekend.* Then they carry on sinning whatever it takes. Next weekend: *Pastor, pray for me!* And the pastor prays again, and the person carries on as before on Monday morning.

Someday I stopped collecting these “power injections” only on the weekends. I am on a drip. Hallelujah! And the blood of Jesus is washing me clean from all sins. I do not have to wait until Sunday, when I am going to church! The blood of Jesus is working instantly! *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,*

and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin (1 Jn 1:7). Then the blood of Jesus becomes effective. It purifies us from all sins!



THE PRICE OF REVIVAL

DO YOU WANT REVIVAL?

The deciding question is: Do you **want** the rain? Are you longing for the storm surge of the Holy Spirit? But what will happen if the wave of the Holy Spirit is not your wave-length? When the preacher is too noisy, when

the people are clapping too much? And how will you react if God decides after all to bring about revival through these strange kind of people? Will you join in? Or will you be saying: *This comes from below!* What will you do?

What if God suddenly comes and destroys your theological framework? What if God wants to come out of the “box”? What will happen? Will you still be ready to cheer and to pray and to fast for revival, or will you say: *This cannot be from God. We have never learned anything like this.* No! The crucial point is, whether it is biblical or not. Do you want revival? During a revival things may happen, which are uncomfortable, which may not be so nice. However, do you want revival? Are you ready to pay the price?

Do you really want God to be God? What is going to happen, when the lion of Zion arrives and starts to roar? The lion of Zion is not a little pussy cat. He is a lion! When He goes out and He begins to roar, things are starting to happen, that would not happen normally. Maybe you are saying: *That is definitely too much. That cannot be from the Lord; this is not according to my norms.*

God does not care very much about our own self-made norms. I learned this through-

out my life. God cared less what norms I had. God did not care what theological background I had. He simply overrode my norms. And I am thankful for that, because His power is now working within me.

What Is the Rain Worth to You?

What is the rain worth to you? Are you ready to do everything: to pray, to fast, putting in hours of work to provoke revival? God does not only want your ten percent – the tithe. God wants one hundred percent of your money – one hundred percent of your time, of your health, of your relationships, of your career, of your future. God wants you totally! When you give yourself totally to Him, something great is going to happen, namely revival! Are you ready to pay the price? Are you really ready to pay the price?

We have a lot of Christians, who are running to church, and who are paying their tithes, and who believe that by doing so they deserve a place in heaven. And God is saying: *You have done things in my name, but I do not know you at all. You did not have a relationship with me. I have spoken to you. I have shouted to you through a megaphone! And you*

did not listen. God wants one hundred percent of you. Allow revival!



ALLOW REVIVAL TO HAPPEN

CAN REVIVAL BE PRODUCED?

I have asked myself: Can revival be produced? The answer is very clear: No. Revival cannot be produced, because it already exists! Revival already exists? *Just wait a minute*, you will

say. *Just a moment ago you claimed that it does not rain; that we are being attacked by “locusts” and that the plague is spreading all over. How can you now say, that revival already exists?*

Yes, revival exists already! Not here however! It is in heaven. In heaven a great revival is taking place. There the angels are dancing. There is praise. There the angels are falling down before Jesus to adore him. There is singing and happiness. There is jubilation. There is revival! There God reigns!

How can one bring the revival, which exists already, to this place? How does it work? God says: *There is a way*. You can bring revival from the other world into this world!

It is similar to downloading something. Revival is already on the heavenly server. You only have to download it. It exists already, but it is not **here** yet. That is why you are reading this book – so that you may bring the revival from **there** to **here**.

What Image of God Do You Have?

To be able to provoke revival, to bring down revival from the heavenly places to our everyday life, we firstly have to correct our view of God. What image of God do we have? Is He the grouchy old grandfather, who never gives anything? A God whom I have to beg for everything, until He eventually gives it to me? May be this view seems strange to you; however, there are many Christians, who see God exactly that way. *To get something from my daddy, I have to slide on my knees for ten hours. May be God will then react.* No! This is not how God is like! God is a good God and *no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. (Ps 84:11).* God is not impressed by our own spirituality, but rather by the righteousness of Jesus Christ. If we thus come before God sincerely and in the righteousness of Christ, He will not fail to grant us good things.

Heaven Is About to Burst!

God is reigning in heaven; and in heaven everything is good. There is revival, there is happiness, there is blessing, there is glory, there is peace, there is health. The revival is already

there – in heaven. And God would gladly pass it down to us. Do you believe it? God is eager to do it. He is waiting for the moment, when He can send down the revival. Heaven is under high pressure! Heaven is about to burst onto earth. This is why we are praying: *Our Father*

Can revival be produced? No!	<i>in heaven, hallowed</i>
Can revival be provoked? Yes!	<i>be your name, your kingdom come, and then it says: your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.</i>

en. (Mt 6:9-10) We can abbreviate this prayer: *Revival come!* Revival is there already – in heaven! And now you are allowed to pray: *Come Lord and bring revival down to earth. We want to have the revival here!*

Can revival be produced? No! Can revival be provoked? Yes! God is saying: *I would like to give away freely everything, I have paid for already.*

All promises that God has ever made are YES and AMEN in Jesus Christ. (2 Cor 1:20). If you are in Christ Jesus, you have access to revival in heaven, and you may pray: *Father in Heaven, send your revival, as it is happening in heaven already, down onto earth.* God will answer your prayer. He has paid for the revival, He has prepared the revival.

al. It is there, and you can do something today in order to provoke revival.

Renew your thinking! God is not waiting for us to keep on pleading and begging. No! God would like to give us His revival as a gift! And in order for revival to arrive, He is looking for people who are ready to open their hearts and to believe – people who are praying. Then He will send revival.





DO SOMETHING FOR REVIVAL!

TAKING GOD BY HIS WORD

Now we have arrived at the point where you are called to do something. God lists a number of things that Christians can do to provoke revival:

- humble yourself
- pray
- seek His face
- turn from your wicked ways

These are the things that we can do in order to make God's promises come true: ...*then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. (2 Chr 7:14)*. With this not only trees, fish, and birds are meant, but also land, relationships, governments, industries. He wants to heal the land. He wants to heal your body. God is doing it over and over again. Even today people are healed instantly. This is still available today.

We need Christians, who know what is written in the word of God, Christians who know what they are entitled to. We need Christians who do not discuss away God's promises and actions, but who have childlike faith and receive and experience them.

You Are His People!

... my people, who are called by my name ...
(2 Chr 7:14)

God is speaking to *His* People! Who are his people? You are His people, if you have Jesus

in your life. If you call yourself a Christian, then you are named after Christ. And if you believe in Him, then you are part of His people. God does not say: *If my financial minister, my president, my chancellor, my foreign minister will humble themselves.* No, He is saying: *When my people will humble themselves.*

There are citizens in every country, and there are citizens who at the same time belong to God's people. Or as it says in Greek: God's ecclesia – the

God is saying: *I called you out, so that you would have a say in your land, in this world.*

ones who have been called out! And this is not a spiritual word. It is a political term.

The ecclesia of those days consisted of people who were chosen out of the general population to reign within the municipal council. This is the ecclesia! God is saying: *I called you out, so that you would have a say in your land, in this world.* How do you see yourself as a Christian?

Christians are pushed into a dark corner and are becoming a sub-culture. However, God is saying: *This is not where you belong! You should take up the first position. You should set the agenda in economics, in scienc-*

es, in politics. You should be number one. We are God's ecclesia, the called out people, the salt of the earth, and the light of the world. This is who we are!

How do you see yourself? Poor Christian, me. I cannot do anything. Poor little worm, me. No! God says: You are called! The welfare of the land does not only depend on the people in the capital, but on my people. And you are part of God's people. Look at yourself in this light. You are called out in order take influence!

However, since it is not functioning, the Lord has to first start judgment with the household of God and with what is happening around us these days:

For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? (1 Pt 4:17)

God has started to hold judgment in the churches. And He is cleaning up! Things are happening, changes are taking place. God is firstly holding judgment among God's people. Once we are cleansed, He can use us to operate from inside out.

Do Not Bring Shame on His Name!

God is speaking about His people, who are called by His name. If you are claiming to be a Christian, you are called by His name. You are part of God's people. I believe that in the past years we as Christians have brought shame on God. We did not represent God properly. We allowed His name to be dragged through the mire. And we Christians tolerate it! We are allowing, that Jesus is being treated with contempt and that Bibles are burned publically. It is about time that Christians raise their voices, that they take a stand. However, we are putting Jesus name to shame!

This type of Christians were in existence already in the time of the New Testament. Apostle Peter speaks about them:

Many will follow their depraved conduct and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. (2 Pt 2:2)

He is saying, there will be people, who will call themselves Christians, but who will live in such a way, that it will lead other people to make fun of Christianity. That's what is happening our days. Their life style is no different from Non-Christians: *having a form of godli-*

ness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people. (2 Tm 3:5)

How many people have you met, who said: If so-and-so is a Christian, then I don't want to become one. Yes, we have brought shame on the name of God. We put God into the wrong perspective. We Christians often present ourselves as softies. And God is saying: *You have to know who you are in Christ. You have the strength, you have the power, and you have the Holy Spirit. You have my authority! I am standing behind you with my army of angels.*

Open your mouth! Say something! Don't just let the others do the talking, but talk as a Christian. Stand up for the truth. Just try it. Stick out your neck! God is saying: *I will reward it! If my people will repent, I will react. If my people, who are called by my name will humble themselves then I will act.*

It's not God's fault that revival is not here yet. On the contrary: Christians are still bringing shame on God's name and thus have lost their power to be witnesses to the world. Jesus is saying clearly:

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this every-

one will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

(Jn 13:34-35)

We should love one another, as He loved us. Why? So that everyone would know that we are His disciples. But if we are fighting within the churches or fighting among different churches, then the world will not be able to recognize anything. The world can only perceive a chaotic bunch of wannabes! God wants to clean up! We have allowed His name to be dragged through the mire for too long.

It is about time that Christians get up and say: *We want to see God's honor restored! We want to see politicians praying! We want a country under God's reign. We want a parliament which is praying in Jesus' name.* Many Christians believe the voice of the devil and think that is impossible. It is possible, however, if enough Christians open their mouths.

Humble Yourself!

God makes revival depend on His people. *If my people who are called by name repent, if they humble themselves, then I will listen.* He is saying: *Humble yourself!* This is uncomfort-

able, especially in a society soaked with humanism, egocentrism, and self-realization. But believe me: It is more pleasant to humble oneself than to be humbled by God. Do you know such experiences? I do. One knows exactly what God is expecting, however, one does not want to obey. One does not think it appropriate to obey God. And then one overrides God's orders. This is arrogance in its purest form. And then one ends up putting one's foot in one's mouth. What before seemed to be embarrassing and inappropriate fades in comparison to the embarrassment and the loss that arrogance and disobedience cause. Then we are humiliated by God and come back to Him, saying: *Oh Lord, I should have listened to you!*

Humble yourself under God's mighty hand, for God will give more grace to the humble (Jas 4:6). Would you like to receive more grace? It is certain that God wants to give you grace. He is saying: *Humble yourself before me.* And to him who is humble, I will give grace! How can you humble yourself? No, you do not have to become a door mat. You have to realize who you are in God – your position. He is God and you are human. That is humility. Humble yourself under God's mighty hand. Let God be God and you be human.

There are too many Christians who believe that they know everything and in overbearing arrogance even despise what is of God. This world needs more Christians with less pride! Ready-made opinions of how God's kingdom is to be build are accepted blindly, taken from liberal theologians who do not know God. Too many Christians claim: *We know how*

This world
needs more
Christians with
less pride!

it works! We know how to grow a church! We have studied church-growth methods. However, it does not function without the Holy Spirit!

This world needs Christians who humble themselves before God and who are saying: *I cannot do it! But You can do it!* This world is waiting for pastors who are leading while depending on God; evangelists who are evangelizing while depending on God; prophets who are prophesying while depending on God. This is what we need again! God wants to start with you! Humble yourself before the Lord so that He may lift you up:

But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.

(Jas 4:6-10)

If you humble yourself and let God be God and obey Him, He will lift you up in due time

And this is what God's people need. God wants His people to be lifted up. And everything else is of the devil. God wants us to be the number one. Not arrogant, not proud. No! God wants us to be the number one, while walking humbly and exalting Him. This is God's will. And He wants to use you. The urge for excellence and for quality is God-given! The pride that sometimes comes with it is from the devil! However, the urge for goodness and quality and excellence are God-given. God wants His people to be number one! Unfortunately Christians' contributions to society take up the last places. God wants to bring us

back and make us number one again; if you humble yourself, turn around, and pray.

I believe that we are very similar to the church in Laodicea, today:

You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. (Rv 3:17)

Does that sound familiar? *Our church has the best theology. In our church the skirts all have the same length! We are having the best choir in town! In our church the technical equipment cost so and so much. We are satiated, we are rich, and we are all*

doing fine. And still we are dirt-poor. We are having qualified theologians; we are having the best liturgy. Some Christians are proud of their ancient liturgies and traditions. However, they cannot tell what they have experienced with God today.

Some Christians are proud of their ancient liturgies and traditions. However, they cannot tell what they have experienced with God today.

God wants to clean up with the religious spirit! *I am rich*, you are saying. And God is saying: *Don't you realize that you are miserable and pathetic, poor, blind, and naked?* God has different standards. He is measuring churches not according to the number of church members, not according to the wattage of the speakers of the church, not according to the loudness of the praise team. God measures differently! God looks at the hearts. You can deceive others. You can deceive yourself, but not God! It is about time that we stop putting on our Sunday face every Sunday. On Sunday you put on a tie – Sunday is tie-day – throw over your jacket, and then off you go to church. But inside everything is bubbling and cooking. *I am quarreling with God. Actually, I hate God. But I have to go to church.* Just stop playing. Be honest before God.

There were times in my life when I accused God. We are allowed to do that! Go on, charge Him. Tell Him what you do not understand. But be honest. Be honest before God. Humble yourself before Him.

The western world believes that they are wealthy. I also thought so, and then I flew the first time to Africa, a couple of years back. There I was, a spoiled German arriving in Ghana 2001, and it really looked poor. I wake

up one morning and I am hearing a woman singing while sweeping the yard – singing to God! And suddenly a paradigm shift! What is this? These people have much less than we do in Germany, but this woman is full of praise to the Lord while sweeping the dusty yard.

Yes, the western world is rich, measured by their level of prosperity. However, the third world is often much richer, measured by their experiences with God. And we still claim to know the way to go. In case you did not know yet: Africa is experiencing revival, also Asia. The Christians there should be our examples.

Pastor David Oyedepo has built the biggest church building in the world, in Nigeria. The building can seat more than 50,000 visitors per service. These are dimensions unknown to Europe. This is what God is doing in “poor” Africa. Do you know why? The Christians there are rich in God. They know their God. They know the Holy Spirit. They are having communion with the Holy Spirit! God wants us to humble ourselves before Him. Then He will lift us up in due time.

Pray!

Humble people pray. People who are full of themselves believe they have everything under control. Proud people believe they can accomplish everything by themselves. That is why praying appears to be a waste of time to them. However, sooner or later they also have to face reality: They are neither superman nor superwoman. Humble people by contrast know about their constraints and weaknesses. Therefore they trust fully in the power of God and take time on their knees to ask help from God.

Every revival movement was prepared and accompanied by intensive prayer. Start praying today! Your prayer can open heaven today! It works! Pray!

Many people think that praying is something old fashioned. Instead of prayer, they have special tranquil quiet times. Something like this: They open their Bible in the morning, read quickly a passage for the day – for a maximum of fifteen minutes. Quickly some blessing prayers are added, filled with “my, mine, myself”. And then it is time to say: *Thank you Jesus! Bye Jesus, till tomorrow.*

Pray until you are really praying. Pray on the floor until you turn cold and hot again! Pray in the presence of God, and your prayer will change the world.

Some Christians believe it does not matter whether one is praying or not. To them, God is an-

anyway doing whatever He wants to do. Many are praying with that kind of attitude. This is nonsense. God does not do what He wants to do. God does what we want, if it is according to His will.

Let me explain this. When God created the world, He created a world with a lot of potential and said: *Dear people, Adam and Eve, this world belongs to you now. Please! From now on you have to cultivate the land. You shall expand the paradise. Subdue the earth. The earth belongs to you. When you need help, I will be there. Call upon me and I will come. However the earth belongs to you! It is yours!* And this is why praying makes sense. God is saying: *I will intervene only if you invite me.*

Pray until you are really praying. Pray on the floor until you turn cold and hot again! Pray in the presence of God, and your prayer will change the world.

The Psalm writer realizes: *The highest heavens belong to the Lord, but the earth he has given to mankind. (Ps 115:16)* And this is exactly why we are praying the Lord's Prayer: *Your kingdom come and your will be done in earth as it is in heaven.* By this we are saying: *God, let revival, which is already in heaven, come down here on earth!* This is prayer. You know what God's will is and you are pronouncing it. Then God does what you have prayed for, and you have released His will. This is how God's will functions through your prayer. This is why John also says:

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him. (1 Jn 5:14-15)

Very easy! Find out what God's will is and pray according to His will, and it will happen. Hallelujah! Revival is God's will! We have to pray according to God's will until heaven opens. James knew about it, when He wrote:

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that

you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops. (Jas 5:16-18)

At the time of Elijah it was raining somewhere – but not in Israel. Rain still existed, but it did not rain over Israel. Many areas of rain could have moved across Israel. The potential was there, but for three and a half years it did not rain in Israel. And when Elijah prayed in faith, when he seriously prayed, the rain came from **there** to **here**, from **somewhere** to **Israel**.

And that is exactly what can happen when you start praying, praying earnestly. The rain already exists. The revival is already there, but not here yet. Your prayer can rip open heaven. Through your prayers heaven can touch the earth. It is possible right now!

Seek His Presence!

However, it should not just end at prayer. Prayer is just the beginning. After praying we must go over to “seeking God”. We must seek Him with our whole life. Maybe you are now saying: ‘I am already born again. I am already filled with the Holy Spirit. I have received the whole package.’ But still you should continue to seek God.

There will always be another grace after grace, after grace, after grace, after grace! This is why God says, we should go from glory to glory, to glory, to glory. If you think you know God, then you do not know Him! God wants to lead you deeper into His presence. God does not want people who are only praying to Him. He wants people who are His friends.

Certain denominations taught us that to be born again is all that one needs of God. When you are born again, you have the whole package. This is it, you have arrived. Far from it! Some churches claim that you need another, a second package after you have been born again – namely the baptism of the Holy Spirit. And then you will have arrived. Far from it!

Do not be satisfied with this. There is a third experience, and a fourth, and a fifth

hundred and forty-sixth experience! There is no end in sight! Because God is a great God! You will never be able to exhaust God. You can only go from glory to glory.

Maybe you think you know God quiet well, and then God tells you: *Go over there! Seek over there!* It is a holy hide-and-seek game. Did you know that? God likes to play hide-and-seek with us. You are in one place and you tell God: *God, I have now come to know you well. You are so great. Super!* And suddenly you realize that the closeness to God is not as strong as before. Then start searching again. God is waiting to be found. He is delighted, like a father who is playing hide-and-seek with his children. Seek Him! God rejoices when His little son, His little daughter finds Him again and gets to know Him in another way. Then you start praising Him anew. You are happy to get to know a different side of God. And this is how God is bringing you closer and closer to Himself. He only “hides” to be found anew and to reveal another side of Himself.

Christians who are seeking God, know that they have been saved already, that they are having eternal life. They already know God’s presence. On the other hand they feel the urge to seek for more of God. They

experience how God reveals Himself time and again in a new and even bigger glory. Start today and never stop seeking Him! Carry on seeking Him!

Nobody can ever exhaust God. There is so much glory! Seeking God is the greatest adventure. Take time to seek God. Take time

Seeking God is the greatest adventure.

with Him in your 'quiet place'. Sometimes your 'quiet place' may change to a 'noisy place'. A lot can happen in the

presence of the Lord! Suddenly you are able to dance in the presence of God. Suddenly you are weeping before God! Or you are able to laugh out loud! God is so totally different than we are imagining Him to be!

Start to seek God and you will experience Him anew. Come into His presence and say to Him: *God, I already know You. However, I want to get to know You more. I would like to understand You more. I also want to understand Your heart. I want to know what is next. God, speak to me!* Stay hungry! Do not say: *I have plenty. I am full.* Humble yourself before God and seek Him.

Seek His face, not His hands. God's hands are there to give. And this He does will-

ingly. God wants us to carry on. He wants us not only to come to Him, because we need something, but because we want to have fellowship with Him. This is why He is saying: *Seek my face*. With the face we are affiliating personality. God wants more than just being asked for something. God wants to have fellowship with you.

Why do we go to church? Why are you attending Christian conferences? Do you want something *from* God? Or do you want God – do you want *Him*? That’s what makes the difference. Start today to seek God and never stop. God is full of love, full of mercy, and He likes to be found. **Have you started seeking him?**

King David was a true God seeker. He spent many hours in worship before God, while looking after the sheep of his father. Even when he was king, he was seeking God. One day he wrote:

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, “Where is your God?”

(Ps 42:2-3)

David is saying: *God, I want to get to know you personally even more!* This hunger must never subside, otherwise you will wither as a Christian and you will die. God wants you to seek Him with all of your heart.

Apostle Paul was also a God seeker. He was one of the greatest, may be even the greatest missionary of his time. Still he writes that he wants to know Christ.

I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. (Phil 3:10)

Paul, I thought you have arrived a long time ago. You have written a couple of letters, which can be found in the New Testament. Paul, you are a big hero! However, Paul is saying: *No, I want to know Him! Everything else does not matter.*

If we Christians would only arrive at the point again, where it is not about titles, not about positions or hierarchies – where it does not matter whether auntie Jane has greeted us on Sunday morning or not. If we would get as far as seeking God's face with all our heart, with all our soul, with all that we are, then God would do something! **God wants to! Do you believe that?**

Turn from Your Wicked Ways!

People who are humbling themselves, are praying, and are seeking God's face, will soon realize their imperfection. They will not have a problem with God, rebuking them for their sinfulness, as they know that God's love is behind it. The Lord is saying very clearly: *Turn from your wicked ways! Repent! Take down your masks!*

John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and who prepared the revival, said:

Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. (Lk 3:8-9)



Repentance must not just be lip service, but it must bring about concrete changes. And we are warned, not to say: *Abraham is my father. I have got a baptism certificate. I am part of the trombone choir.* This does not make you automatically a child of God. John the Baptist

did not leave any doubt about this. He points out: *God can raise up children for Abraham out of these stones.*

God is saying: *If you do not repent, I will find others who will repent.* Then you reply: *Yes, but I am giving my tithe! I am making a donation every Sunday. I attend church every Sunday. I am serving in my church.* Wonderful, but God is saying: *Turn from your wicked ways!* Do not rely on who your father was. Do not rely on the fact that you were born into a Christian family, and that you are attending church, that you are reading the Bible or that you are giving your tithe. All of this does not help if you are carrying on with your rebellion against God and His will. God's announcement is unmistakable: *Turn from your wicked ways!* God does not like superficiality in the churches. God wants true Christianity. God desires people who attend church because they want to meet Him.

God's word and God's standards are still up-to-date. God's word is still truer than reality. It is true! And when you are living according to God's word, you will gain victory. If you are taking God by His word and turn around, if you are living according to the word, something will happen.

Today many sins are trivialized. Sins mentioned in the Bible are interpreted to be no sin at all. For some people it is more important what so-and-so has said than what God is saying. One of the many arguments is that we are living in different times – the twenty-first century, that we are living in the post-modern era. God does not care whether you are living in post-modern times or whether you are an enlightened person. His word is the criterion! Everything that is not according to the word is sin. It is sad that even Christians today do not know this fact.

Christians must repent from the bottom of their hearts, once again. We know much more than we are  willing to obey. The Holy Spirit is talking to us and is warning us about sin. If you  decide to go against the voice of the Holy Spirit, you are sinning. Today God is invoking you: *Turn from your wicked ways! Let revival come.*

Turn from your
wicked ways! Let
revival come.





GOD WILL DO SOMETHING

GOD IS NOT HARD OF HEARING

God is not hard of hearing. He wants to hear from heaven. Heaven is the place where the glory of God is, where revival is already happening. It is the place of power. Heaven is where God lives with His full potential and all

His might. He is saying: *I will hear from heaven and I will do something.* He has all the power and He wants to utilize it gladly, if we repent.

If we Christians humble ourselves and if we pray, God will listen. Maybe I am de-

If revival does not arrive, God is not to blame!

stroying your concept about revival. I actually hope to do so. I emphasize: If revival does not arrive, God is not to

blame! What a perverted picture of God do some Christians have in their minds: *God has revival in heaven but He does not want to give any of it to us. Stingy God!!* However it is not up to God. It is up to us. God is not hard of hearing!

He Will Forgive Your Sins

God is promising to get down to the root of the problem. He is promising: *I will forgive your sins.* This is the gospel! Jesus is forgiving sins! Jesus is still forgiving sins, as His blood has still got the power. When I laid claim on the blood last time, it was still working! Today it is still working! You only have to confess your

sins, and the blood of Jesus cleanses you. As easy as that! One confession – and forgiveness is happening. The broken relationship with God is restored.

Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. (Is 59:1-2)

God does not want separation! He is saying: *You have separated yourselves from me!* God is not guilty, but our wrongdoings, the sins of His people. Sins are disturbing the communication, but Jesus has removed this obstacle.

And with this I am turning to the best topic: Jesus Christ! Without Jesus I would most probably be somewhere in a

This is the best news: Jesus Christ forgives.

drug rehab center or somewhere in the gutters. But because Jesus hung on the cross, died and paid for my sins, I am now who I am. This is the best news: Jesus Christ forgives. Maybe you are saying: *My sins are so big, I am so embarrassed.* Still God is forgiving! He is full

of grace. He wants to forgive you! He wants to cleanse you.

Today, be honest with yourself and ask for forgiveness. He has paid for all sins. When Jesus hung on the cross and when His blood was streaming down, He said: *It is finished!* And with this He broke the neck of every sin. He shattered every curse. He broke every yoke. Every sin was forgiven. Even the sins of the future – you may believe it or not – Jesus has paid for all.

By the way: All your sins were still in the future at the time of the atonement. They have been paid for already at that time! Today you may come to Him and say: *Father, I have sinned against you, please forgive me.* God will forgive you! God will not condemn you. He wants to forgive!

He Will Heal Your Land

God does not only forgive, but He also heals. After He has forgiven His people, He will heal the land. Yes, of course the tomatoes, and the potatoes, and the birds, and the fish will also be healed. Revival has an actual impact on the vegetation. But this is not what it is about. God wants to heal the country: the politics, the

economy, the whole society. Families, communities, relationships restored. Where God appears, where Jesus is arriving, there is healing. There is salvation! His name is Jesus, and Jesus means savior! Where He appears miracles happen.

He wants to save your children, your finances, and your business. Jesus is the savior! Hallelujah! He has paid for everything, every sin and every illness, so that it may bring honor to Him. *For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! (Rom 11:36)*

You can start today to provoke revival. Humble yourself before God, repent, seek His face. Turn from your wicked ways. God will forgive your sins and will begin to heal your land. Bodily healing is part of it. He will heal your bones, your pancreas, your right ear, or your left knee. When God heals the land and His presence comes back into the land, then the locusts burn up! Then the plague must move, because healing has been released. Then God's rain is pouring! Then the Holy Spirit comes with new power and in new glory! Are you ready?



CONCLUSION

Now it is your turn to implement the read material and to start provoking revival in your area. If you humble yourself before God today, pray, seek His presence, and turn from your wicked ways, God will cause revival at your home and in your environment. He will heal illnesses, chase away demons, and send refreshment. This all is available to you today:

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. (Lk 11:9-10)

Now, you might say: *It is easy for you to preach. I have tried it so many times. I have prayed and nothing happened. I have knocked at heaven's door, but nobody has opened.* If you are honest, you will admit that you have been through such times.

However, this promise of God is not a general promise – so as if you could ask for anything and receive it. No, this is a specific promise for something very specific. If you ask God for it today, He will answer you. God

is restricting this promise to something specific and promises to always answer. What does this promise imply? Jesus says:

Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? (Lk 11:11-12)

No father would do that.

If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! (Lk 11:13)

God promises us to give us Holy Spirit, if we ask Him! And the prayer for Holy Spirit will always be answered.

In the original language verse 13 reads: ... *how much more will your Father in heaven give Holy Spirit to those who ask him!* It is not about receiving **the Holy Spirit** just once, but about receiving **Holy Spirit**. It is not about receiving the Holy Spirit as a person, as it happens when you are born again. At that point the Holy Spirit enters your body. But God's promise here goes beyond that. He promises to

give Holy Spirit time and again, whenever you ask Him.

In the same way Apostle Paul writes: *Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit (Eph 5:18)*. In the original Greek text it is very clear: We have to be constantly filled and re-filled with Holy Spirit. Paul is saying with other words: *Get constantly filled with Holy Spirit, over and over again*. So if you are asking today for more Holy Spirit, God will give you more Holy Spirit. And this is for everybody, including you – every time, now!

When the rain, yes the streams of the Holy Spirit are coming, then you will be healed and delivered from demons. The healing of the land starts with you!

The Lord appeared to him at night and said: “I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a temple for sacrifices. “When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven,

and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place. I have chosen and consecrated this temple so that my Name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.

(2 Chr 7:12-16)

¹ „Heuschreckenplage“, <http://www.geolinde.musin.de/afrika/html/tafirkheuschreck1.htm>, 09.10.2011, 19:20, translated by Margit Kresin.



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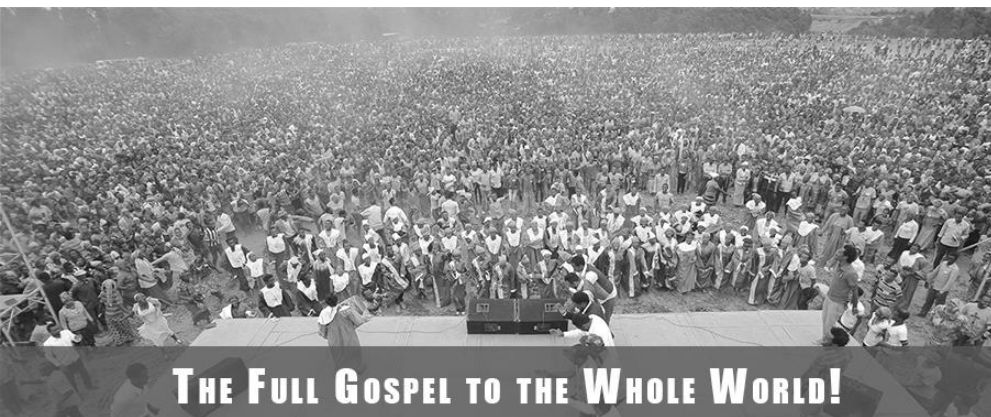
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