

PRESCRIPTION FOR REVIVAL

“I can give you a prescription that will bring revival – revival to any church, or community, or any city on earth.”

R. A. Torrey’s “prescription”

included three basic requirements:

“First, let a few Christians get thoroughly right with God. If this is not done, the rest will come to nothing.

“Second, let them bind themselves together to pray for revival until God opens the windows of heaven and comes down.

“Third, let them put themselves at the disposal of God for His use as He sees fit in winning others to Christ.

“That is all. I have given this prescription around the world...and in no instance has it failed. It cannot fail.”

Read that first condition again:

“Let a few Christians get thoroughly right with God.” Let’s face it – this is what we are so reluctant to do! “Getting thoroughly right with God” means not only being sure of our salvation as forgiven sinners, but being sure of our fellowship with God as friends and saints. It means never to retain a grudge against anyone, forgiving “until seventy times seven.” It means always speaking the truth; experiencing even righteous indignation without giving way to anger, or allowing Satan any advantage over us when we are angry. It means never taking property of others, including theft of their good name by repetition of gossip. It means to use our power of speech to edify, not corrupt. It means that we do not grieve God’s indwelling Spirit by bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, evil speaking or malice. It means kindness toward others, with tenderness of heart, forgiving and forgiving and forgiving again, as God for Christ’s sake has forgiven us (Eph. 4:25-32).

“Getting thoroughly right with God” demands ruthless examination of ourselves and honest confession of sin, both to God and to any person sinned against. Only then will “our heart condemn us not”; only then will we have “confidence toward God.” Only then will we know that “whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight” (1 John 3:21-22).