



God's  
Message  
to this  
Generation

**RAY BRUBAKER**

# **GOD'S NEWS...BEHIND THE NEWS**

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# Introduction

**What did the Early Church Fathers believe and practice concerning the infilling of the Holy Spirit?**

**And what about Moody, Torrey, A.J. Gordon, F.B. Meyer and other great men whom God used in a mighty way? What was their belief concerning the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**

**This became my personal study following an experience that I shall relate in the last chapter of this booklet.**

**For years I had sensed a need of the Holy Spirit's ministry in my life. I had been taught that at salvation you received the baptism of the Holy Spirit but my experience was to prove otherwise.**

**A.J. Gordon, the noted Bible expositor, once declared: "It seems clear from the Scriptures that it is still the duty and privilege of believers to receive the Holy Spirit by a conscious, definite act of appropriating faith, just as they received Christ."**

**I did not agree with this theology until one night the Lord met me in a most wonderful way. In desperation, following a serious illness, I not only experienced the miracle of healing but received the infilling of the Holy Spirit such as I had never known before. That was 15 years ago and I relate it humbly and sincerely in order that others likewise may hunger for this enduement of power from on high.**

**This booklet is written to encourage sincere and genuine seeking for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. We believe the answer to life's many problems and needs is found in full surrender to the will of God and in receiving the infilling of His Spirit.**

**Remembering that God has promised to pour out of His Spirit in the Last Days, and believing Pentecost offered only a partial fulfilment of the prophecy, we would hope as you read and study this booklet your heart will become hungry and you will seek to be filled with the Spirit.**

**This we believe to be GOD'S MESSAGE TO THIS GENERATION.**

Radio Evangelist - Ray Brubaker

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# God's Message To This Generation



In Salt Lake City, a group calling itself **CITIZENS FOR DECENCY** has vowed not to buy the sun tan lotion seen advertised by scantily-clad, almost-nude bathers on billboards. The 500-member group calls these signs along our highways an "infringement on personal privacy" since the public cannot avoid viewing them.

Well, this is the **LUST** generation.

Listen to the lyrics of some of the popular "rock" and "soul" music and you will find **LUST** extolled as a virtue. What the world calls "love" is often in reality "lust."

Observe the sordid themes of an increasing number of recent motion pictures and you will find incest, lesbianism, homosexuality and other forms of unlawful exhibitions of lust. The Bible speaks of the awful judgment coming upon those who, through the lusts of their own hearts, "dishonour their own bodies between themselves." (Rom. 1:24)

Dr. Carl McIntyre asks the question—"Why does God warn against the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life?" He answers: "Because that is the realm where Satan rules, the realm that pulls man down into misery and degradation and ruin." Thus **LUST** is a cancer eating into our society and fast bringing about its destruction.

An article in the **BANNER OF TRUTH** comments on the words of Jesus when He warned: "Whosoever looketh upon a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." (Matt. 5:28)

Notes this periodical, "Whether on the streets, in vehicles of public transportation, or in places of assembly—including that of the church—one must deliberately and continuously avert his eyes to avoid being confronted with displays of feminine flesh...The flagrant impudence which attends this glorying in their shame is a shocking revelation of the spiritual rebellion and moral decadence of modern women."

And this publication goes on to point out that although it is forbidden for man to look lustfully upon a woman, the woman is often to blame for those who are today so enticed. Addressing the women, this article states: "If you persist in so exhibiting yourself as to incite the lust of men (and that is what you are doing with your sinfully-short dresses it notes), you are partaker with the man in his evil deed when he is prompted to lust after you."

**Ah, yes, this is the LUST generation.**

**Then, we believe this to be the LOST generation. We read of Rock Festivals attracting thousands of teenagers who, in defiance of the law, engage in heavy use of drugs, open sex, along with nudity and obscenity.**

**ROCK CELEBRATORS AT WATKINS GLEN**



**A 44-year-old doctor who has attended these festivals said that he just couldn't take much more of what he was seeing take place at these affairs. Having treated thousands of kids who wind up on bad trips, he noted,—“When you hold in your arms a couple hundred kids who are out of their minds, who want to be dead—if you care about them, you just can't take it again.”**

**This doctor went on to suggest—“The kids at rockfests are saying, ‘You don't want us. We're really not a part of what you are. You've never really listened to us or taken us into your society.’ ”**

**Disillusioned, many young people don't feel they can turn to the church for Christ is seldom mentioned and the gospel is not preached in many of our modern churches today.**

**An article in the NATIONAL OBSERVER says one teen related how youth feel lost in today's world and indicated 90 percent would drop out of the church if they could.**

Writing the newspaper, a 19-year-old told how he joined the Navy but found only one shipmate confessing faith in Christ, with the rest largely confused. He blamed the Church for stressing denominations, or teaching religion, without preaching Christ.

This is the LOST generation that seemingly cannot find its way...seeking, searching but not discovering reality, which comes through life in Christ.

Freaked out on dope, and disillusioned by sex, many are finding too late the hopelessness and helplessness of the life they are living. The "simple" life they had hoped for has become the "sinful" life. Though this is the LOST generation, Jesus said He came to seek and to save that which is lost.

Then, this is the LAST generation.

There is a generation of which it is said, "Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts." Incidentally, the word for sorceries is "pharmakia" from which we get our word "drugs."

Unless God sends a revival, I believe this to be the LAST generation. As an article in THE MIDNIGHT CRY magazine states: "The youth of today as no other generation that ever lived need our prayers for unless saved they will face the great tribulation with all its terror and will meet a tragic end..." An editorial in CHRISTIANITY TODAY similarly warns that "Ours is the generation"—declaring "in another generation it may be too late for salvage and perhaps for salvation."

That we do not believe there will be another generation is based on the testimony of Jesus Himself. In the parable of the fig tree, believed to represent the resurrection of Israel as a nation, our Lord declared, "Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass till all these things be done." (Mk. 13:30)

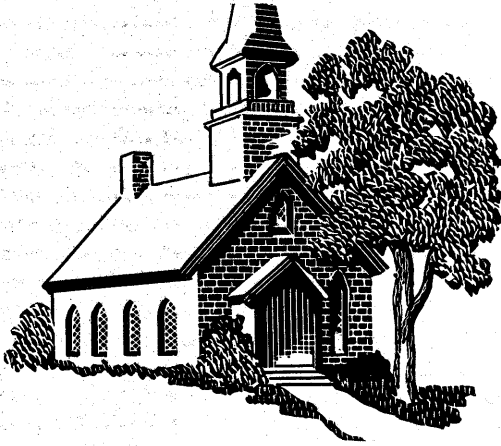
In other words, it is believed that those now living who have seen the rebirth of the state of Israel will likewise see the coming of Christ with awful days of great tribulation ahead because of man's sin.

However, living in this time of history can be the greatest and most exciting event of all the ages as we await the coming of our Blessed Lord.

If we will only "keep the faith" and be found looking for Christ's soon appearing, we can be ready when He comes.

In view of this being the LUST generation, the LOST generation and the LAST generation, we would urge you today to turn to Christ while there is still opportunity to be saved. Stop serving Satan to serve the Saviour. Then live for Christ every day, loving Him and looking for His coming. For He hath said, "Be ye therefore ready also for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh!"

# What Does It Mean To Be Saved?



An article in **THE PRESBYTERIAN JOURNAL** states: "The Christian Church is in serious trouble. Many of the larger denominations are torn by internal dissension, membership is declining, contributions are falling off, retrenchment is the order of the day, and the future is clouded with uncertainty and confusion."

Similarly, Philadelphia's leading journal, **THE INQUIRER**, offers the same conclusion that "organized religion is in a severe state of decline in America."

That judgment is supported by the editor of the **YEARBOOK OF AMERICAN CHURCHES**, who states that he "had never seen such a massive decline..the most serious downturn in organized religion in decades."

What is the reason for our dilemma? If there is any single reason which far outweighs all others—it is the failure of the church to speak out against sin and to present the message of salvation from sin through our Lord Jesus Christ.

As Dr. C. Darby Fulton testifies: "It is the mission of the Church to make the remedy known to all, to preach the Gospel to every creature, that those who are lost might know Him who said, "Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth!"

I recall a service in a trailer park in Lakeland, Florida, where we emphasized the need of being saved. We related how "all are lost in sin" and how Christ came to save us. We quoted such verses as "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved," and "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

A lady who attended that meeting had never heard this gospel, though its message is recorded throughout the Word of God. And going from trailer to trailer, she reported that no one knew what it meant to be saved.

## 1. It means to be FOUND, having been lost.

In Luke 15 our Lord gives three illustrations to show what it means to be lost and found. He relates how a shepherd had a hundred sheep but one was lost. What rejoicing when it was found!

### a. The Lost Sheep.

General Garibaldi met a Sardinian shepherd who reported the loss of a lamb from his flock and was in great distress because he could not find it. The general proposed to his men that they search the mountains and help find the lost lamb. Eagerly, with lanterns, the men set forth and soon returned, their search in vain. Next morning it was found that Garibaldi slept longer than usual. His servant at length aroused him. The general, rubbing his eyes from the all-night search, reached under his bed to produce the lamb. This is how Christ searches until He finds. As long as one is lost, He doesn't give up. If you are lost, He is searching for you. "For the Son of man came to seek and to save that which is lost."



### b. The Lost Coin

As we consider money to be of value and great importance, the Lord considers a soul of greater importance. "For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul!"

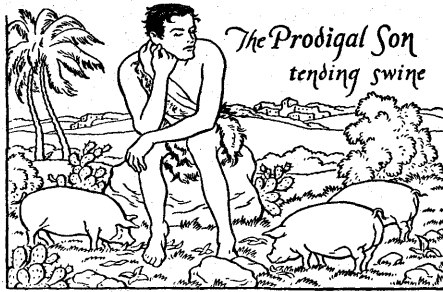
### c. The Lost Son.

This is the story of the first recorded "hippie." An Illinois pastor notes: "Years ago during boyhood days, some persons sought a livelihood without working for it. These people were called "tramps, vagrants, hoboes, and bums!" Today, he notes, "We are plagued with the same breed of parasites, but under a different name. Today these people call themselves, 'hippies, yippies!'"

Well, our Lord relates how this boy asked his Dad for the money that was coming to him as part of his inheritance. The son then took a trip to a far country and lived it up, spending all he had. A famine drove him to seek something to eat and he wound up attending pigs for a hog farmer who would not allow him to share the husks that the pigs ate.

Realizing his father was a wealthy man, he decided to head for home and see if Dad would welcome him. Sure enough, when Dad saw him coming in his filthy rags, he ran to meet him, hugged him and kissed him. For said he, "This my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found."





Dr. Vance Havner remarked: "If the prodigal son would have lived today he would have applied for government aid instead of going back to his father's house."

But the truth of the lesson our Lord taught was that no matter how far a man wanders into sin, so great is God's love to reach him if he will only come to himself.

Recently I read of a drunk who socked a policeman in the mouth while under the influence of alcohol. He had been taken to jail and after being released happened to walk past the policeman on the street whose face was still bandaged from the blow. "My, you're a nice man when you're sober," commented the policeman. The man who had been drunk had expected hateful, venomous retaliation. When kindness and love was shown, he decided never to get drunk again, and has since stayed sober.

Yes, like the loving Father in the parable of the prodigal son, who showed love to his son, so God shows love to those who are truly repentant—truly sorry, and who will accept His salvation.

This is what it means to be FOUND.



2. To be saved means to be FORGIVEN.

The greatest example of forgiveness is that of our Lord, who was brutally treated, beaten with a cat-o-nine tails until his back was bloody, and then nailed to a cross, which was dropped into the ground with a

thud causing excruciating unbearable pain. We're told no pain is as dreadful as that of crucifixion. It was on that cross that our Lord could say, "Father, forgive them..."

**What is your guilt?**

Linda Kasabian, testifying in the Charles Manson trial, gave evidence of being repentant over the murders in which she was an accomplice. If truly sincere, and turning to Jesus Christ for forgiveness, even if guilty of such vile and hideous deeds, one can be forgiven. This is because of the grace of God. God, who is not willing that any should perish, will forgive all who come, accepting Christ's death on the cross for their forgiveness.

I read of one who had a vision of Satan standing before the throne of God, and saying: "Why hast thou condemned me, who have offended thee but once, whilst thou savest thousands of men who have offended thee thousands of times?" That always has been an interesting question—Why God should condemn the devil to hell while giving man an opportunity to repent and be forgiven when he sins?

In the vision, it was as though the Lord asked Satan, "Hast thou once asked pardon of me?" It was pride that caused Satan to sin. Our Lord may have known that pride, having conquered, would never permit the devil to humble himself and even seek forgiveness and thus condemned him to the pit. But man can truly find forgiveness if he will really seek it. In 1 John 1:9 we're told: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Did you hear it?

Yes, if you are determined to forsake your sin, though having failed God in a moment of extreme weakness, there is forgiveness through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. For we read, "The blood of Jesus Christ...cleanseth us from all sin." (1 John 1:7)

As we have been forgiven, so we are to forgive others, holding no grudge against anyone.

One dear elderly sister in her nineties called me to say she couldn't pray the Lord's prayer where it says, "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." But, O, that we might have that spirit of forgiveness where we are willing to turn the other cheek, accept wrong doing, and forgive freely.

It was said of Henry Ward Beecher, the great preacher, that he had an enemy who hated him, and wouldn't go across the street to hear him preach. Beecher, however, wasn't happy until he could do something good for anyone who had tried to hurt or offend him, and soon he won this man.

In fact, when Beecher preached in Brooklyn it became known as something of a whimsical proverb, "If you want a favor from Beecher, kick him."

How we need this message of forgiveness. It was Krushchev who once testified that he did not go for Christ's doctrine of turning the other cheek when someone hits you. Rather, he said, his philosophy was to hit back twice as hard.

So you see, unless you have the love of Christ implanted in your heart, unless you have been forgiven of your sins, it may be totally foreign to accept this idea of forgiveness as taught by Jesus. But as He forgave

freely His worst enemies, even while suffering from their ignominious tortures on the cross, so let us forgive any and all who would do us harm or hurt.

### 3. To be saved also means to be FILLED.

Now, some may question whether it is important and necessary to be "filled with the Spirit" once we have come to Christ and found forgiveness.

They ask—what lack I yet? Is there more to salvation than what I experienced when my sins were washed away, and I felt so pure and clean?

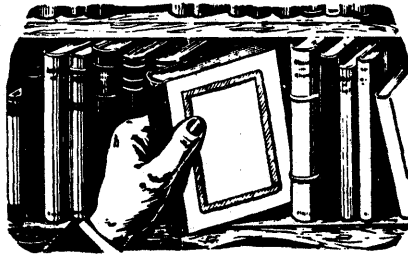
Indeed, there is. And this is in no way a reflection upon the death of Christ as though it were not sufficient. Rather, as Christ's death paid for sin and release from guilt—so the infilling of the Spirit is needed to give power so we do not return to a life of sin.

It was Vance Havner who noted: "There is something lacking among Bible Christians today. If you are aware of it, I need not describe it; if you are not aware of it, you would not understand if I did describe it. You may call it the 'filling of the Spirit,' full surrender, consecration, the victorious life, revival. Whatever it is," says Havner, "most of us haven't it!"

Andrew Murray once exhorted: "Brother, what we need is to pray in the name of Christ, to ask that we may receive that our joy may be full for the BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST!" Did you hear it?

John MacNeil, the Scottish Evangelist, once remarked: "Full salvation consists in receiving the promise of the Spirit in addition to being justified."

Even A.J. Gordon, the noted Bible Scholar, testified to the necessity of receiving the Holy Spirit in a definite experience. Listen. Says Gordon: "It seems clear from the Scriptures that it is still the duty and privilege of believers to receive the Holy Spirit by a conscious, definite act of appropriating faith, just as they received Jesus Christ."



Well, this isn't generally taught today but nevertheless it was the teaching of these oldtimers. And they must have known it by experience or they wouldn't have taught it. For I find those who haven't experienced the infilling of the Spirit doubt it, while those who have experienced it know it is real.

And you can know it. Jonathan Goforth, the great missionary, wrote: "No one can possess such a baptism without knowing it!"

**O, today get alone in your room. Seek this fulness of the Holy Spirit so that you will have oil in your vessels sufficient to keep you ready for the day of the coming bridegroom.**

**Is your lamp going out? Do you sense a lack in your spiritual life? Is there shallowness in your testimony? Lack of victory in your soul? Hear me, you need to be filled with the Holy Spirit.**

**It was F.B. Meyer who encouraged believers to seek this fulness, saying: "The PENTECOSTAL FULLNESS, THE ENDUEMENT OF POWER, THE BAPTISM OF FIRE are all within our reach. Let us be inspired with a holy ambition to get all that our God is willing to bestow."**

**How can one be filled with the Spirit?**

**First, we need to be emptied of sin and self. As Moody put it: "If God were to fill us as we are we would become vain as peacocks." Notes Moody: "The secret of the Holy Spirit coming in power to the believer is the individual's complete surrender to the Saviour."**

**Hear it! Nothing is worth holding to in this life if you want this fulness of the Spirit. Your pride must go, and your heart must be willing to obey God, whether it means making a wrong right, asking forgiveness of someone you offended, or changing your wardrobe with modest attire. I'm reminded of the time when Mary and the disciples attended that first marriage in Cana of Galilee where Jesus turned the water into wine. On that occasion Mary said to the servants, "Whatever Jesus tells you to do, DO IT." When they obeyed the Lord, the water became wine. When you obey God in every area of your life where the Holy Spirit is speaking to you, God will pour out of His Spirit upon you. We read, "He giveth the Holy Ghost unto them that obey him," and don't forget it. Even in Prov. 1:23 we read: "Turn ye at my reproof and I will pour out my Spirit upon you."**

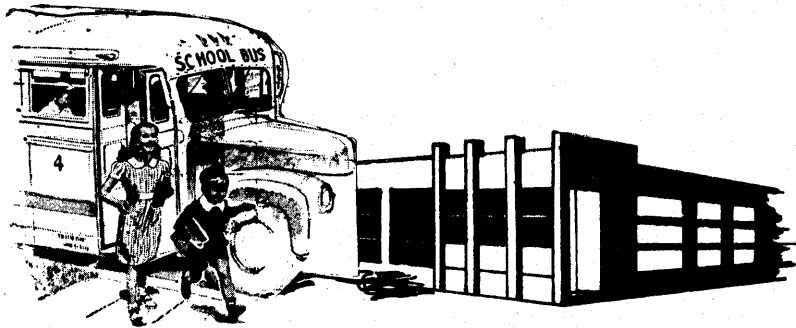
**Our trouble is we want to continue sinning and pray a little prayer "Lord, forgive me" and think that takes care of our problem. No, we must forsake sin, turn from sin, if we are to receive the fulness of God's Spirit.**

**We would close by relating what Catherine Booth, wife of the famous general, said concerning this infilling of the Holy Spirit. She wrote: "God never gives the gift of the Holy Spirit to any human soul who has not come to the point where he would sell all he had to obtain it."**

**Oh, today surrender all to Christ and let Him invoke the Spirit of God to come and take control in your life. For this is what it means to be filled with the Spirit. And this is what it means to be ready for our Lord's return.**

**For He hath said: "Be ye therefore ready also for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."**

# Be Filled With The Spirit



Without question there are those who are out to tear down and destroy what has taken decades to produce—a system of education that once honored God but today is largely void of spiritual or moral truth.

These sinister forces not only include extremist elements bent on violence, but destructive forces using sex and drugs to break down all moral resistance in preparation for a takeover by those who oppose our freedoms and our democratic way of life.

Among the questionable practices would seem this issue of forced busing. While it may be in keeping with an interpretation of the constitution to provide for racial equality, it does not seem to be in the best interests of any group except the agitators and insurrectionists to promote forced busing of children simply to maintain or achieve racial balance.

The DENVER POST carried this observation by a teenage high school senior who observes: "It is true that today there is a large amount of racial discrimination and this discrimination is felt within our society." But, this student writes, "I do not feel that busing students from one school district to another will help eliminate racial prejudice. Instead, I feel that by busing students from a predominantly Negro school to a predominantly white one, will only aid the racial discrimination, distrust and hatred now apparent."

While we do not want to become embroiled with political issues, nor do we wish to entertain controversy over racial issues, we feel we have an obligation to speak out to Christians everywhere to seek their cooperation in making the best of a deteriorating and critical situation that has come to our public schools.

Although the Supreme Court may have ruled prayer and Bible reading out of the schools, it cannot prevent Christian parents and young people from giving an effective Christian witness and testimony at times like these when hatreds and animosities are stirred as a result of what is happening in the public schools.

It seems to us that the school can become an effective opportunity for Christian witness. Rather than isolate ourselves from such opportunities of witnessing we should welcome them. Christian students and Christian teachers are needed. For our Lord spoke of His followers as the "salt of the earth" to give preservation to our society, and He emphasized we are "lights" in the world to show clearly the way to God.

By way of personal testimony, I recall when I was a student going to high school how I boarded the bus with another young man who was wild and worldly. I was told this young man later returned to a high school alumni gathering and publicly related the influence I had had on his life which later led him to become a Christian.

We never know what influence we will have on others if we will only live the life that honors Christ. Show love to everyone regardless of the color of skin or race, and go out of your way to be friendly, and when the opportunity presents itself, give a firm witness for Christ.

The need of the hour is for students to show their elders they can live a Christian testimony, being filled with the Spirit of God instead of filled with malice, hatred and ill will.

For the fruit of the Spirit is "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, kindness..." Against such there is no law.

The public school has become a target for dope pushers and all kinds of abuses are creeping in under the guise of modern education.

However, Christian kids must learn to maintain their witness and live for Christ wherever they are, and realize the school is as great a mission field as if they were sent to Africa or India. This does not mean in defiance of the law we should hold street meetings on the school lawn, but it does mean that in scores of ways we can exemplify the true Christian witness and show forth the Spirit of Christ.

Without question, needed today is a vital relationship with Christ so that we are willing to be His disciples. And needed is a baptism of the Holy Spirit so that we can show forth the fruits of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, which are foreign entities in today's world.

While we do not agree with all of the practices of the past, nor do we believe the Holy Spirit has a set formula in which to work, we do believe the greatest need of Christians today is to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

For instance, there are those who stress Acts 2:38 where Peter said: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." Did you hear it?

This was believed and practiced during centuries since Pentecost. For instance, PACIANUS, who died in 390, wrote: "In baptism our sins are cleansed, in confirmation the Spirit is poured upon us."

Later, around 800 A.D., RAVANUS MAURUS similarly reported: "In baptism the baptized was anointed on the top of the head, in confirmation on the forehead; by that was signified that the Holy Ghost was preparing a habitation for Himself."

GREGORY, writing around A.D. 370, noted that the laying on of hands for the Holy Spirit was done as a form of identity to identify us as belonging to Christ. Wrote Gregory: "We therefore call it a seal or signature, as being a guard and custody to us, and a sign of the Lord's dominion over us."

It was common among the early Christians to speak of this sealing of the Spirit. Paul, writing to the Ephesians, notes that after they believed they were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise. (Eph. 1:13)

The ceremony of anointing with oil became a practice which was known as a "sealing"! It also became known as a confirmation.

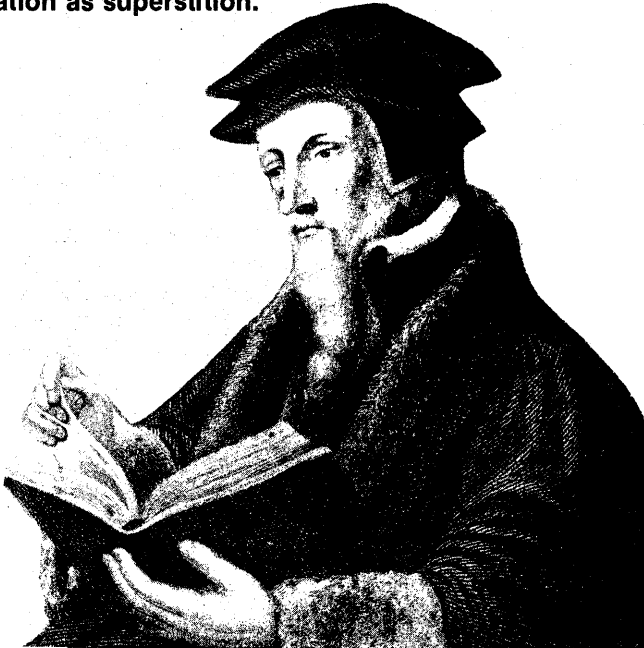
**FIRMILIAN** and **AMBROSE** are among those who first used the word "confirm" or "confirmation" to describe the laying on of hands to receive the Holy Spirit. This ceremony has largely been maintained through the centuries of the Christian era by the Eastern churches and sects, and also by the Roman Catholic Church and the early sects in the West.

Incidentally, it was a quarrel concerning the anointing oil used in this ceremony which led to the division of the Catholic Church into what are now commonly called the Greek and the Roman. For a long time the Greeks obtained the anointing oil blessed by the Bishop of Rome, who on account of Rome being the leading city of the world, became recognized as head of the church. When gold and similar gifts were demanded in exchange for the anointing oil, the Greeks then rejected the authority of the Bishop of Rome and began to consecrate their own oil, and since that time the two groups remain.

The laying on of hands to receive the Holy Spirit became an active part of church ritual.

**AECYNEBUYS**, in the 10th century, referred to this act as "telio teta" or perfection. No doubt, this was in recognition of the Holy Ghost being given for the "perfecting of the saints." (Eph. 4:12)

However, Calvin and the Reformers recognized this as more of a religious ritual than as a meaningful ministry of the Holy Spirit. While acknowledging the custom of praying for converts to be filled with the Holy Spirit was derived from the apostles, Calvin saw this practice of confirmation as superstition.



Let us quote from his comments on Hebrews 6:2, where we read of the principles of the doctrine of Christ. We have letters from those wanting to know what we believe. Well, here is the Bible's own summation concerning what is referred to as the principles of the doctrine of Christ—mainly, repentance, faith, baptisms, laying on of hands, the resurrection and eternal judgment.

Referring here to the laying on of hands, CALVIN notes: "This one passage abundantly testifies that this rite had its beginning from the apostles, which afterwards, however, was turned into superstition, as the world almost always degenerates into corruptions..." Calvin did go on to suggest—"the pure institution at this day ought to be retained, but the superstition ought to be removed."

Later it was WESLEY who sought to restore the Biblical doctrine of prayer for the Holy Spirit under the name of Sanctification.

So there you have something of the picture of this practice which originated in the early church but largely degenerated into a superstitious rite. However, in more recent times we are seeing a revival of interest in the Holy Spirit's ministry. In various denominations, along with churches where the "receiving of the Holy Spirit" is practiced as a religious rite, there is often accompanying evidence. Those who earnestly desire to receive the Holy Spirit are filled with a sense of ecstacy and given to worship praise and witnessing.

What is the explanation?

From personal observation we believe it is in answer to the hunger found in the hearts of those seeking to know God better, and to fill an unsatisfied longing which is met when this Pentecostal fullness is experienced.

But we also believe it is in fulfilment of the prophecy of Joel, who forecast for the last days an outpouring of the Spirit upon all flesh.

Thus, what we are seeing today is in answer to this prophecy, for Joel relates this outpouring to the days when "the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon into blood, before the terrible day of the Lord come." (Joel 2:28-31)

D.M. Panton observes: "Throughout the Prophets, no prediction of the Spirit's action is more precise, more positive, than Joel's forecast of a double Pentecost, the Christian dispensation clasped at both ends like a jewel, in a bracelet of miracle."

Similarly, Dean Alford says of Joel's prophecy: "It is not the first coming of Christ, which interpretation would run counter to the whole tenor of the Apostle's application of the prophecy; but clearly His second coming."

Indeed, what tremendous days in which to live when God has promised—not a trickle, but an outpouring of His Spirit, the promise is not to a mere few but upon all flesh—all who are willing to receive.

How thrilling to read of the account of Peter's visit to the house of Cornelius where he began expounding the message of salvation. Peter had just finished declaring how through faith in Jesus Christ there would come remission of sins, when we read, "While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the Word."

What tremendous opportunity is ours behind this microphone. And it is with the same feeling that we believe there are those of you listening



**who are hungry for the Spirit of God to come into your heart and life. While listening...believe...receive!**

**F.B. Meyer relates attending a prayer meeting and hearing a discourse on the Holy Spirit. He cried out as he walked from that service, saying: "O my God, if there is a man who needs the power of the Holy Ghost to rest upon him it is I; but I do not know how to receive Him. I am too tired, too worn, too nervously down to agonize."**

**It was as a voice said to him, "As you took forgiveness from the hand of the dying Christ, take the Holy Ghost from the hand of the living Christ."**

**F.B. Meyer goes on to relate: "I turned to Christ and said, 'Lord, I breathe in this whiff of warm night air, so I breathe into every part of me Thy blessed Spirit.' " He observes: "I felt no hand laid upon my head, there was no lambent flame, there was no rushing sound from heaven; but by faith, without emotion, without excitement, I took, and took for the first time, and I have been taking ever since."**

**The Greek word for Spirit is the word "breath" or PNEUMA. So, as F.B. Meyer did breathe in this breath from God, allow the Holy Spirit to come in and control your life and fill your every being. Resolve to love Him with all your heart, and serve Him faithfully. Every day ask His help and guidance and allow Him to control your mind, thoughts and emotions. This is what it means to be "filled with the Holy Spirit"—to be controlled by God Himself. The more you yield of yourself to Him, the more He will take control.**

**Believe it, try it, and you will see. If your heart is anxious, and your spirit is willing, and you are ready...God will honor His Word, and He will fill you with His Spirit.**

**But the tense of the verb indicates the infilling of the Spirit is not only an act but a continuing process. The verse actually admonishes us—"Be ye constantly filled with the Spirit." That is, we need the daily, hourly control of the Spirit of God in our lives. So we should have as our constant prayer—"Lord, guide me and control my life and keep me ready should you come today!"**

**Indeed, "Be ye ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh!"**

# Receive Ye The Holy Ghost

Various magazines are quoting Scripture to indicate that man, whom God created, and gave dominion over his environment, seemingly isn't doing a very good job.

For instance, NEWSWEEK comments: "For those raised in the Judea-Christian tradition, the Book of Genesis taught that man was created in the image of God, who gave him 'dominion over the fish of the sea, and the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth.'" Man was the lord and nature was his subject.

An editorial in CHRISTIANITY TODAY similarly quotes Genesis 1:28 where God said to the man and woman whom He created: "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it..." This magazine goes on to say: "Mankind has prospered, and filled the earth," but notes, "there is serious concern that he also has abused the legacy of God's goodness bestowed at the Creation."

While it is true that to man was given control of this earth, it is also true that man is to be in subjection himself to a higher power—to God. This is what the Scripture means when it says—"Be not drunk with wine...but be filled (or controlled) by the Spirit."

Man has been able to control the beasts of the field. Even the lion can be tamed to do amazing feats and be in subjection to its trainer.

I remember hearing a minister relate how he was making a call at a certain farmhouse. To save time he cut across a field since he was walking. Unaware of what was happening, he hadn't noticed coming toward him was a mad, ugly bull. It was too late to turn back so he addressed the bull, saying: "Mr. Bull, I am a servant of the Most High God." With that, the bull stopped, turned around and walked away.

Well, that indicates something of the dominion that God has placed within man, particularly the believer who oftentimes escapes harm because of his trust in the Lord. Jesus said to His disciples, "I give you power over all of the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt you." (Luke 19:10) Did you hear it? What a verse to claim when met by a vicious dog or surprised by a rattlesnake.

And yet, the Apostle Paul, bitten by a deadly viper, simply cast it into the fire. The townspeople who looked on expected him to suddenly expire, but when he did not die they marvelled and thought him to be a god.

When God comes into our lives, and controls us by the Holy Spirit, we do possess power to overcome forces which would oppose us. For Jesus said, "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." (1 John 4:4)

When Christ comes into our lives we have a power from above, and through the Holy Spirit we are in possession of an anointing from God, which is one of the blessings we enjoy in living the Christian life.

THEOPHILUS, writing around 170 A.D., notes that the word "Christian" was really derived from the Greek word for oil (CHRISM), and means "anointed one," and refers to the fact that the followers of Christ were anointed with the Holy Spirit.

**TERTULLIAN**, in the second century, relates how following baptism there was the anointing with oil and invocation to receive the Holy Spirit was made. Writes Tertullian: "The Baptized, when they came up out of the bath, are anointed with the holy oil, and then the hand is laid upon them with the invocation of the Holy Spirit." Again he notes: "In baptism we do not receive the Holy Ghost, but being cleansed...we are disposed for the Holy Spirit under the hand of the minister."

Sometime following Pentecost we read where this laying on of hands to receive the Holy Ghost was practiced. In Acts 8:14 we read: "Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God they sent unto them Peter and John, who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost."

Here we have those who received the Lord Jesus Christ, but who in addition had an impartation of the Holy Ghost through the laying on of hands.

**URBAN the First**, one of the earliest bishops of Rome, around 225 A.D. says: "All faithful people ought to receive the Holy Spirit by imposition of the bishop's hand after baptism."

**CYPRIAN**, writing about the same time, relates how officials of the church would pray for the newly converted and baptized to be filled with the Spirit! He comments upon this passage in Acts 8 which we just read, saying: "The faithful in Samaria had already obtained baptism; only that which was wanting Peter and John supplied, by prayer and imposition of hands, to the end the Holy Ghost might be poured upon them. Which also is one amongst ourselves (he notes) when they which be already baptized are brought to the rulers of the church to obtain by our prayer and imposition of hands the Holy Ghost."

**EUSEBIOS**, one of the early church historians of the 3rd century, tells of one by the name of **NOVATIUS**, who was baptized while sick, but was not prayed for that he might receive the Holy Ghost. On account of this he was censured by the Bishop of Rome.

The necessity of receiving the Holy Ghost is likewise stressed by **CHRYSOSTOM**, another of the early church fathers. He comments on Acts 8, where Peter and John prayed for the Samaritans who had been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, that they might receive the Holy Ghost. Writes Chrysostom: "But they, it says, having come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Ghost; for as yet he was fallen upon none of them. Then laid they their hands upon them, and they received the Holy Ghost!"

Then, writing concerning the Ethiopian eunuch, whose conversion also appears in Acts 8, Chrysostom takes it for granted that he was filled with the Spirit after baptism.

Stressing the impartation of the Spirit by the laying on of hands, he comments on Hebrews 6:1-2 where mention is made concerning the principles of the doctrine of Christ.

Talk about a doctrinal statement—here is one set forth in the Scripture which lists first repentance from dead works, then faith toward God, the doctrine of baptisms (plural), the laying on of hands, the resurrection of

the dead and eternal judgment. Comments Chrysostom: "All these are fundamental articles; that is, that we ought to repent from dead works, to be baptized into the faith of Christ, and be made worthy of the gift of the Spirit, Who is given by imposition of hands..."

James Lawson, in his book **DEEPER EXPERIENCES OF FAMOUS CHRISTIANS**, notes: "The early Christian writers, both the Greek and Roman Fathers of the Church, testify to the fact that in the second century and later, it was customary to pray for Christians to be filled with the Spirit, just as they were prayed for in Bible times."

At the Council of Arles, A.D. 314, it was recorded: "Let there be imposition of hands that they may receive the Holy Spirit."

In Acts 19 we read of Paul coming to Ephesus where he finds certain disciples, and immediately he asks them: "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" As you go on reading you will find they were disciples of John. Then Paul relates how John's was a baptism of repentance and reminded them he told the people they were to believe on Him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. Then we read: "When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Now, you would suppose this was all that was necessary for these believers...they were converted and baptized and so they were saved. But the next verse says—"When Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues and prophesied."

When R.A. Torrey, a close associate of Dwight Moody was on his way to speak at a convention on this subject, a friend stopped him to say, "I see you are to speak on the baptism with the Holy Spirit. Tell the people not to pray for the Holy Spirit." Replied Torrey, "I shall certainly not tell them that; for Jesus said: 'How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ASK him.'" (Luke 11:13)

When Moody and Torrey were criticized for instructing others to seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit, he would simply reply—Why quibble over words. Rather let us ask God for that which we know we all need—the fullness of the Spirit in our lives.

Is this your heart cry? Do you long for the power of God in your life? Are you a defeated Christian? Remember, Jesus promised, "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you!" (Acts 1:8)

The promise of God is—if we truly hunger and thirst we shall be filled.

As G.H.C. MacGregor writes: "God will fill us with His Spirit. Upon the contrite, penitent, humble, waiting, obedient soul there will fall—as there fell at Pentecost—the gift of the Holy Ghost. Victory over sin, impossible before, will become possible. Sin shall not have dominion over us, because He has cured it, and in Him we are more than conquerors."

It is in view of the coming of the Lord, when around us we see awful apostasy, and the lives of Christians are weak and powerless, that we need this fulness of the Spirit in our lives. Go alone before God, search your heart to see what may stand in the way of your receiving from God.

Someone has said they thought the disciples at Pentecost waited ten days in the Upper Room to be "filled with the Spirit," but they have since decided they were there getting emptied.

So we must allow the Lord to search our hearts and become empty of

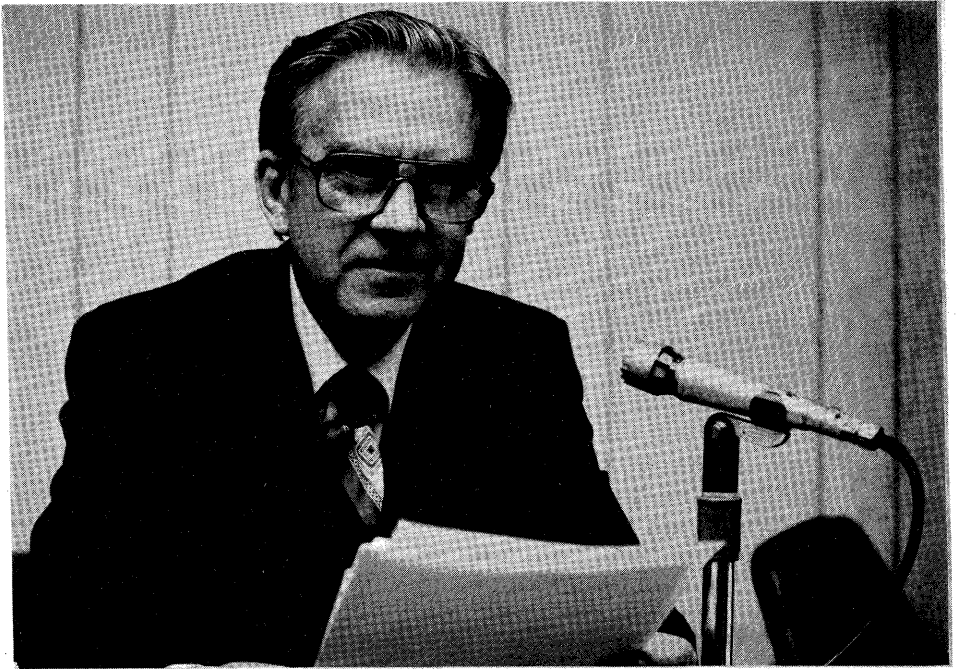
greed, hatred, pride, worldliness, which keeps the Spirit from gaining control of our lives.

Again quoting Moody: "I believe firmly that the moment our hearts are emptied of pride and selfishness and ambition and self-seeking and everything that is contrary to God's law, the Holy Ghost will come and fill every corner of our hearts; but if we are full of pride and conceit and ambition and self-seeking and pleasure and the world, there is no room for the Spirit of God."

Hear it, my friend. Let us forsake every known sin, or pray that the Holy Spirit may make us willing, and then open our hearts to receive God's anointing into our lives.

Receive ye the Holy Ghost. Be filled with the Spirit. And "Be ye therefore ready for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

# The Testimony Of Rev. Ray Brubaker



## **“GOD’S NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS”**

Radio Speaker

**By way of personal testimony I should like to relate the following:**

I was born on April 5, 1923, in Mount Joy, Pennsylvania. I later accepted the Lord at the age of five. Brought up in a Christian home, I was not permitted to share in the social life of our community. My life centered around Sunday School, Church, Revival meetings and Bible conferences. How often I heard the story of one rotten apple making a bushel of good apples bad. So I was deprived of attending or participating in school activities such as plays, operettas, or even sports. Ordinarily a young person might rebel at parents being so strict, but from an early age I sensed the call of God upon my life and so believed my parents were right in wanting to bring me up in the fear of God.

Following graduation, I had plans to enter a church-related school, but instead took a job in a war plant. This was during days of the Second World War. Often there were labor disputes and I felt the desire to mediate or offer a solution, so would report to the main plant. For these suggestions the management offered to pay my way through college if I would return as a labor-management consultant. That very week I had

openly dedicated my life to the Lord under the ministry of Dr. William Pettingill and had been making plans to attend Moody Bible Institute. The firm then agreed to include seminary training if I would only accept their offer.

Grateful for this consideration I refused, however, and headed for the big city of Chicago. During my first term I received a questionnaire from Selective Service. Before opening the letter I fell on my knees and prayed, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" I felt the Lord had called me to the ministry and although there was a war in which we were involved, I was sure the Lord wanted me to stay in school. Moody Bible Institute wasn't accepted by many of the draft boards across the country so I knew the Lord would have to work something of a miracle on my behalf. After prayer, I opened my Bible and my eyes fell on this verse—"Stand fast and see the salvation of the Lord. Ye shall not need to fight in this battle!" How wonderfully the Lord made it possible to stay in school to study for the ministry.

During my second term at Moody I began to look for some kind of employment. I applied for work in the radio department for this was one of the chief reasons for going to Chicago. They were in need of a studio assistant, one who would help set up the studio for programs and run miscellaneous errands. My boss was George Beverly Shea.

Then one morning the announcer for a certain program could not be found. I grabbed the script and introduced the broadcast, my heart literally pounding out every word. An official heard my introduction and came to inquire where I had received the permission to announce for I had not been trained as an announcer. I explained what had happened and was given the job of announcing. Within six months I was reading news on the air. And when the director of the news department left the station I was asked to take the job.

More than anything else this was what I wanted. But it meant I would have to lengthen my training in the Pastor's Course from three to four years. This I did not believe the Lord wanted me to do. He wanted me to give first place to the study of His Word. So I turned down the offer.

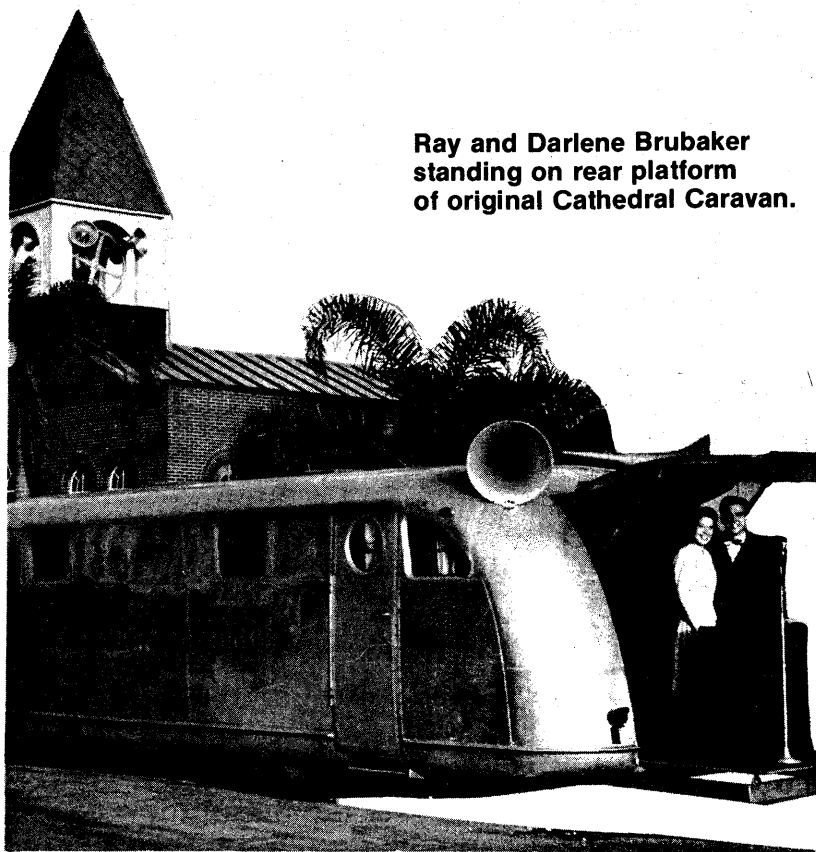
Following graduation from Moody the job of news director was again available and I accepted it. We launched a series of news programs, one of which was **GOD'S NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS**.

One morning I was summoned to the newsroom. A very important bulletin had just come in over the teletype. Chills raced up and down my spine as I announced the news of the first atomic bomb dropped on Japan.

Later, while reporting this event on a **GOD'S NEWS** program I felt led to resign my post in radio and take to the highways and byways to warn men everywhere—"Prepare to meet thy God!" Soon Russia and other nations would possess these weapons and the book of Revelation would one day see apocalyptic judgments in which nuclear devices would no doubt be used.

You would suppose my position as head of the news department in a radio station where I had worked my way up to the top of the ladder would be sufficient to keep me from handing in my resignation. Besides, I had married the most wonderful girl in the world and was living comfortably within a block from beautiful Lake Michigan in what was known as

the "Gold Coast" of Chicago. To leave all of this, one had to be crazy or else to have heard the voice of God speaking.



**Ray and Darlene Brubaker  
standing on rear platform  
of original Cathedral Caravan.**

Believing the Lord had called us into this outdoor ministry, we were willing to leave the comforts and luxuries of home and for nearly ten years conducted open air meetings from the stage of our Cathedral Caravan. Ministering almost every night, we never lacked a crowd. Using the world's best gospel films, along with gospel object lessons and special music, we succeeded in seeing thousands of decisions for Christ. It was like fishing where the fish are, as upwards of 90 percent in our audience often were unchurched. What opportunities we had in ministering on street corners, at trailer parks, in housing projects, at county fairs, or in small town vacant lots.

Then it happened. I became gravely ill so that it seemed our caravan days were over.

I had developed a rheumatoid-arthritis condition that brought about a partial paralysis of my left side. Injections were given for a bursitis condition of the shoulder, which only intensified the pain and brought on further complications including ulcers of the stomach. I became listless and perhaps would have died in that condition had my wife not joined



me in a prayer marathon. We decided we would pray until we heard from God. So she prayed, and I prayed. She prayed and I prayed. And the third time she prayed and while I was praying there came a knock at our caravan door. A mailman had spent an hour looking for our trailer. He finally found us and left a special delivery letter from my doctor ordering immediate surgery or he would refuse to have my case any longer. Suddenly I thought of Paul, who while beseeching the Lord thrice received an answer. Immediately arrangements were made for the operation. The doctor related how when he cut into that swollen shoulder, nearly a pint of infection gushed out. The arm had deteriorated so that he had to scrape the bone to the elbow. A top bone-and-joint surgeon, rated third in the nation, he told my wife I would never have the full use of that arm again.

Following the operation I continued to suffer in my body. I was extremely nervous and could not preach. However, we did volunteer to take some meetings as I wanted to prove to the Lord that I wasn't going to allow anything to force me out of the ministry. I loved the Lord and felt we proved our love in many ways. For instance, during ten years of caravan ministry we trusted the Lord for our income rather than take up offerings in our outdoor services. Only when our caravan was sponsored were collections received. We wanted the people to know we were there in the interest of their souls and not out for their money. The Lord proved His love for us by supplying our needs daily. We never went without a meal unless we wanted to do so.



We accepted a meeting at the High Point Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia. Enroute we decided to stop at a clinic in Savannah for a physical checkup. I was still bothered with the rheumatoid-arthritis condition that had settled in my left hip and knee joints. And the infection that had gripped my body had left me with an infected kidney and other complications.

We pulled our 36-foot trailer alongside the church, preparing for our first important meeting. Although I was too nervous to preach, I felt I could push the button that showed the gospel films, and that my wife could do the speaking. On the first night of our meetings we were ready to start the service when someone rushed our little son to the platform.

He had been given a ball of candy and it had lodged in his throat. Seeing he was choking the audience cried, "Do something!" We turned him upside down as he was turning blue in the face and pounded his back until the candy was dislodged. But the event left me weak and I felt defeat as from the devil himself, who was trying to keep me from ministering. The next night when time came for our meeting, a thunderstorm came up suddenly, and we were again prevented from having an outdoor service. I suggested to the pastor that we go inside for a prayer meeting, and asked those present to lay hands upon me and pray for me.

I had read about 'fasting' in the Bible but had never tried it. In desperation I decided to go on a fast of grape juice and water to help rid my system of its poison.

For years I had been seeking for the fulness of the Spirit. I had read Torrey's book on the Baptism of the Spirit, and would cry and pray as Moody and Torrey told of such visitations of God that found them experiencing God's power for witnessing and service. If I was going to serve the Lord, this was what I wanted, whatever the price I had to pay to receive it.

In fact, I attended a meeting conducted by a well-known radio evangelist who had advertised 'Baptism of the Spirit' night. I went to his Minneapolis rally and heard him spend half an hour in selling his books. And when it came time for preaching he said it was too late for that, declaring we were "preached to death already." He suggested for all who wanted the baptism, the line would form on his right. I immediately went out to the parking lot, got in my car and prayed: "Lord, if this is of you, I want it. If not of you, I don't want anything to do with it!" Then I went back to the tent and got in line. I felt if anyone was a candidate to receive the baptism of the Spirit, that I was, for I had just spent a week in searching, seeking and reading concerning this glorious experience. As this minister touched the people, one after another would swoon away or begin speaking ecstatically. Without exception all seemed to partake of some visual experience but when he touched me nothing happened.

So, this was some time later when during the fourth night of prayer and fasting I was awakened. As I lay there it was as though the Lord began showing me how throughout my life He had been with me. He had kept me from grievous sin, kept me from marrying the wrong girl with whom I was madly in love, and led me to the lovely person who later was to be my wife.

After this the Scriptures began to unfold so wonderfully and passages that my instructor in Bible School could not fully explain began to open to my understanding. It seemed like the devil, too, appeared for he said: "Write this down and publish it, put your name to it and become famous."

I did get up from my bed and wrote down those precious truths as the Holy Spirit revealed them to me. But as tears stained my cheeks, I prayed, "Lord, You're the Author of the Word, and the Interpreter of the Word to my heart. Seal these truths to the work of the Holy Spirit."

Returning to my bed, I again fell asleep only to be suddenly awakened by a visitation so glorious I seldom like to refer to it. It is so sacred I hesitate to relate the event, but believing it will glorify the Lord I will proceed to tell what happened.

**Distinctly and clearly I heard a voice like a whisper say: "Receive ye the Holy Ghost!" My doctrinal belief had been that you received the Holy Spirit at conversion so I argued back that I had always had the Holy Ghost. But the Lord did not argue. He simply ministered in the most wonderful way. There followed a deep breath that permeated my whole being so that I felt like a new person. I sought for another breath but it was only natural breathing. Then clearly, by the same still voice, I heard the words, "I've healed you from the top of your head to the soles of your feet."**

**What rejoicing filled my heart as I mused on this divine visitation. Praise began forming and the words of an old hymn came to mind—"When I saw the cleansing fountain open wide for all my sin, I obeyed the Spirit's wooing when He said, wilt thou be clean! I will praise Him, I will praise Him, praise the Lamb for sinner's slain. Give Him glory, all ye people, for His blood has washed away each stain." Hallelujah.**

**Not wanting to be deceived, I questioned my experience. I certainly didn't want to be fooled by the devil.**

**I discovered that the healing was real. The rheumatoid-arthritis condition left me, along with the ulcers and infection.**

**Most tremendous, however, was the anointing of God's Spirit upon my life and ministry as the Lord began to show me the work that He had called me to do.**

**I never place a great deal of emphasis on dreams and visions, even though the Word of God clearly speaks of such revelations in relation to the promised outpouring of the Spirit in the Last Days.**

**Every other morning for four separate days I would awaken as the Lord clearly showed me that I was to return to radio broadcasting. I clearly saw myself in a radio studio reading the script into a microphone. On another occasion I saw a platform that seemed projected high in the air as if atop the rock of Gibraltar. Looking out into space I could see a sea of faces. Then I proceeded to go to the rostrum to give my testimony as to how the Lord had so wonderfully healed me. Instead, I opened my Bible and announced my text, THIS IS THAT. I must confess I wasn't sure where it said that in the Bible until I looked and saw it related to the Endtime outpouring of the Spirit of God.**

**O, how my heart cries out that all would hunger for this outpouring of God's Spirit promised to all flesh, including our sons and daughters. My cry is for many who are looking to worldly pleasures for satisfaction, seeking happiness through achieving fame and fortune. Churches are split, families are separated, hearts are broken...simply because of this lack of the Holy Spirit.**

**Regardless of doctrinal interpretations, we must confess something is wrong in evangelical circles where there is bickering and quarreling and division.**

**Letters are coming to my desk saying I am off doctrinally to preach this message. But I turn to Jude who declares that in the last time there should come mockers who would walk after their own ungodly lusts. These be they who separate themselves, sensual, HAVING NOT THE SPIRIT.**

**May God help us. May we see that lustful exhibitions, as well as the separation of Christians, is evidence of a lack of the Holy Spirit. The**

**Holy Spirit unites us, gives us love one for the other, causes us to pray one for the other.**

**Every morning following this experience I would awaken as by an alarm clock at four o'clock in the morning. Scriptures would unfold in such a marvelous way, particularly as they related to the Second Coming of our Lord. Messages would come as though by dictation and I could hardly write these messages down fast enough. Whereas, before this experience, I would study and cram for a sermon to the point of physical exhaustion, here were sometimes two and three messages at a time coming as though the Spirit was by my side giving me the very words to speak. If interrupted, it often was impossible to get again the line of thought so I would sometimes lock myself in my room when preparing a message so my thoughts would not be disturbed.**

**Moody diagnosed Christians as falling into three separate groups. "The first class," he noted, "are those who got to Calvary and there got life. They believed on the Son and were saved, and there they rested satisfied. They did not seek anything higher." Moody went on to say, "You might safely say, I think, without exaggeration, that 19 out of 20 Christians...have just got life and have settled down, and have not sought for power."**

**Moody then goes on to describe what he calls a "better class of Christian," asserting, "The secret of the Holy Spirit's coming in power to the believer is the individual's complete surrender to the Saviour. And," notes Moody, "we do not have to wait upon God to do something for us. He is waiting for us to yield ourselves to Him."**

**Finally, in John, chapter 7, we read of those out of whose "innermost being (belly) shall flow rivers of living water." Observes Moody: "This is the best class; this is the kind of Christian we ought to be."**

**Moody calls attention to the fact that for thirty years our Lord lived in obscurity in Nazareth. Then there came a day when we read where Jesus was "full of the Holy Ghost." Coming back to Nazareth after his victorious encounter over Satan in the wilderness we read where he entered the temple and read from Isaiah... "the Spirit of the Lord is upon me." From thence, "for three years we find him preaching the kingdom of God, casting out devils, and raising the dead..."**

**Concludes Moody: "If the Son of God has got to be anointed, do not his disciples need it, and shall we not seek it, and shall we barely rest with conversion?"**

**When there were those who took exception to Moody's reference to receiving the Holy Spirit, or his messages on the baptism of the Spirit, Torrey relates how Moody would reply: "Why will they split hairs? Why don't they see that this is just the one thing that they themselves need."**

**We agree. Rather than quibble over terminologies that make little difference when it comes to interpreting the work of the Holy Spirit, let us recognize that God is still filling the hearts of those who desire this fulness of the Holy Spirit.**

**As Moody declared, "Pentecost was only a specimen day." What God did at Pentecost He is still doing today in filling the hearts of those who desire the fulness of His Spirit. And while we may not all understand the workings of the Holy Spirit, and may not agree on terminologies to express the Spirit's ministry, let it be once for all agreed upon that if we**

**“hunger and thirst we shall be filled.” For, “If we ask for bread will our earthly father give us a stone?” asked Jesus. “How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him.”**

**I am convinced that Satan doesn't want us to ask the Holy Spirit to come and fill us. Nor does He want us to see that as long as sin dominates our lives the Holy Spirit cannot control us. And he would have us to believe that all receive the fulness of the Spirit in the same way, with the same evidence, but without the results of power for witness and service that should accompany all who are baptized with the Holy Spirit.**

**Preceding Pentecost the disciples were told: “Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me...” (Acts 1:8) Power to witness is one of the results of the Spirit's fulness in our lives.**

**Our Lord spoke of our relationship with the Holy Spirit as likened unto 'rivers of living water'! You can't dam up a river. It must spill over somewhere. So the evidence of the Holy Spirit's ministry will exemplify itself in witnessing and fruitbearing.**

**It is when we surrender wholly to the will of God that the Holy Spirit, who is with the believer, comes to indwell the believer in his fulness. This is what it means to be filled or controlled by the Spirit.**

**Beloved, we believe these are the last days. God is wanting to pour out of His Spirit! He wants to save souls and transform lives! He wants to prove Himself real to every believer! He wants to do the miraculous. He wants to heal the sick! And one of these days, praise God, He will raise the dead when believers come forth from their graves.**

**May we not be like the Pharisees and reject Scriptural truth. May we not become like Esau and carelessly toss away our birthright to privileges and blessings rightfully ours. Don't join the crowd that says “God is dead” or that says “God doesn't work miracles today!” Rather, believe God. Like Jacob wrestle, saying, “I'll not let you go until you bless me!” God honors faith with persistence expressed by prayer and fasting.**

**Get in on the blessing. The floodtide of God's Spirit is ours for the asking, and in obedience to His Word. For we read, “The Holy Ghost is given unto them that obey Him.” (Acts 5:32)**

**Finally, remember that Christ may be your Saviour. But not until the Holy Spirit takes control of your life is Jesus really the Master of your life. For “no man can say that Jesus is Lord save by the Holy Ghost.” (1 Cor. 12:3)**

**And while we believe we can experience this infilling and know it, let us remember that no experience replaces a daily walk with the Lord. We need a fresh revelation from God daily, and need to commune with Him constantly. Then victory can be ours! For we read, “Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.” (Gal. 5:16)**

**Christ's coming hastens. Like wise virgins, let us awaken, rise and trim our lamps, and prepare for the coming Bridegroom by taking oil in our vessels with our lamps. With Christ dwelling within us, and the Spirit of God controlling us, we can be ready for our Lord's soon coming.**

**Indeed, “Be ye ready also for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh!”**