



THE CHURCH AT ELLERSLIE
SUNDAY SERMON NOTES

ERIC LUDY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2017

CARMELIZED SAINTS

The Second Step toward Changing the World



So shall they fear The name of the LORD from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him.

Isaiah 59:19

A Quick Review . . .

If we are going to discuss the Second Step toward Changing the World, let's not forget the First Step

Going After Revival

What is a Revival in the Church of Jesus Christ?

When the Body of Christ is brought again to its proper *intensity for*, *obedience to*, and *purity in* Jesus Christ

1. **Intensity for** - this is worthy of *all* my energy, *all* my hours, *all* my days, *all* my talents, *all* my resources, *all* my time, *all* my life
2. **Obedience to** - Whatever He asks me to make right - I will. Whatever He asks me to confess - I will. Whatever He says needs to go - it will. Whatever He says needs to be added - it will. Whoever He asks me to share the Gospel with - I will. And wherever He asks me to go, no matter the suffering and the difficulties that may attend the action - I will go.
3. **Purity in** - Search me, Oh Lord, and know my thoughts. If there be any wickedness in me, expose it. If there be any motive in my soul that is ulterior to your agenda in my life, bring it to the surface that I may get rid of it. If there be any habit that is undermining my singular devotion to you, eradicate it.

The Principle of Revivals

- *God Will when Man Tills*
- *God Endows when Man Ploughs*
- *God Endues when Man Pursues*

Second, There are Four Key Ingredients in Every Revival

1. Men Praying
2. Men Obeying
3. God Responding
4. The Church Activating

A Revival isn't Supposed to be a Mysterious Move of the Holy Spirit

It's supposed to be the obvious response of a God who has promised and cannot lie

When a Farmer tills . . .

When a farmer tills, plants, waters, weeds, waters, weeds, waters, weeds and waits, waits, waits, and waits . . . then comes the life, the harvest, the bounty. It's not mysterious. It's God's built-in response to man doing as God has told him to do. A farmer's obedience to the laws of farming equals a great harvest.

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains.

James 5:7

You also be patient. *Establish* your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

James 5:8

How Do We Find a Revival Right Here?

Let's heed the simple laws of farming

Breaking up the Fallow Ground

The Quandary

How Can We Hear Last Week's Message and Still Not Have a Revival?

Diversion

The number one reason why these “benevolent, pure, and righteous intentions” are thwarted and stopped from bearing fruit

Simply put . . .

The saint's attentions are “diverted” to other objects, and they forget to keep doing the work of the farmer.

Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

James 4:17

The Clear Command

You also be patient. *Establish* your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

James 5:8

- Break up the fallow ground (allow the Holy Spirit to convict, break up the compacted soil of your heart, and wholly remove the hindrances in your soul that are blocking revival)
- Heed the Holy Spirit and let Him prepare the soil of your hearts to receive grace
- Pursue the reviving of our Lord with “long-patience” and with singularity and constancy of focus and intentionality
- For the coming of the Lord is at hand

This Leads us to the Second Step in the Pursuit of a Revival

The Test of Mt. Carmel

Carmel - the place of abundant fruit-bearing, the place of “reviving”

The Scene in 1st Kings 18

- It hasn't rained in Israel for 3.5 years
- The land is destitute
- Jehovah God is forgotten
- The people of Israel have fallen head-over-heels in love with Baal
- Elijah, the prophet, calls the nation up to Mt. Carmel
- The once-lush garden land is brown and ugly - but this is the spot of reviving

The Steps to Becoming Carmelized

- Bold Obedience
- Audacious Proving
- Long-Patience
- Fervent Praying
- Big Expectancy
- Absolute Confidence the Rain IS Coming

The Key

Stay on Carmel UNTIL the rain comes

- Kick out the Diversions
- Stay Focused on the Singular Objective
- Hold the position of prayer
- The Coming of the Lord IS at hand!

Mt. Carmel

The Place of Proving to the Unbelieving, God-forsaking world, that Jehovah REALLY IS God Almighty!

Carmelized Saints

Believers that "stick" it out on Mt. Carmel, endure the cloudless skies with patience, and press through until the rain comes

The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

James 5:16

to *Avail Much*

to wield amazing power in this world and to accomplish extraordinary deeds

So, to *Avail Much* . . .

Righteous men need to engage in effectual, fervent prayer

Allow me to give an amplified version of this Scripture

When the saints of God come to Mt. Carmel and pray, and pray, and pray, and pray, and pray until the rain comes - the rain won't just come, it will come in buckets and sheets, like a Niagaran waterfall of Life upon the dead and lifeless earth.

James 5:16 (with a Ludy flair)

A Diversion Fast?

Name your diversions and decide: if it might turn your gaze away from this all-important task of bringing a reviving to your life and to the Church in our day, would you be willing to set it aside for a week? Would you be willing to forsake sucking on your mental candy for one week, that your attentions may be sharpened to engage in this battle for the Glory of God?