THE DAY THE GLORY

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BY

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A Personal Story of Revival Outpouring

INTRODUCTION

My prayer is that as you read this book, Holy Spirit would create in you a greater hunger and thirst for God - to know him more - that you would experience revival in your life, church and nation! And that your cry would be, "Do it again Lord! Do it again!" Amen!

THE DAY THE GLORY FELL

It was a spring day late in March of '96. I was at work and about to finish up for the day. At 3 p.m. my phone rang. It was my wife on the other end. She said, "You better hurry up and get down here. The glory has fallen. We are going to have church tonight. Call everyone you know."

Since around 12 noon, the Youth had been gathered in the Fellowship Hall at Warrior Assembly to pray before they left to hand out fliers inviting folks from the apartments and projects to attend our annual Easter Drama. As they circled up and began praying, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as He did in the book of Acts in the beginning. When the glory fell and the visitation began, young folks who usually were passing notes in the back during services were now on the floor laughing, shaking, speaking with stammering lips, crying, repenting, and generally overcome by God's Presence.

Everyone was called and they came for a 7pm service. Manifestations of the presence of God were as varied as the people who attended the service. Folks who would never come to the altar danced that night, they ran and shook on the floor, laughed, cried and many spoke in tongues for the first time. Young children danced in circles. You cannot be in God's presence and remain unaffected! It was glorious!

That was the beginning of almost nightly services for about nine months. We would crawl into the church, weary from the day, and every night God was there waiting. We would worship and pray for folks, minister until the early hours and be full of fire, power, refreshing, and overflowing joy! And then come back to do it again the next night. During that time, our supper was usually at midnight, 1 am or later. Schedules changed, lifestyles were changed, and lives were changed forever as we experienced an awesome visitation that many have only heard about, read about, or preached about. It was messy, and at times unorganized during the service, but we learned how to steward it and let God have his way. Nobody left like they came (if they could get up). God showed up and showed out and many were saved, set free, and delivered!

On several occasions the Holy Spirit would move on the youth and children and they would prophecy and pray for those who were attending. Lots of blessings, refreshing and miracles would happen nightly as we would worship and pray for those in attendance and one another.

What happened was an incredible time of visitation that began with a hunger and thirst for God to do something, combined with seasons of prayer, fasting, preparation, endurance, expectation, God's sovereignty, leadership, and the perfect storm of God's timing with other outpourings to usher in a mighty move of the Spirit. This move of the Spirit transformed, equipped, and changed people's lives forever. Many carry that anointing today.

It was about five years before that Monday, in March when the men of the Warrior Assembly of God had begun to come together to pray. This meeting continued for thirteen years. There were times the numbers decreased to two or three who were faithful each week, but then it would increase again - sometimes there were as many as twenty or so who came to attend and call out for God to come. We called on the name of the Lord. We would be there on Monday nights - sometimes very late as Holy Spirit fell and flowed! We couldn't leave. We wanted to know more of God, to be more like him, and wanted the Holy Spirit to come and make us more effective in our ministry. We just wanted more! There was one Sunday night when it was becoming evident God was moving. The Holy Spirit fell on the Pastor. He rolled around on the floor, laughing at times, unable to get up and walk, and then would fall over and onto the altar. This went on for three hours!

During this time period, one day, I was in Montgomery obtaining my credentials and met a missionary chaplain from Alabama Prison Ministries. Little did we know he was in the fire. He often joined us during our prayer times and began to teach and equip us. He taught us from the Brownsville School of Ministry materials and we began to learn and understand the foundations of ministering and hosting the Holy Spirit in a revival.

John 7:37. . . On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink."

Isaiah 55:1... "Ho! Everyone who thirsts Come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."

So we continued to cry out to God. We wanted more of Him-all that he had for us and all that He wanted to do. We were willing to make the sacrifice and get out of the way for Him to bring a mighty outpouring of His Spirit. We wanted more. More of his mercy, more of his grace, more of His presence, more of His power. We wanted all of it! We wanted God to come and transform our lives, and equip us to minister; to change us forever and bring souls into the kingdom.

It was Evan Robers of the Welsh Revival who said, "Revival starts, is sustained, and leads you forward by these four points: Walk in repentance. Walk in forgiveness. Obey the Holy Spirit instantly. Testify openly of the Lord Jesus Christ This is what we were learning to do! **Matthew 5:6** . . .Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

I sensed in my spirit that Revival starts with this verse! And I learned a few things. What got you there, keeps you there, and moves you forward.

What got us there? Prayer, fasting, repenting, studying and worship. You have to get hungry and thirsty for more (of God); to be prepared to receive it and move it forward so it will be sustained. At first, we just wanted God to show up. Then our cry was for more of Him - and more of Him, and MORE!

As humans we are like broken cisterns that leak. Look what Jeremiah says. . .

Jeremiah 2:13 . . . "For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water."

There are times we get distracted with other things and it chokes the word and smothers the Spirit.

Mark 4:19... and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

One of the cries of revival is for God's people to return to first love. We forget to stay focused on the Lord and what God is doing. We can only do this with the help of the Holy Spirit. This boils down to one thing: We need to consistently return to our First Love.

Revelation 2:4 . . .Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.

But how can we return to our first love?

It is important to live a life of repentance. By living a life of repentance we get refreshed and revived and stay refreshed and revived. This helps us to cherish the Holy Spirit.

Acts 3:19 . . . Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.

The river of revival increases, escalates, and gets stronger. It increases as you move along until finally the breakthrough or your "suddenly" comes. The book of Ezekiel portrays a perfect picture of this phenomenon.

Ezekiel 47:1-5 ... 1) Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was **water**, flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar. 2) He brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gateway that faces east; and there was water, running out on the right side.

3) And when the man went out to the east with the line in his hand, he measured one thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; **the water came up to my ankles**.

4) Again he measured one thousand and brought me through the waters; **the water came up to my knees**. Again he measured one thousand and brought me through; **the water came up to my waist**.

5) Again he measured one thousand, and **it was a river that I could not cross; for the water was too deep,**

water in which one must swim, a river that could not be crossed.

Luke 18:1(AMP)... Now Jesus was telling the disciples a parable to make the point that at all times they ought to pray and not give up and lose heart.

This was preparation for their receiving of the Holy Spirit. For 500 heard the command to wait on the Promise of the Father but only 120 persevered to receive the Holy Spirit. They didn't exactly know what they were praying and waiting for, or how it would come, but they were expecting. They just wanted it to come.

The situation unfolds in the Book of Acts.

Acts 1:4 . . . And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me;

Acts 1:12 . . . Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey.

Acts 1:14 . . . These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

The disciples prayed and came together to wait for the Promise of the Father in Jerusalem. It would be ten days before the Spirit fell and changed their life and the world around them forever. They waited for it, prayed for it, and tarried because Jesus had told them to stay and tarry in Jerusalem.

Why did they pray for ten days? The number ten is the number of completeness; where one cycle ends and a new cycle of ten begins. So God was ending the first covenant and ushering in the

New. So they prayed and God's sovereign time was the Day of Pentecost.

THEN.....

Acts 2:1-4 . . .1) When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2) And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

3) Then there appeared unto them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

4) And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

SO, BACK IN WARRIOR, AL.....

God continues to teach us with fasting and preparation of our hearts. The men at Warrior continued to meet together believing God wanted to do something. We continued meeting, praying and fasting. We repented of sins and as we studied, we became equipped in the Word and Spirit. The Spirit would fall on us and we would be there late. We stayed in His Presence. We did not want to leave. The Presence of the Lord began to increase and increase until it began to overflow into the regularly scheduled services.

Warrior's story is much like the Welsh Revival, since worship and prayer were keys to usher in and maintain God's presence in both. Our Youth was an integral part of everything just as in the Evan Roberts Revival. You know, it started when the Holy Spirit fell on the young! Evan Roberts held a similar position in that time as a youth pastor does today. He was a mentor and leader. When revival broke out, it was predominantly carried from town to town by the young who were very much like the early disciples - unschooled and unlearned.

During this time folks would also read accounts of what God had done and was doing, and the Holy Spirit would move on them and inspire them. And so revival spread across the world!

The Outpouring Begins!

~The Toronto Blessing started on January 19th of 1994 at a Healing Conference.

~*The Revival at Brownsville, FL* broke out on Fathers' Day in 1995 with Steve Hill preaching.

~*At Warrior, AL*, in the Spring of '96, just before Easter, we began to have incredible services and some visitation of the Spirit, but we kept on asking God for more. We stuck with it and one Sunday night, the glory was so strong no one moved until 9:30 pm. There were times holy laughter broke out and it was not just on the people who you would normally think this type of manifestation would be demonstrated. Once a young person fell out in the Spirit and with holy laughter until 10:30pm. So we knew something was up and coming!

And then, around that time, the Assembly of God District Council for Alabama invited John Kilpatrick from Brownsville Assembly to come and preach. Expectation and excitement began to take root more and more as The River of God began to move in our area of Alabama. Even though there was some opposition from those who didn't like change, we persevered. Our preparation continued with the Monday night meetings and other scheduled prayer times and services.

The Men's meeting continued. We cried out to God to come and He did!

Remember Solomon's dedication of the temple...

II Chronicles 5:1-14 tells us there was a gathering So all the work that Solomon had done for the house of the Lord was finished; and Solomon brought in the things which his father David had dedicated: the silver and the gold and all the furnishings. And he put them in the treasuries of the house of God.

So who was there?

2a). . . Now Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the chief fathers of the children of Israel, in Jerusalem,

Why were they attending?

2b). . . that they might bring the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord up from the City of David, which is Zion.

What did they bring?

4-5). . .All the men of Israel, including the elders and the Levites, took up the ark, the tabernacle of meeting, and all the holy furnishings that were in the tabernacle. The priests and the Levites brought them up. helped to bring up the holy furnishings.

Who else was there and what were they doing?

6). . . Also King Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel who were assembled with him before the ark, were sacrificing sheep and oxen that could not be counted or numbered for multitude.

What was happening behind the veil in the temple?

7b-9a). . . Then the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, into the inner sanctuary of the temple, to the Most Holy Place, under the wings of the cherubim. For the cherubim spread their wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubim overshadowed the ark and its poles. The poles extended so that the ends of the poles of the ark could be seen from the holy place, in front of the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside.

10). . .Nothing was in the ark except the two tablets

which Moses put there at Horeb when the Lord made a covenant with the children of Israel when they had come out of Egypt.

Then what happened?

11-14) . . . And it came to pass when the priests came out of the Most Holy Place (for all the priests who were present had sanctified themselves, without keeping to their divisions), and the Levites who were the singers, all those of Asaph and Heman and Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, stood at the east end of the altar, clothed in white linen, having cymbals, stringed instruments, and harps, and with them one hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets—indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the Lord, saying: "For He is good,For His mercy endures forever,"

Then the house, the house of the Lord, was filled with a cloud so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.

Visitation from God came after Solomon finished the work of building the temple. Later in the day after Solomon preached and prayed. . .

II CHRONICLES 7:1-3 ... 1)... When Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the temple.

2). . . And the priests could not enter the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord's

house.

3) . . .When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement and worshiped and praised the Lord, saying: "For He is good, for His mercy endures forever."

This visitation came after he prayed. The fire fell, the priest couldn't enter because the glory of the Lord filled the house! The people fell on their faces in worship. And praise broke out.

Similar circumstances happened at Warrior. Early on the glory came, and our Pastor and leaders were unable to stand and minister. I remember one night after the glory had fallen, I picked up the microphone and thought I would try to explain what was going on, but I couldn't speak. I just laid the mic back down. I literally had to drop the mic. The leadership was so committed to God, it was not necessary for them to talk.

On several occasions the Holy Spirit would move on the Youth and children and they would prophecy and pray for those who were attending. Lots of blessing, refreshing and miracles would fall nightly as we would worship and pray for those in attendance and one another.

Supernatural things happened also! One night colors became so bright the banners on our walls just seemed to shine! They were so bright and shining; clean looking like we had never before seen. It was heavenly!

There was one particular time a lady came forth for prayer for her sinuses and a stuffy nose! We prayed a simple prayer and all around us began to smell like Vicks Vapor Rub! She was completely healed and as I breathed it in, it was like the vapors were going all the way into my ears! All those around us smelled it and our sinuses were clear as a bell. We had many incredible nights in the outpouring with many salvations, healings, wonders, signs and miracles. And God is wanting to do it again. Our cry nightly was "Do it again, Lord!' And he always did exceedingly above all we could ask or think. It was like a dream from which you never wanted to be awakened from and none of us have ever been the same.

> **Isaiah 60:1** . . . Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.

During our time of Revival, many were called into the ministry and are still engaged in it today. Ours was a church with only 48 on the roll, but in one night, 30 youths and adults were baptized. It was after the preparation. It was after they prayed, it was when they were all together in one place, and united in purpose that the glory fell.

This was just like in Solomon's time. It was after the temple was finished. It was God's sovereignty and timing, where passion met hunger and thirst. That's when the glory came down. The priests couldn't stand to minister. The people fell on their faces, worship and praise broke out, and no one was the same again.

May the Lord hear our cry as we say, "Even so come! Do it again Lord!"

Father,

We want more of you. More of your presence, more of your glory, more of your goodness, more of your grace and mercy and unfailing love. We believe we receive all you have for us. Pour out your Spirit upon us! Revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you. Pour out revival fire! Do it again Lord! Do it again! Amen.





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- Ordained A.G. Minister.
- Served at Warrior A.G. for 13 years during the "Great Outpouring" and Revival.
- · Presently serving at Restoration Christian Fellowship.
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