

W P Nicholson's Prophetic Prayer for Revival

O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years – Habakkuk 3:2

The revival which ought to come to our churches is a revival that will make preachers forget their manuscripts and burst out and weep in their pulpits; a cyclone of mysterious omnipotence that, when it strikes a church or community, will make people awfully mad or gloriously happy.

I declare, in the presence of God and His church I am ready for just such a spiritual scene. Nothing is so alarming as the absence of alarm in the churches. Nothing is so dreadfully terrific, to my mind, as that, sinners have no terror. Oh that God would so baptise with power and fire five thousand people, as to render them incomprehensible amazements of power! Oh for men so dead to all things but God, and so filled with Him, as to make them more than a match for the rest of mankind. Oh, Thou God of Sinai, Calvary and Pentecost, art Thou not now nursing, under the horizon, the lightning and thunder and rain of an amazing holiness revival?

Lord, let it strike Ireland, though it blow our abominable church pride in the dust, though it thrust our philanthropic fairs and festivals in the gutter, though it should confound all the wise ones, and be understood by none but Thy DIVINE Self, LET IT COME! Oh send us the storm of the Holy Ghost before Thou sendest the storm of judgment!

May God so consume us with an intolerable craving for just such an old-fashioned, Holy Ghost religion, something unparalleled and unprecedented in the history of the Church – a revival in such measure that man will be wiped out and God be everything, a revival that will fill hell with consternation and make heaven delirious with joy, and fill the heart of every true saint of God with wonder, love and praise, a revival that neither ministers nor churches nor the devil will be able to stop.