

# Journeying in to Revival Sunday May 11, 2008

## Lakeland Outpouring (The Florida Healing Outpouring)

How it all started:

Ps. Stephen Strader of Ignited Church, Lakeland Florida, sent the following email on March 20, 2008:

Up Coming Events at Ignited! Stephen Strader Mar 20 2008 02:41PM

Dear Ignited Family and Friends,

He is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

Hope to see each of you Sunday for Easter Sunday! The Anders will be doing special music in the morning and 10 year old Destiny will provide special music Sunday night!

March 30th, Sunday 6pm, worship leader JIMMIE BLACK will be recording his new album LIVE! It will be exciting to be part of this project!

April 2 - 6, TODD BENTLEY will be with us!!! Plan to take some vacation time and spend all day at the church! Wednesday night - Saturday night at 7pm, and Thursday - Saturday morning at 10am! This will be a time of MIRACLES and IMPARTATION!!!

April 16th, JIM WHITE, from the healing room in Ohio, will be our guest speaker. Wednesday at 7pm! The intimate presence of God follows this man everywhere! The last time I heard him speak, I saw the gold dust of God presence appear on this mans face! Many will experience miracles! His prophetic anointing is powerful!

April 18th & 19th, YOUTH CONFERENCE -- get FUELED UP!!! Get your young people to this. Special music from across the USA and our guest speaker is Christen Williams, all the way from Australia!

April 24th - 27th, Dr. Clarice Fluitt will be with us for HIS MINISTRY CONFERENCE -- IT'S TIME! Dr. Clarice told me this week that GOD IS BREATHING on anything that is MOVING IN FAITH! It's time to WALK ON WATER!!!

April 28th, Monday 6:30pm, I will be the guest speaker for HONOR BOUND men's ministry at Auburndale Central A/G. ALL MEN are invited to attend. We will have a meal together at 6:30 and I'll speak at 7pm! All seats are FREE.

May 11th & 12th, BILLY BURKE Healing Crusade is coming to Ignited!

May 24th & 25th, OMEGA FORCE is coming to Ignited!



WOW!!! WOW!! WOW!!

I'm Ignited!!! How about you!!!

Pastor Stephen

On April 3, 2008, Ps. Stephen Strader sent the following email:

TODD BENTLEY revival in FULL SWING!!! Stephen Strader Apr 3 2008 07:45AM

Dear Ignited Friends,

The opening night with Todd Bentley was incredible. We had a full house at Ignited Church in Lakeland, FL. The meetings continue Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday... 10a & 7p. (Sunday at 6p)

The worship time Wednesday night was awesome with Roy Fields! Roy is also an evangelist and will be preaching Thursday morning. I'll get you a report asap!

Todd had a teaching anointing fall on him Wednesday night. He taught on REVIVAL and HEALING. I'll send you some of my notes later. He then laid hands on all the sick. Many were touched by God's power.

Here are a few of the testimonies. We will hear more of them Thursday night.....

On April 5, he sent the following email:

REVIVAL EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER WEEK!!! Stephen Strader Apr 5 2008 12:02AM

Dear Ignited Friends,

The revival will be extended another week!!!

When I stepped into the sanctuary Friday night, the atmosphere was different than I've ever felt before. There was intense praise & worship. Expectancy was in the air. But something was definitely different!

Todd was looking at me with this "look" and I heard myself say to him, if you want to go another week, we're ready! He nearly exploded! He started telling me all of the things that were happening throughout the time prior to the service. Prophetic words and confirmations that we should extend the meeting. He then got up and told the congregation! The place went wild!



He had me share my feelings with the congregation. I had two of our prophetic members share prophesies. ALL IN AGREEMENT! FULL STEAM AHEAD! There is just TOO much to share.

Then I had everyone to get on their knees and humble themselves before God. This was a SOBER MOMENT!!! The Healing Movement from Central Florida was being BIRTHED! I'm skipping over so much... but I'm trying to give you the highlights!

Todd told everyone, "I want to release this healing anointing over every person... tonight is a COMMISSIONING..."

There was a holiness in the room... the weight of God's glory was incredible.

Todd shared his experiences with the healing angel. He told everyone how he felt the healing angel touch his back several times in the Thursday night meeting.

Suddenly, the air shifted, and Todd began to give words of knowledge.....

There is still time to get here!!! Saturday 10am 6pm Sunday 10am 6pm

Monday through Saturday 10am & 7pm nightly. The night services are full to capacity. You have to get here at least 45 minutes early to get into the sanctuary. After that, you'll probably sit in the overflow! But don't worry. The Holy Spirit is IN THERE TOO!!!

PASTOR STEPHEN

The Current status of the Lakeland Outpouring:

In Sat May 10<sup>th</sup> email Todd Bentley wrote:

" The Glory of the Lord has been steadily increasing as we all come together with one voice in unison declaring desperation for His Presence. Even though I have said it many times, I can still truly say that the Presence has been overwhelming as we cry out in extended times of worship before the throne of our King. It has been very difficult to get off the floor during these times of worship and the miracles are outstanding. In just five days, we heard testimonies from more than 32 individuals that got out of wheelchairs! Tumors and deaf ears are healed nightly. Sometimes there are hundreds in line to give their testimony. The crowds continue to grow as quests come from all over the world. We expect 20,000 people to attend the meetings this weekend alone. God continues to pour out His Glory in an awesome way. World leaders have come to receive. Heidi Baker, Randy Clark, John Kilpatrick, Steve Hill and many others have attended. This outpouring is not just about miracles. Thousands of leaders and pastors have received impartation. And the fire is spreading throughout the GLOBE! England, Ireland, UK, and many other locations overseas as well as here in North America with locations such as Oregon, and the East Coast. All these locations are all holding extended meetings in their own churches where they have even been showing the Live web stream or telecast from the Lakeland Revival meetings. There are reports of fire falling in Iowa, California, Georgia and in Fort Mill (close to Charlotte) South Carolina at Rick Joyner's MorningStar Fellowship Church. This anointing is very contagious and hundreds of churches and ministries are now hosting overflow rooms......As many of you are aware thousands of souls have been saved already during these revival



meetings. These meetings are continuing to be aired on God TV in more than 214 nations and more than 138 million homes...."

Message:

# There is a visitation of God that is being released on the earth in such a time as this....and we cannot afford to be mere spectators.....

Luke 19:35-44

35 Then they brought him to Jesus. And they threw their own clothes on the colt, and they set Jesus on him.

36 And as He went, many spread their clothes on the road.

37 Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, 38 saying: "'BLESSED IS THE KING WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!' Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

39 And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." 40 But He answered and said to them, "I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out."

41 Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it,

42 saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.

43 For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side,

44 and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

Jesus riding in to Jerusalem was a fulfillment of prophecy **Zechariah 9:9** 

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.

Matthew 16:1-3

1 Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven.

2 He answered and said to them, "When it is evening you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red'; 3 and in the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times.

1 Peter 2:12 day of visitation

#### We must know the times of visitation of God or else we will miss the very thing that God is doing right in front of our eyes.

This is the year of outpouring and God is indeed releasing a fresh outpouring of His Spirit on the earth... it is not a mere coincidence that what is happening in one part of the world is being reported almost live around the world through technology....it is part of God's grand design...and we must welcome the visitation of God... other wise we will remain spectators and commentators to yet another outpouring and see it go by without affecting us.

There is an **outpouring** of God happening right now! There is a **visitation** of God on the earth. To use a technical term: "**Revival**" is taking place right now!

Revival is nothing new.



<u>Old Testament</u> Jonah Hezekiah Josiah Ezra ...and many others in the Old Testament.

### New Testament

Jesus life and ministry was itself undoubtedly a divine visitation of God among men. Yet is seemed so ordinary that so many overlooked the "God in flesh" who was among them.

The birth of the Church took place through an Outpouring/Visitation/Revival fulfilling Joel's prophecy Acts 2:17 / Joel 2:28

Acts chs 2,3,4 Visitation of God in Samaria Acts 8 Visitation of God in Lydda and Sharon Acts 9:35 Visitation of God in Ephesus Acts 19

<u>Christian History</u> Montanists Patrick of Ireland Waldensiands John Wycliffe John Huss John Welch of Scotland Count von Zinzendorf Jonathan Edwards John Wesley Charles Finney Evan Roberts of Wales ...and many others around the world....

<u>In our time</u> Argentina (Carlos Annacondia, Omar Cabrera, Claudio Freizdon) Toronto, John Arnott Mexico, David Hogan Brownsville Assembly of God Church (Pensacola, FL largest and most sustained revival in recent times, Stephen Hill and John Kilpatrick) Shillong Revival ...and many others around the world....

God's outpouring, times of visitation, Revival is actually happening all over the world.

### <u>What is it?</u>

Outpouring = the heavens are open and God's presence is released upon men like rain Visitation = God is walking amongst us. There are mighty signs, miracles, supernatural encounters, changed lives



Revive = to flourish or blossom anew, to live again, to regain life. What is dried now begins to flourish, fire is rekindled.

What does it look like?

- 1. Revolutionary change in lives
  - a. Conviction to the most stubborn, obstinate unbelievers
  - b. Repentance, conviction of sin, and an awareness of God's judgment
- 2. Emotional excitement about what God is doing
- 3. A vivid sense of God's presence
- 4. A new and refreshing atmosphere in the community
- 5. Extended periods of seeking God
  - a. Extended worship
  - b. Extended prayer and fasting
- 6. Freedom in the Spirit
- 7. New vitality to the church
- 8. Secular media reports of what God is doing in the community
- 9. A great harvest of new people coming into the church
- 10. Supernatural demonstrations
  - a. Visible manifestations of God's presence and power
  - b. Divine encounters, angelic visitations, increased dreams and visions
  - c. Demonic deliverance and physical healings
- 11. Unity of believers

(Modified from a list prepared by C. Peter Wagner, as gleaned from chapter 1, "Characteristics Common to Revival, pp1-14, from *Images of Revival: Another Wave Rolls In*, by Richard and Kathryn Riss, Revival Press, 1997)

The Early Church (Acts 2-4) is a classic example of what happens when there is an Outpouring, a Visitation of God, or a revival.

#### What causes it to take place?

Many people believe that an outpouring/a visitation/a Revival is **a sovereign work of God.** And in many cases it is. God just visits unexpectedly – when people have not necessarily been in any kind of expectancy for such a visitation.

And yet on the other hand we see several promises in God's Word and examples both in the Bible and Christian history indicating that <u>as people purposefully and earnestly entered in a</u> <u>time of seeking God, of pursuing His presence – they experienced an outpouring, a</u> <u>visitation, a revival</u>!

Hosea 5:6

"With their flocks and herds They shall go to seek the LORD, But they will not find Him; He has withdrawn Himself from them.

Hosea 6:1-3

1 Come, and let us return to the LORD; For He has torn, but He will heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up.

2 After two days He will revive us; On the third day He will raise us up, That we may live in His sight. 3 Let us know, Let us pursue the knowledge of the LORD. His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the rain, Like the latter and former rain to the earth.



#### Hosea 10:12

Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground, For it is time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you.

#### Zechariah 10:1

Ask the LORD for rain In the time of the latter rain. The LORD will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, Grass in the field for everyone.

#### Act 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,

Acts 2 wait in Jerusalem

#### Charles Finney:

I said that a revival is the result of the right use of the appropriate means. The means which God has enjoined for the production of a revival, doubtless have a natural tendency to produce a revival. Otherwise God would not have enjoined them. But means will not produce a revival, we all know, without the blessing of God. No more will grain, when it is sowed, produce a crop without the blessing of God. It is impossible for us to say that there is not as direct an influence or agency from God, to produce a crop of grain, as there is to produce a revival. What are the laws of nature according to which it is supposed that grain yields a crop? They are nothing but the constituted manner of the operations of God. In the Bible, the word of God is compared to grain, and preaching is compared to sowing seed, and the results to the springing up and growth of the crop. And the result is just as philosophical in the one case, as in the other, and is as naturally connected with the cause; or, more correctly, a revival is an aturally a result of the use of the appropriate means as a crop is of the use of its appropriate means. It is true that religion does not properly belong to the category of cause and effect; but although it is not caused by means, yet it has its occasion, and may as naturally and certainly result from its occasion as a crop does from its cause.

I wish this idea to be impressed on all your minds, for there has long been an idea prevalent that promoting religion has something very peculiar in it, not to be judged of by the ordinary rules of cause and effect; in short, that there is no connection of the means with the result, and no tendency in the means to produce the effect. No doctrine is more dangerous than this to the prosperity of the church, and nothing more absurd.

Suppose a man were to go and preach this doctrine among farmers, about their sowing grain. Let him tell them that God is a sovereign, and will give them a crop only when it pleases him, and that for them to plow and plant and labor as if they expected to raise a crop is very wrong, and taking the work out of the hands of God, that it interferes with his sovereignty, and is going on in their own strength: and that there is no connection between the means and the result on which they can depend. And now, suppose the farmers should believe such doctrine. Why, they would starve the world to death.

Just such results will follow from the church's being persuaded that promoting religion is somehow so mysteriously a subject of Divine sovereignty, that there is no natural connection between the means and the end. What are the results? Why, generation after generation has gone down to hell. No doubt more than five thousand millions have gone down to hell, while the church has been dreaming, and waiting for God to save them without the use of means. It has been the devil's most successful means of destroying souls. The connection is as clear in religion as it is when the farmer sows his grain.



(Extract from: LECTURES ON REVIVALS OF RELIGION by The Rev. CHARLES G. FINNEY, LECTURE I : WHAT A REVIVAL OF RELIGION IS)

Can we journey into it?

#### Deuteronomy 4:29

But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul. (Jeremiah 29:13)

#### It is time to seek the Lord

You and I have a choice. We can continue with "church as usual" with all our nicely planned, structured, organized ministries, events and programs. Or we can say, God come on and blow everything apart. We want more of you.

#### Hosea 10:12

Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground, For it is time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you.

Seek the Lord Invite an outpouring, a visitation, a revival in your life, in our church, in our city!

#### What if nothing happens? We will never know until we try!

You can never walk on the water until you step out of the boat. You can never feed a multitude with five loaves and two fishes until you start breaking and serving the little you have.

#### Will I get disappointed? Absolutely no!

Even if nothing outstanding, nothing spectacular happens – we will never be the same as we seek the Lord!

#### Will it cost me something? Yes it will.

When God visits us, life will not be as usual. Our world will be altered in many ways. Your time, your commitment, your busy schedule, your comfort,

#### Will I get tired? Will I burn out? Not when God is raining on you!

If our heart is set on truly seeking God and not on impure motives as recognition, fame, etc....then When God's presence invades, everything He touches is revived. We must manage the natural side of things with wisdom (people, places, things need to coordinated with wisdom).

#### The days after a season of revival

After a season of revival, life returns to normal – but things are not the same again. You are not the same. The community around you is not the same. And yet we must make every effort to sustain the fruits of revival else, we will lose them.

#### Living in a continuous outpouring

I desire that once we go in to a new level that we live there and continue to move into new realms of glory. We go from glory to glory.

Sermon Notes





Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance. YOUTUBE: <u>https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore</u> WEBSITE: <u>https://apcwo.org/live</u>

Our other websites and free resources: CHURCH: https://apcwo.org FREE SERMONS: https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons FREE BOOKS: https://apcwo.org/books/english DAILY DEVOTIONALS: https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional JESUS CHRIST: https://examiningjesus.com BIBLE COLLEGE: https://apcbiblecollege.org E-LEARNING: https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn WEEKEND SCHOOLS: https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools COUNSELING: https://chrysalislife.org MUSIC: https://apcmusic.org MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: https://pamfi.org CHURCH APP: https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches WORLD MISSIONS: https://apcworldmissions.org