



STEVE MAGILL

Our Present Age

www.AgeofAntichrist.com

March 2018

The Coming Great Revival May Not Be What You Think

THIS MONTH IS A MILE STONE FOR ME: I WILL

celebrate my 65th birthday and enter the ranks of those pressing forward toward the status of the elderly senior citizen. Except for a few years I departed from Christ, most of my 65 years have been spent among those claiming the name of Christ.

After being taken home from the hospital, my life began its journey living “church” life: Sunday meetings all day long; Bible Study on Wednesday; youth events throughout the week; evangelism in the community; week long revival meetings; any other churchy activity that might be going on; and of course we can’t leave out all the churchy fund-raisers, work days, and fellowship dinners. The “church” life was my life.

During this time a common expectation was that of a great revival taking place throughout the world. The preacher would bellow out: “I can see it now. Large masses of people from every corner of the globe; from every race and from every religion, receiving Christ.”

But the expectations were never fulfilled in my 10th year, or 20th year, or 30th year, or 40th year, or 50th year, or even my 60th year.

In our present age, as we live in the world’s final generation, the expectation of a great revival is still sounded out and is still far from being fulfilled. Taking the chance of being accused of heresy, and then tar and

feathered, I tell you the grand revival is not coming...at least not in the way that you might think.

Is There or Isn’t There? That Is the Question

The simple answer is that yes, there will be a revival of God’s people, but no, there will not be the mass turning toward Christ that we often hear about. In reality Scripture speaks of a *mass departure* from Christ, especially during our present age.

This mass departure is spoken of in 2 Thessalonians 2:2, 3 in this way:

“That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition.”

This mass departure is described in detail in Revelation Chapters 2 and 3. Here seven churches are identified with five of the seven described as having departed their faith in Christ and are encouraged to repent. Five out of seven reveals a mass departure of Christians from their faith in Christ.

This departure is also recorded in Matthew 24:9, 10 where we are told that Christians will see the troubles that fellow Christians are going through and will depart from Christ, instead of standing strong for Him.

This mass departure is often seen as a departure from the doctrines of Christ; however, Revelation 2 and 3 reveal this departure is more than a departure from the doctrines of Christ; it is a divorce from the Holy Spirit and a broken relationship with Christ.

This is the warning given in the parable of the ten virgins and ten talents in Matthew 25:1- 30. The warning is to remain in relationship with the Holy Spirit.

This return to relationship with God also is the warning the Apostle Paul gave to Timothy in 2 Timothy 3:5 when he warned that Christians will be Christian in name, but not in the power of the Holy Spirit. They will look like a Christian, but not be Christian.

This is the great deception: living the Christian life without the Holy Spirit, which makes a person not a Christian at all. This deception prevents the great revival from taking place in our present age.

Yes, the Great Revival is Coming But Not in the Way You Think

In our twenty-first century, Christianity is like a grand statute bringing great pride to all who look upon it as they remember what it once was and how the deeds behind the image brought them to where they are today...yet the statute/church itself is without life, without power. It is this life that needs to be restored.

Now this is where this article becomes uncomfortable. The great revival is too often viewed as a magnificent enormous celebration with much singing and dancing and joy and laughter; however, the opposite is true from an earthly view.

Scripture is filled with examples of how God uses troubles, wars, and persecution to revive His people...it will be the same with this revival that has not yet taken place, but everyone expects.

This grand revival is revealed in Revelation 11:3-12 in the form of the two witnesses. Here the two witnesses are Israel and the Church. It is after the great tribulation brought by the Antichrist that Israel and the Church are given great power—they are revived. For more details on the Church and Israel being the two witnesses, see [The Two Witnesses](#), or my book, [ARE WE THERE YET?](#)

At the time God's people are revived, the majority of God's people have already died in the great tribulation. Those who are left are the revived remnant, they also will eventually be killed by the Antichrist.

There is no grand celebration ... no feasting ... no dancing ... no great earthly benefits to be desired. There is no mass turning to Christ from those without Christ. There is only the experiencing of the living God in ways that perhaps only the great prophets of old, like Moses and Elijah, may have experienced.

Have You Counted the Cost?

In Luke 14:25-35 Jesus taught the great multitudes desiring to follow Him that they must be willing to experience great troubles, persecution, ridicule, loss—they must be willing to bear the burden of their cross.

Jesus did not encourage anyone to immediately follow Him; He encouraged them to understand what they were getting themselves into. He encouraged them to count the cost before moving forward with Christ.

Do you know what you got yourself into when you chose to be a Christian? Are you willing to keep your hand to the plow no matter how tough the going gets? There will be a grand revival of those willing to suffer the cost. There is a cost to being a Christian; that cost is your entire life, giving up all that you equate to life and living for the eternal kingdom that will be ours.