

THE PRESENT DAY SITUATION

REVIVAL IN QUEBEC

(A THIRD message on the theme REVIVAL by Evangelist Marcel Favreau)

(All biblical references are taken from the King James version)

After having written my second sermon, I asked myself if I had included everything I had on my heart concerning this spiritual vision as it relates to revival, but I have come to the understanding that when the Lord deposits something in our hearts, He also gives us the right words with which to express these thoughts. May this third message be useful in convincing others that Jesus himself by His Spirit will soon visit us. This message did not come to me via the Internet nor is it an offspring of the thousands of sermons available through that media. I allowed the hand of the Lord to rest on my soul, letting His Spirit guide and lead me. It may contain some shortcomings because even though I have written it with lots of love and after much prayer, I am only human; may this short introduction suffice as I seek your leniency on my behalf.

THE PRESENT DAY SITUATION

If we observe in an objective way the evangelical church in Quebec's present day situation, it is easy to realize that the **RESULTS** obtained from the sum total of all the efforts put together do not add up to these same efforts. We have a tendency to say that there is no effect without a cause; can we then honestly find the reason why in Quebec the true born-again believers in Jesus, saved by His precious blood, represent less than 1 % of the entire population? Why that figure does reaches 15% in a country like Brazil? Would the Lord play favourites? Surely not! I do not pretend to know all the answers, but at least one verse of Scripture dealing **WITH THIS SUBJECT** has grasped my attention.

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” (2 Timothy 3:16).

Haggai 1: 5-6: “Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; consider your ways. Ye have **sown much**, and **ring in little**, ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into **a bag with holes.**”

Verse 9: “Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came too **little**; and when ye **brought it** home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and **ye run every man unto his own house**. **Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit.**

Could the words “**EVERY MAN UNTO HIS OWN HOUSE**” also mean “every man unto his own assembly” or “every man for his own church and denomination” even “every man for himself”? Is Christ divided (as we read in 1 Cor. 1:13)? Is there a need to interpret these verses in order to understand what the Spirit wants to communicate to us? Surely not. The children of God have planted, ate at the Lord’s table and, like the song goes, drank at the spring of living waters. Even the garment of salvation did not suffice to warm their hearts like they so desired... the politics surrounding the “to each his own” mentality has driven out the **SPIRIT** of God. Little by little, **THE ANOINTING HAS BEEN STAMPED OUT**; instead of returning to square one with his **FIRST LOVE**, man has turned to his own human efforts. Man has tried to cover himself up by doing in the flesh what he had learned in the past to do through the **ANOINTING** of the Holy Spirit.

MAN EQUALS FLESH and the flesh represents quarrels, jealousy, animosities, contentions, divisions, sects, envy (Galatians 5:20). When the church decided to promote itself, it relied on methods this world made available which, in itself, is not a bad thing, but when the ANOINTING is absent, the results these same methods may usher in create a void, total emptiness. Worldly influences have gradually entered the church. No matter how loud we cry, gesticulate, leap, even have music loud enough to cause the walls to shake, nothing will ever be able to replace the **ANOINTING**. A million “Hallelujahs” in the

flesh will never go higher than the ceiling. We often hear the phrase: we have to remain optimistic. I wholeheartedly agree provided the same does not mean being blind. I do want to be optimistic, provided it is through an **ACTIVE AND LIVING** faith.

Too often, this optimism is nothing more than an external facade, i.e. a big smile with words such as: "Isn't it wonderful, it's extraordinary, God is moving, it's sensational, the Lord is at work". How I wish it were true! I can't help but wonder what superlatives will be used when the Lord truly will be at work, when the Holy Spirit sends us **REVIVAL!** Instead of using superlatives, we will see **RESULTS!** In those days, what we will experience will be far from crumbs or droplets, but **TORRENTIAL RAIN, A RIVER OF LIVING WATER! AMEN!**

In his epistle to the Corinthians, Paul the apostle, when referring to the children of Israel, writes: And did all eat the same **SPIRITUAL** meat; And did all drink the same **SPIRITUAL** drink: for they drank of that **SPIRITUAL ROCK...** and that Rock was Christ. But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things were our **EXAMPLES.** (1 Corinthians 10:3-6). **WHAT SHOULD WE THEN DO?** Do we not have the same **SPIRITUAL ROCK, CHRIST** himself? Why die in the desert? Let us awaken; the time has come to shake away the dust from our tattered garments and to anoint our eyes with eye salve (Revelation 3:18).

The evangelical church in Quebec is better organized and structured than ever before. Its **WEB** sites are magnificent, causing the author of this one to redden. Bible schools have turned into theological universities and places of higher learning. We have good radio and television programs (even though, too often, these same radio programs focus on the problems the church experiences instead of spreading the good news of **SALVATION found in JESUS CHRIST**). Churches nowadays plan various activities six months in advance, if not longer. Sermons are oftentimes little more than small **HUMAN** masterpieces when they are not simply sleep-inducing pills. Preachers from outside this province are

brought in with the hope that they will be able to solve our problems. Let us confess to the fact that man has more often than not invaded the Spirit's domain, even in the field of music and worship, even when it comes to dancing in the Spirit. The devil does not tremble when confronted with the **FLESH**, but he fears the **SPIRIT**. During **REVIVAL**, only the Spirit of God accomplishes all things; no more room for imitations, programs are **TERMINATED**, man **YIELDS** his place and **God TAKES CONTROL!**

2 Samuel 6:7. **UZZAH** had very good intentions upon placing his hand on the ark of the Lord, but it was insufficient. The only thing the human hand is capable of doing is to stain the movement of the Holy Spirit. So, what is missing, you ask? The **ANOINTING of the HOLY SPIRIT** is missing; more **ROOM** must be created for the **ANOINTING. LET JESUS CHASE OUT OF THE TEMPLE ALL THESE MONEYCHANGERS.**

The ANOINTING: Someone will say: “What exactly do you mean by Anointing? Can you tell me specifically how it should be understood?” Some folks blame Christians for seeking the anointing; they accuse them of desiring only blessings. These same people represent those from whom this same anointing was lifted a long time ago and those who have never experienced it. To describe or talk about the **ANOINTING** with mere words is not an easy task. However, every born-again Christian has experienced it at least once – the day that person accepted Christ as Lord and Saviour.

I should perhaps begin by mentioning what the anointing is not. It is not salvation, nor the gift of tongues, prophecy, miracles, healings, sanctification, not even love (1 Cor. 13). However, that being said, without the anointing, one cannot truly experience what is known as the **PRESENCE** of the Lord and His **AMAZING GRACE**. Spiritual entities can be tasted, felt, experienced and lived but they are not easily expressed with mere words. The **ANOINTING** allows us to participate in all these things. Without the anointing, the church resembles any

given unplugged electrical household appliance – nice to look at, but completely useless.

Specific examples could be given from the Word of God when one tries to explain what the **ANOINTING** amounts to, but such spiritual matters are not readily explained with words or by reasoning. The heart is quickened under the **ANOINTING** of the Spirit; it savors and receives things from above. We are called to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7). We begin to see these things which are invisible. To those who maintain that all this is nothing more than emotions, I would say: “Be comforted, for when we will be deceased, our mortal bodies will no longer feel emotions”, meanwhile, however, we will continue to vibrate with emotions when the **ANOINTING** of the Holy Spirit invades our hearts, our souls and our spirit.

There is the personal anointing which every believer feels from time to time. However, this anointing is not always given us whenever we ask for it; on the contrary, more often than not, the **ANOINTING** falls on us when we expect it the least. It could be present in our lives to stimulate our faith when facing adverse circumstances, to draw us nearer to God, in prayer or in one thousand and one other particular situations.

There is the anointing found when believers are together **in a church gathering**; it can rest on the pastor, the preacher or even on a church member. This divine anointing is given to be communicated to whoever is present in that room, and that remains the most important thing. Most Christian assemblies have felt this anointing at various times; it does not always come with the same intensity. It can be short-lived or long-lived, still or strong! It sometimes spreads out on everyone at the same time without necessarily resting on one particular individual.

There is the anointing on an entire country! This kind of anointing is found during a **REVIVAL**, it's like a **HURRICANE!** It will cause sinners to fall on

their faces, and repentance follows; souls coming by the thousands at the foot of the cross. We throw our nets in the water and these nets get filled up. What is there to do then? Let's read the promise found in Joel 2:23-25 – ask for dewdrops. **REVIVAL, JESUS WILL VISIT US, HE IS COMING!** Do you hear the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees? Let us then beseech the Lord to help us return to our **FIRST LOVE** which has been abandoned for so long!

Prayer rooms today which have not totally disappeared are practically empty. Week-end church meetings are down to a Sunday morning-only gathering. Sunday night evangelistic meetings are eliminated! We are told that the people are tired and furthermore, they have to work the following day. However, in bygone times, people also had to work yet they were eager to attend church and see God move. They flocked to the building up to one hour in advance to pray; nowadays, many arrive ten minutes after the start of the meeting! In bygone times, it was not unusual to see a Sunday night meeting end at around 11 p.m. Do you honestly believe all Christians are in bed by 10 p.m. each Sunday night? **LET'S WAKE UP!** Let's cry out to God for **REVIVAL!** There is practically nothing left on the church **MENU**; no wonder people keep looking at their watches, leave their seat to go to the washroom or even go outside to have a smoke. **THE ANOINTING IS NO LONGER AN ITEM ON THE MENU!** Man barely allows the Holy Spirit a few minutes so that He can give spiritual water and food to those who truly are seeking fresh manna from heaven.

Center stage is belongs to whoever has a program all prepared. **PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB!** Everything is timed: the song service, testimonies (do they still exist?), the offering, the announcements, the preaching, and finally the curtain come down as man's show ends. Everything must end by 10 p.m. It is more than urgent than we cry out to God: **"Away with the moneychangers in the temple and WELCOME to you, JESUS! WELCOME TO YOU, DIVINE ANOINTING!"**

Recently, a Christian brother was sharing the following with me on the subject of **REVIVAL**: “We all believe in that! You are preaching nothing new! We are all in agreement with what you are proclaiming concerning revival”. **ONE MOMENT PLEASE!** There is a vast difference between merely accepting a truth and believing it with all our hearts, having a **BURDEN, a VISION**, and to talk about it with anointing; to confess it with certainty and conviction and to **PRAY** by faith to see it come to pass. Notice that this brother is certainly not different from the rest of us; he is only the reflection of what is often our own attitude unless the **ANOINTING** frees us from our spiritual lethargy.

REVIVAL: Revival – do you know what it is? Let me tell you in order to avoid any confusion in your spirit. I have found its meaning in various places in Scripture, but more precisely in one verse which has become instrumental in transforming my way of seeing it.

This isn't fast food, it comes from the heart; at my age, there is no longer time to play church. (I am soon approaching my 85th birthday). There is no longer anyone whom I must please except my Saviour. He alone has done a work in me and has transformed my life. My desire is to serve Him and do His will all the days He chooses to add to my earthly pilgrimage. Write these verses down, re-read them and meditate on them. Take whatever time is needed to open your Bible to read them and may the Lord, in His loving Grace, open the eyes of His servants and Christians everywhere.

LUKE 5: 4-7: And Jesus unto Simon: “Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto him: Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.

Dear pastors, workers in the Lord's vine and you, from the least known intercessor to the worship leader, musicians and church members who have persevered in faith, you who have cast your bread on the surface of the waters, **REJOICE!** There is a time to toil during the night, but the time is at hand where we will see the mighty hand of God fill our ships. At that time, it will become necessary to call upon our brothers and we will bury our differences. At any rate, there will be no differences whatsoever in the world to come.

JESUS COMES AND PUTS HIS HAND ON THE PLOW... NO MORE ROOM FOR HUMAN HANDS. His divine Majesty, the power from above, the move of the **SPIRIT!** Nothing shall be able to stop it! **REVIVAL**, that which we long for, **IS COMING! JESUS wants to visit us**, so let's open our doors and let's open our hearts to Him!

BY FAITH I BELIEVE IT, YOU BELIEVE IT, WE BELIEVE IT! AMEN.

Evangelist Marcel Favreau

P. O. Box 237,

St-Hubert, Quebec, Canada

J3Y 5T3

English translation by Pierre Favreau

Traductions Plus

pfav355 @ yahoo.ca