

Revivalism: The Devil's Design

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Author: Christopher J. E. Johnson

Updated: Aug 7, 2016

The term "revivalism" popped into existence about 200 years ago:

revivalism (n): the form of religious activity that manifests itself in revivals; the tendency to revive what belongs to the past

revival (n): an awakening, in a church or community, of interest in and care for matters relating to personal religion; an evangelistic service or a series of services for the purpose of effecting a religious awakening

(See 'revivalism' & 'revival', Random House Dictionary, 2016, [dictionary.com]; See also Collins English Dictionary, 10th Edition, William Collins Sons & Co, 2012)

In general, a "revivalist" is someone who believes that the Christian church has become apathetic (i.e. having or showing little or no emotion) and needs to be "restored" to a state of fervor (i.e. high emotional enthusiasm). In other words, the goal of a revivalist is to get people emotionally built up to be "on fire" for Jesus. My contention with the revival practices is that, in every case I've witnessed, they are unbiblical events being performed by a false church that is teaching false doctrine by the mouths of false converts who love money and preeminence over the Word of God, and before reading more in this article, I would highly recommend first studying our expose on false converts in the church.

(Read "False Converts & Eternal Security" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

It is my firm belief that the true church of Christ, the remnant of the elect, has never lost desire or motivation. It's always been there. The problem is we are plagued with false converts without repentance, and they are fooled into thinking they are part of the church, but without Christ and the true Holy Spirit (not the false christ and false spirit they typically speak of), they have to be "recharged." The reason there are so many "backsliders" is because they were never of Christ to begin with, and when the hard times fall on the false converts, they fall away, and must be reeled back in by the same worldly, unbiblical methods that lured them in the first place.

But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.

-Matthew 13:20-21

There are certainly many self-proclaimed "pastors" and self-proclaimed "prophets" that will condemn me for what I've already stated, but I urge born-again Christians not to respect the person of their self-proclaimed titles by ignoring the information in this article. Please study the Scripture and compare them with the words of these revivalists to discern the truth of the matter.

(Read "Why Are Christians Respecting Persons? here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

Let's begin by looking at an advertisement for a revival tour, scheduled back in 2012, called "Ready For Revival," that was organized and led by a man named Mark Harris. I have cut out some parts of this video because it was originally designed to play on a loop for advertising, which means lots of repetitiveness, so to save time, I compiled his main points. The introduction to the video had this dramatic music behind it that Harris purchased for use, so there will be silence in the first half to avoid copyright disputes:

Ready For Revival by Mark Harris

<https://youtu.be/Vg1PJEoxttQ>

HARRIS "We're going to invite you to participate the National Ready For Revival Tour. At each tour stop at Ready For Revival, we are committed to helping you and others commit or recommit your life to the Almighty. The Almighty has promised that sometime before the end, he will pour out his spirit upon on flesh, and the savior of mankind has asked us to be ready. Are you ready for that day? Are you ready for revival?... He also said we will know that the time is near. If you are sick and tired of living a life with no real purpose, or if you are dragging your spiritual feet in a half-committed life to the Almighty and his son, and you want real revival in your life, then come and visit us at one of our tour stops."

Some of this might actually sound very good and very Biblical to an unbeliever, or to a new Christian that doesn't have much experience in studying the Word of God and exercising discernment, but there's a few things we need to point out. First of all, notice that he was preaching to those who are "tired of living a life with no real purpose," which is exactly the same message that false preacher (wolf) Rick Warren teaches in his wicked "Purpose-Driven" cult. (Read "Wolves in Costume: Rick Warren" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

If you watched carefully in the video, you'll notice a Bible verse reference appeared on the screen to Joel 2:28 with the following words:

"The Almighty Has Promised 'I Will Pour Out My Spirit Upon All Flesh'"

-Mark Harris, "The National Ready For Revival Tour Coming To A City Near You," retrieved July 8, 2016, [youtube.com/watch?v=JKiX4LMICSs]

The argument from Harris is that the Lord God has promised Christians that he will pour out his spirit to everyone in the end times, but this is a cherry picked phrase out of one verse toward the end of Joel 2. If we go back and read the entire chapter to get the context, we can see this is talking about the very last days, the first sign being the trumpet sounding to pronounce the day of the Lord:

Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand;
-Joel 2:1

Also, the sun, moon, and stars go dark, which is another sign of the day of the Lord, and the 2nd coming of Christ.

The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.
-Joel 2:31

Joel is prophesying God's wrath being poured out in the last days of the final tribulation specifically, not just "the end times," as Harris vaguely phrases it. In addition to this, Joel 2:28 gives even more specific timing for the pouring out of God's spirit, and those of you who study Scripture regularly ought to quickly see why he cherry-picked those words out of this verse:

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:
-Joel 2:28

After the day of the Lord, and after Israel repents, then He will pour out His spirit. This is not talking about some secret "revival" that takes place in the end times long before the final days. It is after the sun, moon, and stars go dark, after the trumpet sounds, and it is obvious to see those signs have not come to pass yet. Harris, along with millions of others, are attempting to force in a moving of the spirit right now under a false interpretation of prophecy, and it is also why there are so many pre-trib cultists that are involved in this false revivalism movement.

(Read "The Beginner's Guide to Tribulation and Rapture" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

I challenge any Christian to go into the New Testament and find a place that speaks of a "revival" of Christians before the return of Christ. When I read NT Scripture, I find the following prophecy:

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;
-2 Thessalonians 2:3

Does this say there would be a great revival before the day comes? Or does this say there would be a falling away? As we have seen in many other teachings we've published in this ministry, the typical church building in America is teaching the exact opposite of what Scripture tells us because the Bible teaches us that things are going to get worse towards the end, not better, and I would ask the reader keep this in mind because this "feel-good" message of joy and happiness is the center-piece of the revivalist movement.

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.
-Matthew 24:24

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;
-1 Timothy 4:1-2

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power [i.e. the authority] thereof: from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

-2 Timothy 3:1-7

As a reminder, in the rare case that a revivalist may read this, what I just quoted is not called "The Word of God" for no reason; it's called the Word of God because it's God's Word. I realize that sounds very simple, but I firmly believe churchgoers forget that because often they will seek to justify wicked practices by their personal experiences and feelings, rather than backing up what they do with God's message that He preserved for us in the King James Bible.

(Read "Why I Use the King James Bible" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

Before we begin to analyze more modern-day revivals, let's look at the history of revivalism because it's only been around for a couple hundred years. Charles Finney is widely credited with ushering in the American revivalist movement in the 19th century, as the deceptive *Christianity Today* website asserts:

"And so began the new career of the man who would become the leading revivalist in the nineteenth century... *Finney is called the 'father of modern revivalism' by some historians, and he paved the way for later mass-evangelists like Dwight L. Moody, Billy Sunday, and Billy Graham.*"

-*Christianity Today*, "Charles Finney: Father of American Revivalism," retrieved July 12, 2016, [christianitytoday.com/history/people/evangelistsandapologists/charles-finney.html]

This should raise red flags with some of you who understand that **Billy Graham is not a Christian** because he has openly denied the Lord Jesus Christ on international television, and has believed and taught a false gospel for the past 60 years. Charles Finney gave false preachers like Billy Graham the system they needed to gain popularity, and it should be no surprise to discover that Finney did not believe in the Gospel of Christ either:

"But my studies, so far as he was concerned as my teacher, were little else than controversy. *He held to the old school doctrine of original sin, or that the human constitution was morally depraved.* He held also, that men were utterly unable to comply with the terms of the Gospel, to repent [2Ti 2:25], to believe, or to do anything that God required them to do; that while they were free to all evil, in the sense of being able to commit any amount of sin, yet they were not free to perform any good [i.e. Romans 3:10-11]; that God had condemned men for their sinful nature [John 3:18]; and for this, as well as for their transgressions, they deserved eternal death [Rom 1:32].

He held also that the influences of the Spirit of God on the minds of men were physical [i.e. works as a result of salvation], acting directly upon the substance of the soul; that men were passive in regeneration [i.e. they cannot do works for their salvation]; and in short he held *all those doctrines that logically flow from the fact of a nature sinful in itself. These doctrines I could not receive. I could not receive his views on the subject of atonement, regeneration, faith, repentance, the slavery of the will, or any of the kindred doctrines.*"

-Charles G. Finney, *Memoirs of Rev. Charles G. Finney*, Applewood Books, 2009, p. 46, ISBN: 9781429018913



Charles Finney believed that man was inwardly good, and rejected the doctrine of original inherited sin from Adam and Eve.

Wherefore, as *by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*

-Romans 5:12

For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

-1 Corinthians 15:21-22

Though the Bible teaches that sin and death came by man through Adam, and that we all have inherited it, Finney rejected the Bible's teaching. In his lectures, Finney taught:

*"**Foundation of the Justification of Penitent Believers in Christ.** That is, what is the ultimate ground or reason of their justification. **1.** It is not founded in Christ's literally suffering the exact penalty of the law for them, and in this sense literally purchasing their justification and eternal salvation... that Christ suffered in his own person the full amount strictly due to all the elect, I say, That it was naturally impossible... Neither is the atonement of Christ the foundation of our justification... Nor is any thing in the mediatorial work of Christ the foundation of our justification."*

-Charles G. Finney, Lectures on Systematic Theology, Fitch, 1847, p. 162-163, [University of Michigan]

This means Finney did not believe that Christ's sacrifice on the cross paid for the sins of man, nor did he believe that Christ's intercession on behalf of those who believe on Him (i.e. his status as the one and only mediator) is the justification for our sin that imputes righteousness to us.

Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator. Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one. Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

-Galatians 3:19-22

By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. For such a high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself. For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated for evermore.

-Hebrews 7:22-28

Since Finney didn't believe that there was original sin, it makes sense that he also doesn't believe that Christ's sacrifice on the cross paid for the sins of man. If you don't believe in the debt, you will also deny any payment made for that debt, which is why people need to understand they are lost before they can be found.

*And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, **nailing it to his cross**; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*

-Colossians 2:13-15

For any kind of real "revival" to take place in man requires the Holy Spirit of God to work in him and convert him outside of his own works. The Lord God has to reach out to the lost to save them because they can't save themselves.

For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

-Isaiah 57:15

However, this is not what Charles Finney believed:

"The sinner has all the faculties and natural attributes requisite to render perfect obedience to God. All he needs is to be induced [persuaded]."

-Charles G. Finney, Lectures on Systematic Theology, W. Tegg & Co, 1851, p. 408, [University of Michigan]

Those familiar with Scripture may go to Corinthians to contend with me on this issue, specifically concerning my contention against Finney on the issue of persuasion:

Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

-2 Corinthians 5:11

But we don't want to cherry-pick Scripture. Persuade men of what? Go to verse 10:

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

-2 Corinthians 5:10

We are persuading men that they must be judged by God, and we do that by giving them the law by which they will be judged. The unbeliever needs to understand that he cannot keep the whole of the law, and that he is guilty before the Holy God.

But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

-Galatians 3:23-24

Finney also confesses his belief that salvation can only come by works:

"Conditions of Justification. As has been already said there can be no justification in a legal or forensic sense, but upon condition of universal, perfect, and uninterrupted obedience to law. This is of course denied by those who hold that gospel justification or the justification of penitent sinners... They hold to the legal maxim [principle or rule] that what a man does by another he does by himself, and therefore the law regards Christ's obedience as ours on the ground that he obeyed for us. To this I reply... The doctrine of an imputed righteousness or that Christ's obedience to the law was accounted as our obedience, is founded on a most false and nonsensical assumption;"

-Charles G. Finney, *Lectures on Systematic Theology*, Fitch, 1847, p. 99, [University of Michigan]

Finney did *NOT* believe that a man can be sorry for his sin and believe on Christ as his savior and sole justification by faith alone. Finney believed that one must do the works of the law to be justified, and thus **he taught a works-based doctrine that denied Christ; this is the man who invented revivalism as we know it today.**

With this understanding of Finney's beliefs, it should be no surprise that revivalism and the charismatic movement fit so perfectly together. The "inward goodness" of Finney and the "feel-good" messages of modern tent revivals both work together perfectly in Satan's plan for the deception of false converts.

For example, I was looking around at tent revival videos, and even though it was sickening to listen to their showboating, I did my best to tolerate it so I could hear the words behind they're sanctimonious tones. One man, Ron Carpenter, started off his tent revival preaching by describing what he saw when looking at people around him:

"We see people that are so unsure and insecure about where they're at in the world today."

-Ron Carpenter, "Tent Revival," retrieved July 12, 2016, [youtu.be/BwDQ3LWOYkQ?t=19s]



Of course, he gets those shouts of "AMEN BROTHER!!!" from the crowd after saying it, but I was shaking my head no when I heard him say it. I don't see people who are unsure and insecure; I see a nation of arrogance, blissful ignorance, and pride, which is exactly why people are not looking for a savior, and even if they do look for a savior, that savior is typically a man, like a government leader or a religious figure (i.e. pastor, priest, etc).

The Bible does not say that people are unsure and insecure; the Bible tells us that people are professing themselves to be wise, and they revel in the lusts of their flesh to have pleasure in wickedness.

Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

-Romans 1:23-32

The problem is that in almost all of these tent revivals, the purpose is to give the people a positive "feel-good" message, not to teach the truth. Despite the fact the pastors of these revival tents claim to want to "save souls," the true purpose is to gather a crowd, bring in donations, and hype up an enthusiastic herd of cattle that will flock to save their dying church building with open wallets. If you preach a "negative" message, which is what the Bible teaches concerning mankind's sin, then most people will naturally depart because that doesn't make them feel good, and that's why Christ taught us individual evangelism, not massive tents and sound systems.

More evidence of Carpenter's true "purpose" is discovered when he said:

"I'm not here to preach to the church. I'm here to preached to unchurched."

-Ron Carpenter, "Tent Revival," retrieved July 12, 2016, [youtu.be/BwDQ3LWOYkQ?t=6m12s]

First of all, if that were true, and he were truly of God, then he would be giving them the law to save souls, but that's not what he was doing.

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

-Psalm 19:7

Second, and most important, what Carpenter just said is exactly what false teachers like Rick Warren and Robert Schuller have said; their focus was not "lost vs saved," it was "church vs unchurched." Christians, please keep an ear out for those keywords of "purpose" and "unchurched," because you will hear those a lot in the new-age cults.

(Read "Wolves in Costume: Rick Warren" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

While still almost yelling into the microphone, Carpenter continues to say:

"Some of this, you're not going to understand. All you're going to understand is that there is a longing in your heart to live a different life."

-Ron Carpenter, "Tent Revival," retrieved July 12, 2016, [youtu.be/BwDQ3LWOYkQ?t=6m12s]

Of course, this was still getting fervent amens from the crowd of ignorant church-goers. The focus of this man is claimed to be the saving of souls, but really it's about changing their earthly lives, and that's the positivity message that helps attract a crowd and extra money in the offering plate. This man is claiming that these people are longing for God, seeking after God, and they just don't know it, so they need this amazing preacher to tell them about it, preaching a "Jesus is better than beer" mentality that creates false converts.

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the

way of peace have they not known: *There is no fear of God before their eyes. Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.*

-Romans 3:10-19

The Lord God tells us that no one is seeking after Him, and that they must be converted. The tent revival preacher is telling them that they're desiring after God, they just don't know it, and they want to live a different life, so they should try Jesus. There is no conversion process happening because the methods God set up for us Christians to use are being abandoned by the false church in favor of Finney's traditions.

Here are some more statements from Carpenter:

- "*Without the word of god, you will die a miserable death.*"

Many Christian martyrs, including the disciples of Christ, died a miserable death *WITH* the Word of God. The Word of God does not promise us an amazing life, but does promise us eternal security, but only to those who have repented in godly sorrow and been born-again.

(Read "Is Repentance Part of Salvation?" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

- Yelling into the microphone: "*When boats take on water, they don't float too good. The bottom line is if the boat don't float, you better know how to swim.*"

Forgive my sarcasm, but someone should crochet that wording into a blanket because this crowd treated his sentence as if these were the greatest words a man has ever spoken. Do not five-year-old children understand if a boat takes on water, it will sink? Do not children understand that if you're in water you need to swim?

The crowd is so blinded by their emotions, they believe these words are equivalent to wisdom:

For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

-1 Corinthians 1:17

Paul was pointing out that people claimed to be of Paul, instead of Christ, just as people today put themselves under a church building's name and/or a preacher's banner, rather than under Christ. Paul points out here that he's not preaching with wisdom of words, meaning the cutesy phrases, anecdotes, and play on words that tickle the ears of men, like they do at every revival I've ever seen or heard, but rather Paul was saying that he taught directly from the Word of God.

Carpenter, at the beginning of his sermon, said that God directly told him to preach that message, but this preacher has the crowd in such a fit of emotion, he could say almost anything and the crowd would say amen, as if they could no longer understand his words. He's not bringing them any Biblical understanding.

For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

-1 Corinthians 14:33

In 1 Corinthians 14, Paul explains why speaking in different languages has to be taken with the upmost seriousness, because Christians need to be given understanding from the Word of God. If people speak in a language unknown, it sounds like gibberish, and no understanding is gained:

For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful... I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.

-1 Corinthians 14:14-19

The whole purpose of speaking in a clear language everyone present can understand is for that reason: so they can understand. Yelling out random phrases that don't make any sense serves no function in the church, but often, these people just start screaming and saying stuff, thinking that every noise that comes out of their mouths is of God.

Let all things be done decently and in order.

-1 Corinthians 14:40

The Bible warns us that men would come with feel-good words and charismatic speeches to deceive the hearts of the simple-minded; serving the god of their belly, their grumbling stomach, to feed it with the money thrown at them for their entertaining dialogue.

For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

-Romans 16:18

These men don't learn how to preach "good words and fair speeches" from the Word of God. They didn't learn it from Christ. They didn't learn it from Christ's apostles. They learned it from the traditions of men.

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

-Colossians 2:8

They're doing things by the tradition of the people who taught them, and those people did things by the traditions of those before them, going all the way back to Charles Finney. It doesn't matter how much people in revivalist movements want to talk about miracles, the truth is that Finney openly stated that the revivalist movement has nothing to do with miracles, and has everything to do with pragmatism:

*"A **Revival of Religion Is Not a Miracle.** A miracle has been generally defined to be, a Divine interference, setting aside or suspending the laws of nature. It is not a miracle, in this sense. All the laws of matter and mind remain in force. They are neither suspended nor set aside in a revival. It is not a miracle according to another definition of the term miracle -- something above the powers of nature. There is nothing in religion beyond the ordinary powers of nature. It consists entirely in the right exercise of the powers of nature. It is just that, and nothing else. When mankind become religious, they are not enabled to put forth exertions which they were unable before to put forth. They only exert the powers they had before in a different way, and use them for the glory of God. It is not a miracle, or dependent on a miracle, in any sense. It is a purely philosophical result of the right use of the constituted means -- as much so as any other effect produced by the application of means."*

-Charles G. Finney, Lectures on Revivals of Religion, Leavitt, Lord & Company, 1835, p. 12, [Harvard University]

When I say "pragmatism," it's very similar to "the end justifies the means," or in other words, the revivalists do whatever is necessary to achieve a desired goal, even if it goes against Scripture. When Finney says revivalism is "a purely philosophical result of the right use of constituted means," he's saying that he is altering people's way of thinking by using an established method that he has invented, and by his preface, this invented method did not rely on Scripture and the knowledge of God, but rather by his own pragmatic interpretation of how to accomplish the goal he had in mind.

In fact, when Finney said "there is nothing in religion beyond the ordinary powers of nature," it means he doesn't believe in miracles. Not only he doesn't believe in miracles, but he also doesn't believe that God is much involved with the business of mankind, and that everything is simply operating according God's laws, but He took His hands off of everything after the creation. (It's very similar to what theistic evolutionists believe.) In combination with everything else we've read from Finney, this means he invented revivalism under the presupposition that men are "saved" in the very same way that you change a flat tire, that no divine intervention is involved, and this is further evidenced by his statement, "as much so as any other effect produced by the application of means," which means it is a man-centered "gospel message" that he built, which was handed down from preacher to preacher, and that's why we see these tent revivals as they appear today.

For a Bible-believing/studying Christian, if you've ever been to one of these revivals, or at least watched a video of one, and you get those red warning lights going off in the back of your mind that something is very wrong, Finney's statement here should explain why you're getting a discerning danger sense. The Lord God, via the Holy Spirit, is warning you by conviction that there is something seriously wrong, and the people emotionally engrossed in the revival event have been blinded to such a degree, God's Word warning against the feel-good messages being presented will fall on deaf ears.

Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.

-Psalm 12:1-2

Carpenter started getting so loud, so incoherent, and started jumping and running around, I couldn't take anymore of it, and I decided to move on to another video. In the next one, I didn't get the preacher's name, but the video started out in a tent with some music I couldn't understand from some children yelling into a microphone and an extremely loud drumset in the background, so I skipped ahead.

This preacher started out telling everyone:



"I want you to believe there's a miracle in here for you tonight... why don't you grab somebody's hand tonight in the name of the Lord and tell them there is a miracle here for you in the name of Jesus."

-Unnamed preacher, "Savannah GA Tent Revival," retrieved July 12, 2016, [youtu.be/ZzpBLQtd_ww?t=2m37s]

The problem is that this is incredibly vague. What is that supposed to mean, that there is a 'miracle' for them? Notice first he said that he

"*wanted them to believe*" it, not that it's true, but that he wants their faith in what he said.

I don't believe this man for a second, first of all because the pre-Christ revivals are unbiblical, so why would the Lord God get behind them? Also, not only is this man lying, he's requesting that everyone else in the tent lie to one another because unless the Lord God caused a storm that would tear the tent down, I don't see a miracle coming to that tent, especially after what we just read from Finney.

The vague statements are designed on purpose because the more uncertain the meaning, the easier it is to sell.

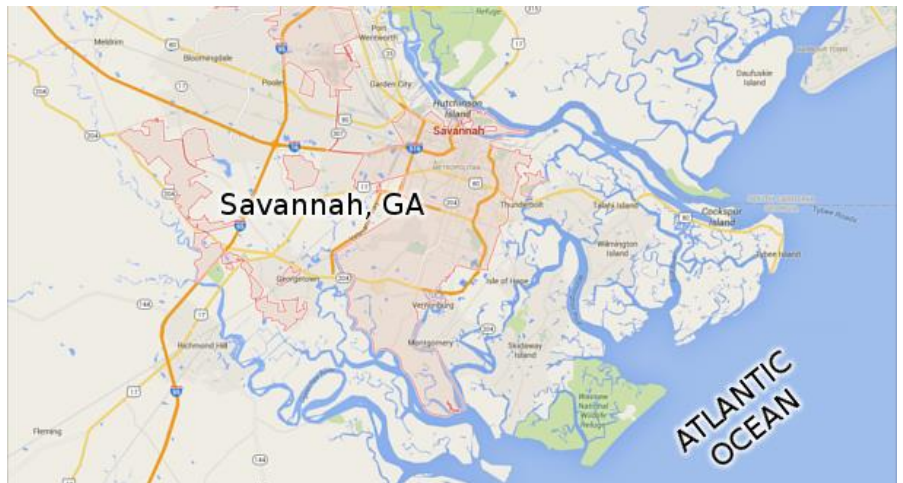
Just like every other revivalist preacher, this pastor tells everyone that God sent him there to preach a message to them. He also said there was a prophet among them, that delivered the Word of God to the Christians of Savannah, GA:

"A prophet has been in the midst of you, and that these things shall come to pass... the lord said there's a great storm coming this way, to this city, and the lord also said that there's going to be a great explosion here on the waters, and that the people needed to be prepared early for it come."

-Unnamed preacher, "Savannah GA Tent Revival," retrieved July 12, 2016, [youtu.be/ZzpBLQtd_ww?t=3m58s]

For those of you who aren't familiar with the geography of Savannah, Georgia, let me show you a map:

I've counted no less than eight named rivers that surround the city of Savannah, which all drain into the coast line of Atlantic Ocean. The Atlantic coast line along Savannah is famous as a hot spot tourist attraction. For a "prophet" to fortell the coming of flood waters in Savannah, would be like a "prophet" going to the Hebrew slaves in Egypt and "prophesying" that it was going to be hot tomorrow. The Georgia state website has a page dedicated to Savannah flood emergencies because they happen quite frequently, so not only is this common knowledge (i.e. not prophecy), but the so-called "prophet" gives no timing whatsoever, which means whenever the next flood happens, in the eyes of these ignorant church-goers, he suddenly becomes a "true" prophet of God.



(Image by Google Maps, "Savannah, GA," retrieved July 12, 2016, [bit.ly/29vgOsK])

(See Cith of Savannah, "Flood Protection Information," retrieved July 12, 2016, [savannahga.gov/floodprotection])

He told them that these prophecies, namely a flood coming to Savannah, was the gift of God, and then he said:

"As a matter of fact, look at somebody and tell them 'That's my miracle.'"

-Unnamed preacher, "Savannah GA Tent Revival," retrieved July 12, 2016, [youtu.be/ZzpBLQtd_ww?t=5m15s]

First he said there was a miracle, connected the miracle to the prophecy that there would be a flood in an area known for frequent floods (without any specific timing), and then had the people confess that was their miracle. This was insurance for the pastor to make sure people wouldn't leave there thinking and saying, "I didn't receive any miracle," and I don't see how someone that deceptive could be of Christ. This was just the first three minutes, and we already see deep deception in what's going on in this revival meeting.

In another part, the preacher told everyone that the prophecies of God were not fortune-telling, and that they shouldn't have to pay for them, so they wouldn't be taking an offering. That sure sounds good at first glance, doesn't it? The tent, sound equipment, property, food, and everything else they provided must have come out of the pastor's pocket, right? I highly doubt he lifted a finger to pay for any of it; these things were provided by people taking offerings beforehand, which is fine, but the deception is in his attempts to disconnect the fact that the money is still coming directly from their giving.

Another preacher, Jason Kendrick, who travels with his family to these unbiblical revival tents all over the country to sing and dance, talks about the costs of them:

"Many have asked me how much a tent revival would cost. We have found that most churches spend an average of \$2,500.00 total on their revival expenses. This, of course, depends on how many preachers and/or if there are singers that have been invited and also the distance the rig and revival team must travel to reach the revival destination. This estimated cost is based on revival team and evangelist only. In today's economy, one could not rent a tent with all the equipment offered for such a price. We come by faith on a love-offering basis trusting that God will meet the needs through the offerings of His people.

-Jason Kendrick, "Revival Expenses," retrieved July 12, 2016, [jasonkendrickfamily.com/tent-ministry.html]

The \$2500 he's talking about is only an average, and that's only for the tent setup. They still need to provide for all the singers and preachers who come in from around the country, depending on how big it is. They have platforms, altars, electrical systems, P.A. systems, lighting, chairs, the tent itself, and any other accommodations they want to include that vary in cost. These things get pricey very quickly, and all to spread false doctrines with a "feel-good" message.

At this point I'd like to let the reader know that I am seriously struggling watching/listening to these tent revival videos because they are filled with such wicked men that want to put on a show for the masses, it's making me sick to my stomach. I'm only suffering through these to demonstrate the point.

One man I listened to seemed to be teaching repentance to salvation, which seemed great on the surface, but then he pointed out through his yelling that they needed to put on a prayer shawl, which is a Jewish tradition not recognized by the New Testament Church in Scripture. In other videos, he also used the tradition of "altar calls" which are not also not found in Scripture and never recognized by the New Testament Church in Scripture. Even though repentance was being taught, the problem was that it was not being taught as godly sorrow, but turning from sin, which is a works-doctrine that says you must turn from all sin to be saved, but the Bible teaches us that we are saved while in our sinful state.

(See Bruce, "Tent Revival May 2009," retrieved July 14, 2016, [youtube.com/watch?v=f1hE-UZ6zEM])

And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. [i.e. That's repentance!]

-Luke 18:9-14

Unbiblical Altar Calls

The altar call is never found in Scripture, neither is the design of the bench found at the forefront of most church building sanctuaries. If it's not in Scripture, how did it get implemented? Sadly, the revivalist movement is the instigator of the problem.

The following author documents the history behind the altars:

"[I]n 1807 in England, the Methodists created the 'mourner's bench.' Anxious sinners now had a place to mourn for their sins when they were invited to walk down the sawdust trail. This method reached the United States a few years later and was given the name the 'anxious bench' by Charles Finney. The 'anxious bench' was located in the front

where preachers stood on an erected platform. It was there that both sinners and needy saints were called forward to receive the minister's prayers. Finney's method was to ask those who wished to be saved to stand up and come forward. Finney made this method so popular that 'after 1835, it was an indispensable fixture of modern revivals.'... In time, the 'anxious bench' in the outdoor camp meeting was replaced by the 'altar' in the church building. The 'sawdust trail' was replaced by the church aisle. And so was born the famous 'altar call.'"

-Frank Viola & George Barna, *Pagan Christianity?: Exploring the Roots of Our Church Practices*, Tyndale House Publishers Inc, 2010, p. 66-67, ISBN: 9781414341651

This means part of the design of the typical church building is centered around the revivalist movement by a man who didn't believe in the Christian God of the Bible.



(Read "Christian Symbols Are Not Christian" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

Bringing people up to an altar call is a way to psychologically influence the crowd into accepting what they see as legitimate change or conversion. The evidence of real conversion needs to be witnessed by the words and actions of the convert to Christianity over a period of time, but that time frame is too long to accomplish Finney's pragmatic goals of "church growth."

Displays in front of a church crowd help to establish excitement in the heat of the moment, but most of the time, these so-called "converts" end up right back where they started a week later, and almost no one in revivalist church buildings is willing to talk about it. Even if they do talk about it, the solution is never to own up to the truth and abandon the unbiblical revivalist movement, but rather to "follow up" with people in a harassing manner to pressure them to "come to church," as if their constant monitoring of these people is what is going to save them.

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

-2 Thessalonians 3:6

The constant "follow ups" ignore the vital importance of the Holy Spirit working within new Christians once they are born-again, which needs no monitoring system. This philosophy behind the follow ups and altar calls come from the same philosophy Finney held which did not believe in the intervention of God onto the souls of men for their salvation, and thus these preachers give lip service to the Holy Spirit all day long, but they actually have no faith in the truth working of the Spirit because He doesn't work within their false methods.

The next man I listened to was incredibly fat; he likely weighed close to 300 lbs, and he has very likely never fasted a day in his life. It literally looked like he was going to have a heart attack because within 30 seconds, he was (with a red face) screaming into the microphone, and within 5 minutes, the preacher and his audience were screaming "JESUS!" over and over and over in vain repetition.

(Eric Henderson, "Eric Henderson preaching at the Tent Revival in Bowling Green," retrieved July 14, 2016, [youtube.com/watch?v=AGJ9uFjtFdA])

For example, this church building group is up on stage with microphones saying "Jesus" and "healing power" over and over in vain repetition, with people whooping and yelling in the background:

Charismania Revival Vain Repetition

<https://youtu.be/52PMuurx854>

And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.
-Isaiah 32:17

Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.
-1 Thessalonians 3:12

We're not called to come out yelling and screaming and convulsing in seizures while vainly repeating prayers to God like the heathen do to their false gods. They try to justify themselves by quoting the first verse of Psalm 66 which says to make a joyful noise unto the Lord, but then ignore the rest of the chapter that explains what that means, and instead make an ignorant, childish noise unto the Lord and foolishly think it pleases Him.

(Read "What's Wrong With Christian Rock?" here at creationliberty.com for more details.)

But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.
-1 Peter 3:4

Don't misunderstand; it's not a sin to speak in a loud voice when people are struggling to hear you. There are techniques to speak from your diaphragm to project your voice that others can hear you in a crowd. However, when it comes to the teaching of the Word of God, and communication from Christians, the one of the effects of Salvation will be a meek and quiet spirit, not one that screams into microphones.

The more unconfident and unfaithful
a man becomes, the louder he gets.

The yelling and screaming is to try and shock people into a heightened state of emotion, not to help them gain understanding. **If understanding is a man's foundation, then that understanding will be his motivating factor, but if a screaming revival is a man's foundation, what will he need for motivation?**

It is for all these many reasons that false converts are being created by the hundreds, and thousands, across the U.S. The revivalist movement has been a large factor in contributing to the Laodecian, lukewarm blind church buildings we see today.

Some people may be confused at my saying that the revivalist movement, with all their emphasis on emotion, is causing lukewarmness. To the world, they think the revivalist movement is curing lukewarmness, but that's because they are blind to the truth. The problem is that the emotional states that people are being manipulated into are based on a lie, so when the emotional house burns down, the foundation of lies underneath is all that remains, and thus the false converts turn to put their faith in the preacher that led them into these lies in the first place. (i.e. Their true faith is in the preacher, not in Christ.)

I hope that Christians reading this do not think that exposing the revivalism movement is something new. Although I do not support all the doctrine from the following preachers, I do want to point out that Charles Finney's revivalism movement was being exposed in the 19th century, and they were seeing the same exact results of lukewarmness and darkness entering the church from these revivalists.



Charles Spurgeon noted the false converts being created from the revivalist movement, and it's extreme focus on emotion rather than truth:

"Sometimes we are inclined to think that a very great portion of modern revivalism has been more a curse than a blessing, because it has led thousands to a kind of peace before they have known their misery; restoring the prodigal to the Father's house and never making him say, 'Father, I have sinned.' How can he be healed who is not sick? or he be satisfied with the bread of life who is not

hungry? The old-fashioned sense of sin is despised, and consequently a religion is run up before the foundations are dug out.

Everything in this age is shallow. Deep-sea fishing is almost an extinct business so far as men's souls are concerned. The consequence is that men leap into religion, and then leap out again. Unhumbled they came to the church, unhumbled they remained in it, and unhumbled they go from it."

-Charles H. Spurgeon, *The Sword and the Trowel*, 1882, p. 545, [Oxford University]

What Spurgeon mentioned here is true, that the prodigal son had godly sorrow:

And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

-Luke 15:21

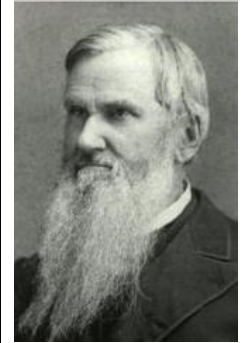
Yet, these revivalist teach unsuspecting people in their tents that they are worthy of the love of God. These people then build up a pride in their hearts and become blinded to what they need to be converted. It is through these methods that the Devil can achieve his designed goals.

Robert Dabney noted the dangers of revivalism because they were falsely concluding their numbers to be higher than they actually were, and that they were leading false converts into the church by convincing the crowd that their fleshly emotions were the workings of the Holy Spirit:

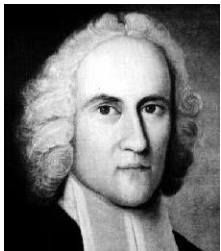
"[I]t was asserted that in a given commonwealth where the Presbyterians could count only eleven thousand communicants[i.e. a person who is in communion with the church], a sister denomination, with an uneducated ministry, claimed seventy-five thousand. But when close inquiry was made of a competent and learned leader of that denomination in that State, he answered that those statistics had been gotten together irresponsibly upon a spread-eagle plan, and that, coming down to hard-pan, his denomination had about fifteen thousand actual commuicants![i.e. only about 20% of what they claimed] There is a vital reason for this shrinkage in the very nature of an uneducated ministry which furnishes me another powerful argument.

American Protestantism is characterized by a peculiar evil which I may describe by the term 'spurious [false] revivalism.' It has been often called the 'New Measure System.' The common mischief resulting from all its form is the over-hasty reception into the communion of the churches [i.e. come one, come all, and don't forget your wallet], of multitudes of persons whom time proves to have experienced no spiritual change... The ill-starred artists stimulate natural remorse [not godly remorse/sorrow] and the merely sympathetic excitements of the natural feelings, and deceive themselves and encourage their victims to be deceived into mistaking these agitations for the real and saving work of the Holy Spirit with a criminal recklessness."

-Robert L. Dabney, *Discussions: Philosophical*, Presbyterian Committee of Publication, 1892, p. 563-564, [Pennsylvania State University]



Even the famous Jonathan Edwards noticed the problems with revivals, and spoke "in condemnation of the general results of the revival in New England," even though he himself had held revivals for a time. Revivalists love to speak of Edwards revivals and preaching, but they fail to mention what happened afterward, which *The Presbyterian Magazine* notes:



"We have already given quotations from Edwards, in proof of the sad declension [decline], which took place in New England after the revival... President Edwards says, 'The present state of things in New England is, on many accounts, very melancholy. There is a vast alteration within two years... As to the state of religion in these parts of the world, it is, in general, very dark and meloncholy... It is to be considered that these things have happened when God is greatly withdrawn, and religion was very low, not only in Northampton, but all over New England.'"

-Jonathan Edwards, quoted in *The Presbyterian Magazine*, J.M. Wilson, Vol. 3, 1853, p. 234, [University of Wisconsin - Madison]

This is what happens afterwards; when all the emotion and hype of the events die down, the people not only go back to living their lives as they were, they are worse off than before. Why? Because the truth is that their expectations were not met. They got wrapped up in the heat of the moment, and then when their reasoning steps back into the driver's seat of their minds, they realize it was all a show, but many choose to suppress that truth and believe the lie anyway, putting their hope in false teaching.

This willful ignorance, or willful blindness comes over people because they are deceived by the devils that are in possession of these wicked preachers who know nothing of the doctrines of the Lord God and the Lord Jesus Christ. These wicked men (and women) have their devilish revivals and go from random person to random person laying hands on them, as you can see in the following video:

Revivals are Unbiblical

<https://youtu.be/vuzmuhzeGmM>

In this video, we clearly see men laying hands on person after person after person, and others who just walk up to people on the street to lay hands on them to pray, but the Bible clearly tells us:

Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.

-1 Timothy 5:22

Again, they learned these traditions from men, not from God. They also have these "laughing" sessions in which they claim the Holy Spirit is on them, laughing non-stop, but this is also the spirit of the Devil.

It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart. Sorrow is better than laughter: for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better. The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth. It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools. For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool: this also is vanity.

-Ecclesiastes 7:2-6

mirth (n): social merriment; hilarity; high excitement of pleasurable feelings in company; noisy gayety; jollity; mirth differs from joy and cheerfulness, as always implying noise

(See 'mirth', *American Dictionary of the English Language*, Noah Webster, 1828, retrieved Jan 19, 2016 [webstersdictionary1828.com])

The Bible's use of the term "mirth" is often overlooked by modern Bible students, but it is key to understanding the deception of laughter in the revivalist movement. Don't misunderstand, I'm not saying laughter is sin, but laughter is used to cover the truth. Laughter seems right and good to men, but millions are going to laugh all the way to the lake of fire.

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. Even in laughter the heart is sorrowful; and the end of that mirth is heaviness. The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself.

-Proverbs 14:12-14

This is exactly what was being mentioned by the 19th century preachers I quoted above, that after all the emotion and laughter dies down, the place is worse off than it was before. This is because no matter how much people laugh, there is still sorrow and heaviness, and the laughter is simply used to cover it up, or rather, to reject the sorrow they need to be saved and acknowledge the truth.

I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also is vanity. I said of laughter, It is mad: and of mirth, What doeth it?

-Ecclesiastes 2:1-2

This was Solomon speaking here, and talking about what his heart was saying. It is a heathen man's wicked heart of flesh that says unto himself that he will prove his god through his mirth and laughter.

He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

-Proverbs 28:26

And Jesus Christ warned us very clearly:

Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep.

-Luke 6:25

In the above video, a man claiming to bring messages from God (i.e. a self-proclaimed prophet), tells a random man on the street the following:

"There's an area happening right now with you and your wife and God said 'I'm going to heal it right now. I'm going to heal it today. This is your day. I'm going to restore your marriage. In fact, I'm going to bring back broken relationships; people who have wacked you in the past, you've kind of pushed out, I see they're coming back in now."

This so-called "prophet" is speaking to a man who is clearly in his 50s or 60s (age-wise), and notice how vague he was in his "prophecy." These are issues that are common amongst almost all men in their 50s and 60s, and this is precisely what many medians (pagan fortune tellers) do when they use cold reading techniques.

Often, these false preachers want you to believe they're legitimate men of God by telling you that they love Jesus, pray, and help people, but in order to spot a counterfeit, you need to compare the differences, not the similarities. Let's compare this man's vague charismatic verbal techniques with actual prophesying from the Bible when Daniel delivered God's Word to Nebuchadnezzar:

Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king; But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;
-Daniel 2:28-29

Daniel goes on to describe a dream that Nebuchadnezzar had, which the king himself could not remember, and all of its details. Then he went on to give the interpretation of it in great detail, how the certain parts of the statue representing kingdoms to come, and what would happen to each one. The Lord God is not vague, and He doesn't have to be, but these false preachers must be vague to psychologically influence the listeners.

Let's look at another famous prophet, Isaiah, and see what message the Lord God told him to deliver unto His people:

Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.
-Isaiah 1:4

This goes on for most of the chapters in Isaiah, calling men to repentance because of their sin. Jeremiah was commanded to speak the same Word of God:

Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the LORD; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith the LORD, and I will not keep anger for ever. Only acknowledge thine iniquity, that thou hast transgressed against the LORD thy God, and hast scattered thy ways to the strangers under every green tree, and ye have not obeyed my voice, saith the LORD.
-Jeremiah 3:12-13

Does that sound like a feel-good message? All these prophets I'm quoting suffered heavy persecution and torture for saying these things because the people didn't want to hear it. Amos also delivered a message from God that didn't tickle the ears of the people:

And the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.
-Amos 7:9

What Amos got in return for delivering the Word of God was not smiles and laughter and money--the priest (i.e. the pastor) of his day demanded that he leave, going to the king to ask for Amos's banishment. The messages of these false prophets are exactly the opposite of what we see God saying in Scripture, and the only reason the people are accepting them is because the feel-good messages scratch their itching ears:

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.
-2 Timothy 4:2-4

This means that almost everyone who adheres to revivals and attends them, will reject what I'm demonstrating by comparing Scripture with the words and actions of these men. It won't matter to them at all. I've already had numerous conversations with self-proclaimed Christians who, when I pointed out the contradictions, immediately cut off communication with me because I did not give them the feel-good message they are desperately seeking, and we should rejoice in that because the same thing happened to the prophets who came before us.

Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you [to scorn and charge with fault], and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

-Luke 6:22-23

In addition to the false prophecies, revival sessions often come with fake healings, and I emphasize the word *FAKE*. There is no before-and-after medical evidence to back up these so-called "miracle healings" from these so-called "faith healers" in these false revivals.

Many investigators and researchers have spent great deal of time looking into the claimed "miracle healings," only to find out they were a total fraud. For example, ABC's Primetime show aired multiple sessions on the "faith healers" and exposed them for what they are:

Exposing Faith Healers (ABC News Report)

<https://youtu.be/JvtePvhjCu0>

(See Diane Sawyer, *Primetime Live*, ABC News July 9, 1992)

In this video, Sawyer's investigative team goes undercover, filming their undercover agents talking with preachers before the service, and during the service, those faith healers would come out and declare facts about these people as if it was a revelation from God. They would also use sleight-of-hand tricks, and hire actors to play roles, to make people believe they were miracles.

The video also covers a popular trick of making legs grow, which is supposed to heal someone's back pain. They pick people with back problems (common ailment), and say that the legs are not even. The preacher sits the person down, lifts their feet while simultaneously slightly slipping off the heel of one shoe, then while praying, slowly pushes the heel of the shoe back in, giving the illusions of "growth."

Let's compare these parlor tricks of supposed "faith healers" to actual miracles of healing performed by God:

And he entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand. And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him. And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth. And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace. And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other. And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him.

-Mark 3:1-6

We read of the man with a withered hand, and withered means it has grown in a manner that is useless, being deformed, often being much smaller than the other. It is a very clear impairment, not one that needs to be feigned for an audience. Christ didn't have to touch him or do a song and dance in front of him, He simply told the man to stretch out his hand and it was instantly healed for all to see clearly.

We also need to notice that Jesus was angered by these Pharisees (i.e. the pastors of that day) because they were more willing that Christ should be killed than for the lame man to be healed. They were more interested in protecting their estates, wealth, and position of authority, than to judge righteous judgment.

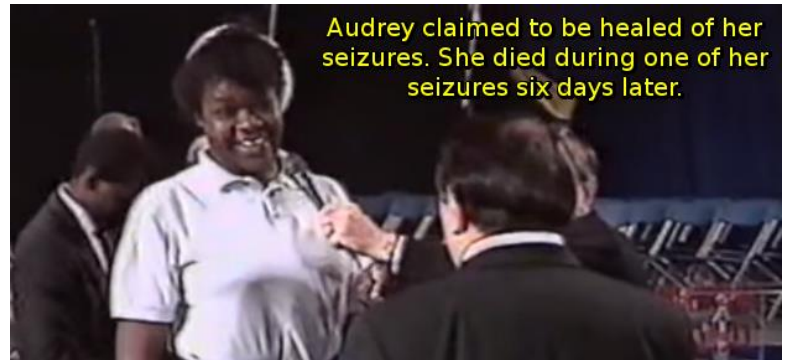
Let's look at another instance where Christ raises the dead, and compare that to these preachers' cheap tricks:

While he yet spake, there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain which said, Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further? As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe. And he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James. And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly. And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying. And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise. And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment. And he charged them straitly that no man should know it; and commanded that something should be given her to eat.

-Matthew 5:35-43

Christ healed the girl completely, head to toe, by simply speaking to her, and this didn't require any special music, lights, offerings, or any other fancy things these revivalists require. In addition, Christ sent AWAY the crowd, He didn't try to lure them in. Christ did these miracle healings in private, and then instructed the family not to tell anyone about it because he wasn't out for money and fame.

One of America's many fake "faith healers" is Morris Cerullo, who claimed he was called by God when angels led him away from an orphanage he was raised in. During one of his "healing" sessions, a young woman got up on the stage with him, believing his false message, and claimed she was healed of epileptic seizures, but a few days later she died during one of her seizures:



"Audrey Reynolds suffered from epilepsy all her life.

A congenital brain abnormality meant she would suffer seizures if she did not take three tablets a day... In the summer of 1992 a poster advertising the imminent arrival in London of American TV evangelist Morris Cerullo caught the 25-year-old's eye. 'Some will see miracles for the first time' it claimed. Audrey was intrigued and joined 80,000 people who went to Cerullo's eight-day 'crusade' at the Earls Court exhibition centre. Having queued patiently for her chance to meet Cerullo, Audrey took the stage telling the preacher she believed his message of healing power had cured her. Six days later she had an epileptic fit and drowned in her bath."

-Paul Gallagher, "Controversial American evangelist Morris Cerullo returns to Britain for one final 'crusade'," *Independent* Aug 2, 2014, retrieved Aug 7, 2016, [http://ind.pn/1oieNhK]

According to the British article, great efforts have been made by Cerullo's staff to get videos of his fake healings off places like youtube, and understandably so. There's a negative impact on his business when a four-year-old dies of cancer after claiming to be healed by Cerullo:

"[A]n apprehensive four-year-old called Natalia Barked suffering from neuroblastoma, a childhood cancer growing just above the kidney, arrives on stage clasping her mother in one hand and a tissue to wipe her tears away in the other. Cerullo descends on the pair and takes the girl's hand. 'Can you feel any pain?' he bends down to ask. 'No,' the young girl replies. Natalia's mother gives her a fist bump. Cerullo repeats the question. Natalia repeats her answer. Cerullo takes the girl's hand and walks to the front of the stage to raucous applause. Cerullo asks the Earl's Court audience to raise their hands and thank God. She died two months later, on 23 August 1992."

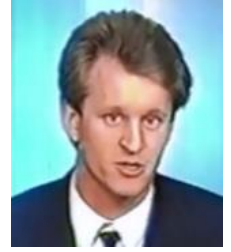
-Paul Gallagher, "Controversial American evangelist Morris Cerullo returns to Britain for one final 'crusade'," *Independent* Aug 2, 2014, retrieved Aug 7, 2016, [http://ind.pn/1oieNhK]

The death certificate of Natalia Barked, dated two months after Cerullo's "crusade" in the U.K.

D. Cert. SR.		CAUTION - It is an offence to falsify a certificate or to make or knowingly use a false certificate or a copy of a false certificate intending it to be accepted as genuine to the prejudice of any person, or to possess a certificate knowing it to be false without lawful authority.	
CERTIFIED COPY Pursuant to the Births and		OF AN ENTRY Deaths Registration Act 1953	
DEATH		Entry Number	204
Registration District Sub-district	Hackney Hackney	Administrative area London Borough of Hackney	
1. Date and place of death Twenty-third August 1992 95,Victorian Grove,Stoke Newington			
2. Name and surname Natalia Jeanette La'rena BARKED		3. Sex Female	4. Maiden surname of woman who has married
5. Date and place of birth 6th January 1988 Hackney			

Mark Haville is a British preacher that used to be a revivalist faith healer, but came out of it when studying the Word of God. Haville had his eyes opened by the Lord Jesus Christ that what he was doing was totally unbiblical, and in an interview, Haville describes the process as a form of hypnosis:

"People are suggestable as human beings. So what happens is by getting a person into a suggestable state, or what we call an altered state of consciousness, it means they are effectively in a state of hypnosis. Again, people misunderstand hypnosis. People commonly believe is some kind of profound trance; which it isn't. The person who is hypnotized is fully aware of what's going on at all times. You just go through the same techniques that you would at a rock concert or a hypnotist show; I'm sure people in America have seen these on TV, as we have them on television here in the U.K., there's a process that you go through, induction if you like, and all you do is you just change the names for the audience. So you change it for the name of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, words which have some kind of supposed Biblical link; fire, revival, whatever... the best way to [get someone into a state of hypnosis is to have long periods of music. So in this case we'll call it praise and worship. The best kind of music that will work will be one that mirrors bodily functions like cardiovascular, that kind of beat and speed of the music, so praise and worship fits very nicely into that nice relaxed heartbeat... obviously tunes that people know, so that they'll be familiar with the songs. Also because you have a large crowd of people, the dynamics that are involved in large crowds also make people more susceptible, and heighten experiences. It's kind of like, you're watching a comedy show on TV with your friends, and you really really laugh at all the gags and all the jokes, and then you watch the same kind of thing on your own, and it's not funny."



-Mark Haville, "Hypnosis in Christianity Exposed," retrieved Aug 5, 2016, [youtube.com/watch?v=hr8SHQejUyM]

And every revival I've ever witnessed, from small tents to giant stadiums, uses the exact methods Haville is describing; after all, he used to be one of the men who led revivals, so he knows something about the methods. The Lord Jesus Christ, His disciples, and the early church in the Book of Acts, did not need all these methods to teach the truth. These methods are created by men for the purpose of stirring up emotions, to convey a hypnotic message that will gain them popularity and wealth.

The ABC Primetime report in the video above had a man who was a close college buddy of Robert Tilton, a very well known revivalist, faith-healing wolf. He was protecting his identity on camera, but he gave testimony about his college days with Tilton:

TILTON'S COLLEGE FRIEND: *"Robert Tilton, as I knew him, was practicing to become a salesman. That was his concept of success."*

DIANE SAWYER: *"This man, who wanted anonymity, is just one of several old friends of Robert Tilton who talked to us. He remembers when they were in college they would use drugs, or get drunk, and go off to tent revivals as a kind of sport."*

TILTON'S COLLEGE FRIEND: *"And we'd be drunk, and go down front, fall to our knees, speak in tongues."*

SAWYER: *"Tilton and his friends started developing parodies, so called 'Jesus raps' of their own."*

TILTON'S COLLEGE FRIEND: *"[in a sanctimonious revivalist preacher tone] 'Oh dear God-ah... come into this woman's life! Heal tonight! She has a neeeeeed-ah to find Chriiiiiist-ah!'... I personally thought I was a lot better at it than he was."*

SAWYER: *"Tilton, who never finished college, admits he was a drug user; says he was saved when some people came to his house and explained Christ, but he never tells followers how he and his friends talked about running preacher scams and cashing in."*

TILTON'S COLLEGE FRIEND: *"We said that when we we graduated, we would buy a good tent, a dynamite sound system, a good amen section, and fly around the country and get rich."*

This is the truth, and it's exactly what Christ warned us about:

He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

-Matthew 13:22

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

-2 Peter 2:1-3

In the end, preachers do this for the numbers, because numbers bring money. Some have higher aspirations than others, but it's all about getting more eyeballs in the pews of their church buildings and revival tents, and the bottom line is that it always brings in more money; yet, not one of them ever confesses to doing it for the money.

For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

-1 Timothy 6:10

The Lord Jesus Christ, His disciples, and the New Testament Church in the Book of Acts, never used any of the methods the revivalists use in their practices. There were no grand tents, bands, loud music, and crowds of people shouting "AMEN!" at every thing a preacher behind a microphone said.

I realize many people get wrapped up in emotions of an event, but let's come out of the desire of the flesh in emotion, and reason together to maintain the church as would please Christ rather than men.

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

-Isaiah 1:18

Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:

-Ephesians 6:6-7

These revivals are dangerous because they are deceiving thousands every day with false doctrine and leaven. As Christians, let's start sanctifying ourselves from worldly traditions and study the Word of God carefully to do what's right by the Lord Jesus Christ.

