

reader. We expect to stay revived for the balance of our natural life. And this is simply staying converted, staying turned to the Lord. To turn from the Lord is to grow cold, to need revival. Why should the normal state of the Church be that of one growing cold? We have no objection to a cold Church becoming a hot one. "I would that thou wert either cold or hot." But what we do most decidedly object to is that it should be laid down as a cardinal axiomatic principle that Churches should not stay hot, not stay turned to God. We object to Churches being meteoric in their tendencies instead of being as God intended—fixed stars. We object to Scripture being perverted so that Churches may become cities set on a hill that *can* be hid, instead of as the Lord Jesus said of individual Christians, that *cannot* be hid. "Even so let your light *shine*." Not shine with meteoric hallelujahs for a brief revival period, but shine continuously. We believe that in this respect Pentecost can be improved upon. We don't believe that God exhausted His omnipotence at Pentecost. We are not prepared to deny that the Church after Pentecost did not grow cold and formal, so much so as to cause John to write what he did about lukewarmness, and Paul to urge the non-laying again of a foundation of repentance from dead works. There is no need for history in this case repeating itself. If the Holy Ghost be the guide and His will has to be done by each individual, and this no one will attempt to gainsay, it cannot be the will of the Holy Ghost to guide into a backslidden state, into a state that makes necessary a periodical revival to maintain the normal Christian standard laid down by Christ when on the earth. Christianity attempts to exist on earth in too many instances minus the guidance of the Holy Ghost. A faith in a dead Christ is sure to die. A faith even in a living and ascended Christ is apt to be erratic and wayward. But a faith in an omnipotent Holy Ghost to guide, having the Holy Ghost as the author and finisher thereof, is a certain quantity. It is sufficient for keeping, not for back-sliding purposes. With this kind of faith, or rather with the belief, a

positive one that God in very deed is present with each individual Christian on the earth as a guide and teacher, nations of back-sliders are no longer a necessity, because way-faring men, though fools, shall not err when the prophecy comes to be fulfilled about the Spirit being poured out upon all flesh, or in other words, when all flesh comes to be guided and taught by the Spirit and not by man and creed and Bible rule. It is because reliance upon the Holy Ghost as guide is not taught, that revivals become necessary. Poor, weak, erratic, fallible man emphasized, Holy Ghost guidance minimized, the erring propensity of the human exalted, the Holy Ghost while nominally acknowledged, yet pushed into the background. How can any other state than that of a backslidden state be expected where such a condition of affairs exists? What is to revive? To bring back to life. Why should death be allowed to seize Christianity by the vitals? Because the antidote is pushed to one side. Life is refused. Eternal life is not wanted. The life that Christ prayed the Father that He might send is ignored, and in many cases scorned and spurned. Great searching of the Scriptures is found, at the same time the searchers are too busy with their searching to come to the Holy Ghost that they might have life and have it more abundantly. The time that Christ prayed for that they might all be one has not arrived. There must be some more Bible searching done, some more looking for the second coming of Christ and ignoring of the first coming of the Holy Ghost before that oneness which is the outcome of a walk in the Spirit can be expected. Much sighing and aspiring after the present Holy Ghost must yet be indulged in. Many "endeavors" to build up mighty reputations for "many mighty works" must take place. Many revival waves will likely have to take place before men will let the words of Christ be fulfilled, viz., to "come unto Me that ye might have life," and this "coming unto Me," I imply, means the letting the Holy Ghost take His rightful place in the economy of God as "teacher of all things," and guide unto all truth."