

MOVINGS OF THE SPIRIT IN EASTERN EUROPE

Notes of an address given in the Elim Bible School on the evening of March 20, 1933, by Pastor Joseph Wannenmacher, Milwaukee, Wis., who is a trustee of the Russian and Eastern European Mission.

"My experience is that in this country revivals come through much prayer. The revivals in Eastern Europe are entirely different from the revivals in this country. In my church in Milwaukee, we pray through. One time, in my absence, one hundred and thirteen persons received the baptism in the Spirit. A little boy came to the altar and simply said, 'Praise you Jesus,' and got filled with the Spirit; and, by this simple act of obedience on the part of this child, the revival started. The people in my church sometimes pray from Saturday night right through to Sunday night. It is very seldom a whole town is stirred in this country by a revival, but it is different in Eastern Europe where crowds of people are so hungry for God, and the things of God, that they draw the very words from the preacher's mouth and believe what you tell them.

"The tales which these people tell of the war and of the suffering are something terrible. A German banker in Hamburg told me of a woman with two children who had to make a meal on one slice of bacon. This was the time during the war when the women were doing all the work in the city and operating the street cars. This woman, instead of herself eating the bacon, sent it to papa at the front. If you could see the quality of bread and other foods which these people get along with and contrast it with what we have to eat in America, you would say that we are surfeiting.

"The next war Europe engages in will be worse than the last one because of the hatred the nations have been storing up. We have helped in Milwaukee towards the support of 110 workers. God's power is working mightily through them. Sometimes over in Eastern Europe meetings would hold on until two or three o'clock in the morning. Then at 5 A. M., people would rap at the missionary's door, expressing the earnest desire to hear more. This goes on continually.

"In Roumania, there was a ban on Gospel preaching, which was absolutely forbidden by the authorities. A Hungarian man entered Roumania with the Gospel and the Lord undertook for him, despite the fact that a Baptist minister protested against the entry of this Pentecostal lay brother and wanted him instantly deported. The unwelcome Hungarian was summoned before the magistrate who also desired him to be deported. The Hungarian simply said, 'I am the minister of Jesus Christ.' The Baptist minister affirmed, 'I have got more than you have.'

"The Hungarian prayed for a sick man in the community who was instantly healed. Apparently the magistrate was influenced by this healing, for he allowed the Hungarian to remain in the country. Then all the Baptist preachers got together and united in the endeavor to thrust him out, but they failed. The Hungarian and his friends retired to a vineyard, where they fasted and prayed for five days. Others were drawn to the group in the vineyard, the result being that they were baptized in the Holy Ghost, and to-day an assembly in this community has been established through which the Spirit's power has spread widely throughout

Roumania.

"The authorities are very cruel, especially the policemen, who beat the Christians mercilessly; but the more they try to put the fire out, the more it burns. When we have persecution in this country like they have in Roumania, we shall have great revivals.

"Russian saints are liable at any time to be arrested. If a minister would stand as Mr. Spencer is standing before you, he would be taken from his home and sent into exile, without mercy. No one could see him, not even his wife. These Russians suffer untold miseries; nevertheless the Gospel is preached. Wherever they go, they witness for Jesus. In one of the prisons, the jailor was passing by the door of a cell and observed most of the twenty-six inmates on their knees praying to the Lord. The jailor promptly removed the leader of this band and placed him in another cell. The isolated prisoner discovered in his new abode a hole parallel with some pipes into another cell. So he enlarged the hole and preached the Gospel to a fresh company of men.

"In one place where baptismal services were being held, a certain man said, 'I am the man of the house and I will not allow my wife to be baptized.' In the middle of the night, the Spirit moved on this woman and told her to get up and be baptized. She arose, went to the minister's house and was baptized. Then she returned home and got into bed without her husband knowing it. The next day, the husband was repeating the same words as the day previous, ignorant of the fact that his wife had been immersed in the waters of baptism.

"I visited Riga, Latvia, where there was no beginning or end to the meeting. As soon as they entered the place of worship, they fell on their faces and prayed to God. By the time they got up to sing, there was a sweet presence of God manifested. The Spirit was there. Five hundred people were worshipping Jesus. Everything was so simple: One would get up and prophesy and then sit down. Another would relate a vision. All the people, like one man, fell on their faces. The more they prayed, the more the glory of the Lord was revealed. In the month of February, we sent out five missionaries. Other mission boards are bringing their missionaries back.

THE HOME FIELD

Adullam Assembly, Rochester, N. Y.

The blessings of the Lord rest upon us. Congregations are good. The power of the Lord is deeply felt. The Spirit of worship is increasing. Brotherly love and fellowship is in our hearts. There is a constant move to loosen those who are not free, and as well to sustain freedom among us. Some sinners are getting through to the Lord, and some are receiving the Spirit. A very precious and fruitful activity is the many seasons of concert prayer. When all stand and pray at once for the many requests that are presented, a goodly number of gracious answers have been given by our Heavenly Father. In this way many sick people are helped and healed.

New and valuable openings of truth are coming forth, especially concerning the essentials of preparation for the translation in connection with the return of the Lord. "Be ye also ready."

Seeley D. Kinne, 404 South Ave.

Avoca, N. Y.

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