

# CHRISTIAN LIGHT PUBLICATIONS

September – October 2010

## Elusive Revival

Stepping down the basement stairway you catch a voice and freeze for a moment to listen. It sounds unusual, different from an ordinary conversation. You descend the stairs, peek through the doorway, and spot a dozen prostrate forms scattered across the cold hard floor. It's a prayer meeting.

You are gripped by the realization that you are not hearing the dull, listless prayers of the uncaring. These words are laden with emotion, and fill the cool air with urgency. Like a flag kept in a steady state of waving, the prayers move from man to man, all different, yet all the same, for they seek the same thing. And they pray in earnest, knowing that the effectual fervent prayer avails much. And thus they pray, late into the evening, asking for one thing, and that one thing is revival. But will they get it?

In Mark 10 we read of a man who knelt before Jesus with a similar request—eternal life. Jesus gazed upon the earnest seeker with tender love, wanting to satisfy his request, but the rich man

turned away disappointed. Why? The answer was clear. "You lack something. Meet the condition, and you will receive eternal life." Did he lack zeal? No. Scripture says that he came running!

It's the same today. We may seek revival, and may even express zeal like the rich ruler, but return to our homes disappointed. Why? What is lacking?

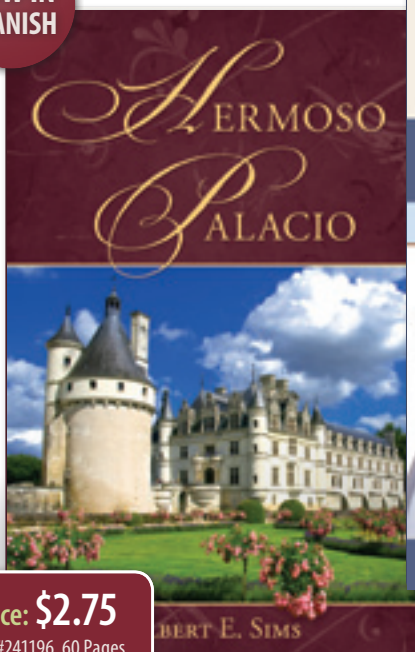
"For thus saith the high and lofty  
One that inhabiteth eternity,  
whose name is Holy; I dwell in  
the high and holy place, with  
him also that is of a contrite and  
humble spirit, to revive the spirit  
of the humble, and to revive  
the heart of the contrite ones."

– Isaiah 57:15

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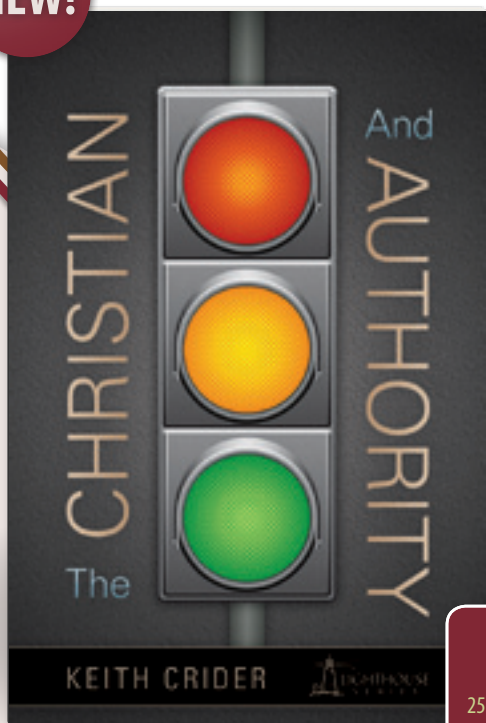
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Please note that a smaller version of the calendar, 8½" x 11", will be inserted into orders shipped from November 22 through the end of the year.

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What is God's loving word for Christians seeking revival?

The condition is clear. If we truly want to change from defeat and barrenness to victory and fruitfulness, we must humble ourselves. We must move from begging and pleading to confessing and submitting. We must forsake prestige and position for modesty and meekness. We must take the low road, and keep it.

If you are seeking a closer walk with God, or if you are part of a brotherhood seeking revival, don't give up. Ask God to reveal pride in your life, and humble yourself. A broken and contrite heart Jesus will not despise. ■

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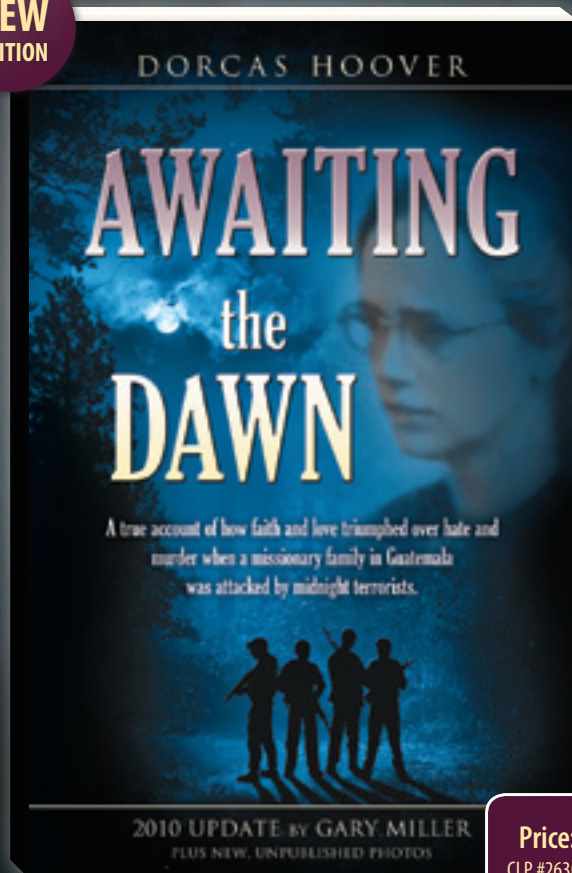
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*"It is because we care about your people that we have come to your country," John began quietly . . .*

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*Marie froze. The realization of what was about to take place stabbed her heart like the blade of a machete.*

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