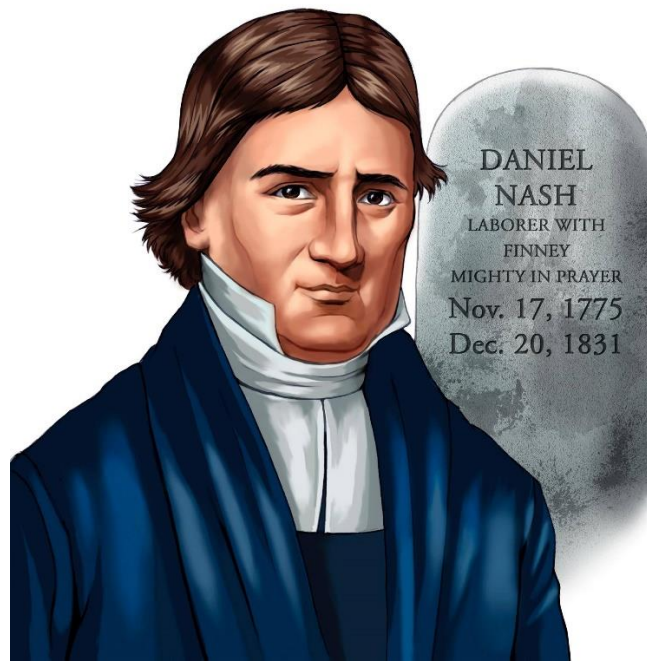


FATHER NASH, PRAYING HYDE, REES HOWELL & THE COMING AWAKENING



Once, not long ago, on a dark, rainy day, I made my way over wet ground to a very special place. A chill made me tremble as the cold rain pelted my skin, drenching me to the bone. But still I walked, eager to get to my destination—the very place where Father Daniel Nash’s church once stood. Though his name may be unfamiliar to most, he was born in 1775 and, at age forty, he began to minister for six years as a preacher in upstate New York, where he saw great revival twice during that short period of time. It’s said that he didn’t trust in his own spoken words or cleverly-written sermons to change the hearts of listeners but knew that only prevailing prayer would summon the presence of the Holy Spirit to transform the culture of the day.

Unfortunately, at age forty-three, he was voted out of his church, by a vote of nine to three, because they were annoyed by his frequent travels to preach, and they let him go in favor of a younger man. But with a humble heart he continued to serve the people there, filling the pulpit when needed and seeing many people saved because of his fervent, prevailing prayer. It was noted that he was very damaged with pain by how he was treated and had little hope of doing much for the kingdom after, but God had a greater plan!

A few years later, God laid on his heart the need for a forerunner, to intercede before and during the revival meetings held by Evangelist Charles Finney. In fact, he would often go several days before the beginning of a revival, locate an out-of-the-way tiny, dark, damp space to rent, find two or three likeminded individuals, and begin to fast and pray, groaning in the spirit for hours and days at a time. It's said that a holy light lit the dim space, making it a powerful place to intercede and believe God would move as never before.

A monument of his image and name stands on the front step (this foundational rock of the steps still sits) of where his church once stood, and today that parcel of land, owned by Dwelling Place Ministries of Lowville, NY has been set aside with great expectations for a future powerful revival move of God. (In fact, on that rainy day I mentioned above, I had a wonderful time ministering in that amazing church.)

Afterward, we drove a few miles to visit a neglected cemetery tucked away in the same village, called **Stowe Square Cemetery**, located in Lewis County, New York, not far from the Canadian border. As I visited the grave site of Father Nash I stood fighting the wind and rain with my umbrella but felt a powerful anointing as I read the faded wording on his tombstone:

DANIEL NASH
Laborer with Finney
Mighty in Prayer
Nov. 17, 1775 - Dec. 20, 1831

“Mighty in Prayer”—Wow! What an epitaph to sum up a life! It was said that Daniel Nash was mighty in prayer and he truly was, so much so that we might even dare to emulate such things in our day. Could we pay such a price for revival?

That weekend was filled with meetings and a strong manifestation of His presence. I was honored to visit that place and felt I was there by divine appointment. It was as if God had something to share with me, especially when He said, **“Like the rain you now feel upon your skin so Daniel Nash was wet with tears from deep groaning and intercession.”** It's been said that Daniel Nash prayed so hard his nose began to bleed, and he would be wet with perspiration even during the dark, cold New York winters. He was physically exhausted when he went to bed. He prayed as he shook the heavens with fervent prayer. Let me explain.

Daniel Nash: “MIGHTY IN PRAYER”

During the day in which he lived not many people knew his name, while others paid little attention to him, but God knew his name. Daniel Nash was a man of God—a man of rare humility. The devil also knew his name and trembled every time he entered the room.

Because of prayer he carried a mighty power and authority while aflame with a burning love for Christ.

Daniel Nash began his ministry as a preacher in upstate New York. He saw revival twice in his pastorate and was a key figure in one of the greatest revivals in the history of the United States.

Finney put it this way:

“When I got to town to start a revival a lady contacted me who ran a boarding house. She said, ‘Brother Finney, do you know a Father Nash? He and two other men have been at my boarding house for the last three days, but they haven't eaten a bite of food. I opened the door and peeped in at them because I could hear them groaning, and I saw them down on their faces. They have been this way for three days, lying prostrate on the floor and groaning. I thought something awful must have happened to them. I was afraid to go in and I didn't know what to do. Would you please come see about them?’

“No it isn't necessary,’ I replied. ‘They just have a spirit of travail in prayer.’”

Someone asked Finney what kind of man Father Nash was. “We never see him. He doesn't enter into any of the meetings.” Finney replied, “Like anybody who does a lot of praying, Father Nash is a very quiet person. Show me a person who is always talking, and I'll show you a Christian who never does much praying.”

Prevailing in Prayer

In the article "DANIEL NASH: PREVAILING PRINCE OF PRAYER" by J Paul Reno it states:

“Though he prayed in private, yet he often prayed with such fervency that others became aware of his praying. This was not intended, but simply was the release of a deeply burdened soul. The lady at the boarding house became aware of his groans as he prayed. His enemies claimed, ‘that it was impossible for him to pray in secret since, whether he went into his closet or the woods, he prayed with such vehemence that he could be heard half a mile away.’ While this was likely an exaggeration of his normal practice, there is a record of a single occurrence of note:

"In the revival at Gouverneur (in which the great majority of the inhabitants, Finney believed, were converted), Nash rose very early and went into a forest to pray. ‘It was one of those clear mornings,’ said Finney, ‘on which it is possible to hear sounds at a great distance.’ Nearly a mile away lived an unsaved man who suddenly heard Nash's voice raised in prayer, and no matter how hard he tried, he couldn't shake the reality of his urgent need for a Savior. In fact, he experienced no relief until he found it in Christ."

Lord, YOU are no respecter of persons... What you have done in the heart of Father Nash you can do in me! Give me a heart to pray for revival! Let me spend time birthing the next great awakening while there's still time.

What is fervent prayer? It means being on fire for the Lord and having fire in your belly. It does NOT mean a rambling of half-hearted platitudes recited before dinner or a daily recitation of the ills of daily living. The truth is that kind of emotion cannot be faked; it cannot be manufactured. It's real and it's stunning in its intensity. THAT'S what it means to be on fire for God. And it comes from love for God and deep compassion for the lost—a true, deep love that's all encompassing. And that can't be manufactured either.

There are men throughout history like Father Nash who have lived that kind of all-consuming passion for the Lord and for their neighbors, brothers and sisters. Men and women who, simply because of their intense love for the Lord, became amazing examples of the power of fervent prayer.

Let's look briefly at two more such men.

Praying Hyde: "PRAYER WARRIOR OF COMPASSION"

John Nelson Hyde (November 9, 1865 – February 17, 1912) was an American missionary who preached in the Punjab of India.

"Praying Hyde" or "The Apostle of Prayer" was the sheer definition of "tireless", seemingly going for days on end without sleep. He fasted often; in fact, food was pretty far down on his list of must-haves.

Things that we see as critical to our very existence—well, let's just say that John saw them differently.

You see, John realized that loving the Lord was vital to his very existence, and he lived that Truth, carrying such a massive burden for the lost that he pleaded with the Lord to deliver at least one soul per day or he would not eat or sleep. What commitment!

He was remarkable in many ways, all due to his deep and abiding passion for the Lord. He was filled with the Holy Spirit, offering living, breathing proof of the miraculous power of the Spirit and fervent prayer.

John never married, and he had no gift for public speaking. In fact, he was partially deaf and seemed somewhat less than enthusiastic, so how did this son of an Illinois Presbyterian minister come to be such a powerful force for intercession in a land of over a million unbelievers in India?

The Word.

John had difficulty adapting to the complex language of the land, possibly due to his hearing loss, and so he plunged into the study of the Word of God. In that place, he developed a deep, abiding love for the Lord. As a result, he was truly able to grasp the desperate need for fervent, sincere prayer—the kind that moves Heaven and transforms Earth.

He spent countless dark nights face down on the cold, bare floor in prayer, interceding for the lost in India, and his prayer on behalf of others bore remarkable fruit. For the first year, at least one soul per day came to Christ and was baptized. Then two a day and finally four souls a day were coming to Christ because of his fervent intercession.

The spirit of intercession was so heavy upon him that those around him would feel that same fervent spirit groaning deep inside them as well. And if you visited his room during his many revival conferences, you would find his bed perfectly made, because rather than sleeping he would spend his nights on the floor groaning in the spirit for the salvation of the lost. Intercession kept him in prayer right up until the moment the meetings began.

“Give me souls, oh God, or I die!” –John Hyde, 1910, Sialkot Convention

John moved people with fervent supplications that appeared to be almost violent at times, and others sought his intercession for Calcutta, Bombay and other Indian cities, so that the number of new believers grew by leaps and bounds.

But his health was failing, so, at the age of forty-five, he was persuaded to seek medical attention. The doctor’s diagnosis was nothing short of stunning. His heart had shifted out of its natural position on the left side of his chest to a place on the right! Some believed he prayed so hard that it changed the location of his heart!

It was clear that his time there was ending, so he returned to his home in Carthage, Illinois, where he lived for two more years. His last words before his graduation to heaven were, **“Shout the victory of Jesus Christ!”**

His powerful intercession led to a wave of revival that swept through India like none other.

Rees Howell: “WATCHMEN TO THE WORLD”

“Intercession prayer is the greatest force on earth!”—Rees Howells, 1935

Rees Howells (October 10, 1879–February 13, 1950) was the founder of The Bible College of Wales.

He came from humble beginnings in Wales, where he shunned school to go to work cutting coal in the mines to put bread on his family’s table.

Later, he sailed to America to get the education he'd shunned and to make some money before returning to his homeland in time to witness the 1904-1905 Welsh Revival, and it was from there that he gave himself fully to the Holy Spirit and immersed himself in his faith.

By then he'd also married and had a son, after which he and his wife were led to the mission field in southern Africa. Both Howells preached constantly and prayed deeply and fervently over the residents of Rusinga, Gazaland and within several weeks their prayers began to change things.

He preached that the source of revival is the Holy Spirit, and he and his wife prayed ardently for the Holy Spirit to come.

And the revivals came, washing over congregations like an all-encompassing wave. Thousands received Christ through these renowned revivals, just as Rees Howells said they would, as the Lord had shown him in a vision.

Their work spread, and more souls were saved. Over the years the couple traveled over 11,000 miles from one mission station to another, carrying their revival blessing with them wherever they went.

They were eventually led back to Wales where God showed them that they were to build the largest Bible college in Wales, which became known as the Bible College of Wales (BCW).

But that left a lingering question—how were they to pay for it? They were certainly not wealthy in any sense of the word. But they obeyed the Lord, having complete and utter faith in Him, and set about the work with a grand total of fifteen cents between them.

The Bible College of Wales was dedicated on Easter of 1924, the result of unshakable faith and fervent prayer, after many spiritual battles and tests of faith.

The BCW grew in scope and reach. On a chilly December morning, Rees Howells heard the following message in his spirit: **“Every creature—every creature.”**

This was a commission from God to give the gospel to every creature, and it became their mission to intercede on behalf of those who were lost, to serve others, and to be responsible for making sure that every creature heard the message of the gospel.

The staff **“wept before God for hours”**, utterly broken, seeing the sin in their own hearts that was revealed by His light. And as their prayers grew more **fervent**, they also felt the increasing presence of the Holy Spirit among them.

It was during that time that the First World War broke out, killing multitudes of people, and their team of passionate intercessors began to earnestly pray for the lost.

Rees Howells went to be with the Lord in 1950, but his tireless work, godly vision and

lasting legacy of fervent prayer still serve as a shining example of living in this world for the sole purpose of bringing people to Christ.

A Forerunning Fervent Army like Nash, Hyde, and Howell!

All three of these great men were forerunners of a prayer movement that brought transformation to countries and regions. Today these men speak a prophetic message to the church of our day, if our spiritual ears are tuned to hear it.

Nash speaks prophetically of a company of intercessors who know how to wrestle in prayer until the answer comes. He exemplified the kind of fervency in prayer that births and sustains a great awakening. Today, rather than one Daniel Nash, the Holy Spirit is raising up a company of like-minded believers who know how to passionately pray until breakthrough comes and lingers indefinitely, ushering in the last great harvest of souls. They are praying for a next great awakening and they will see it!

Hyde speaks prophetically of a company of intercessors who carry compassion for the lost. This company cries out from deep within: “Give me souls or I shall die!” They are not content with their ticket to heaven, but rather they cry out for the lost, the broken, and rejected ones. They have the character of Christ; they flow with a deep humility. They know what it means to pray sacrificially. They weep for those going to hell; they are moved to pray and not just mumble obligatory prayers. They have a fervency and fire that compels them into action.

Howell speaks prophetically of a company of discerning watchmen who stand on a wall on behalf of us all and understand and interpret the signs of the times, praying clear through until breakthrough occurs. Just as it did with John Hyde, the following verse holds powerful prophetic meaning regarding Howell.

“I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence. And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth” (Isaiah 62:6-7).

In the same way, this scripture should be one we seek to emulate, believing for a miraculous Holy Spirit outcome.

These men are the ones who stand on the wall and do not rest until major shifts take place on this earth. They are watchmen, who stand guard, setting their faces like flint toward the Lord, anticipating the soon coming of Jesus with 10,000 angels to restore all that was lost as well as a release of the kingdom of God on the earth.

In November of 2017, I stood on the old “American Corner” in Rome, NY. This was the very place where prayer went forth during the Second Great Awakening led by Charles Finney in Rome, NY. Here is an excerpt from his autobiography: **“I should say a few words about the spirit of prayer that which prevailed in Rome during this time. Indeed the whole town was full of prayer. Go where you would, you heard the voice of prayer.”**

In fact, if you walked down the street you would often see Christians meet, join hands and pray. Wherever people met they were always praying. They carried a burden for lost souls and they knew how to travail in the spirit to see the lost come to Christ.

Things in Rome, New York and the surrounding area were so charged with the presence of God that people who entered the region felt that powerful presence in a beautiful way. Tears fell freely there in His tangible glory. Revival had rained down there because of ongoing fervent prayer. Standing on the American corner that day, I too was awestruck by the intercession that had come forth years earlier and the legacy it inspired. I fought back raw emotions, desperate to see Rome and the surrounding areas host another great revival of intercession and awakening.

Today the Lord is preparing a company of forerunners that know how to pray and intercede; they shake Heaven and Earth with continuous deep intercession. You will find them lying on the floor in deep groaning for many hours, weeping for the lost. You will find them birthing with travail the next great awakening.

For even as the Lord used Johnathan Edwards in the First Great Awakening and Charles Finney in the second, there will be a third that will not only hit America but Canada and continents worldwide. There is once again a brooding occurring over the face of the deep. The Lord is moving over the waters, preparing a company of intercessors that will pray it in—not just one man but an army of fervent believers like Nash, Hyde and Howell.

I see a cloud moving; the glory is drawing near, the very manifest presence is building and as we pray the cloud will draw even nearer. The glory is invading the enemy’s camp where the people of God will dance and sing again, rejoicing that heaven is being released. The throne room is cracked open and the very atmosphere of heaven is leaking out toward the earth. Open your hearts; open the gates for entry of the King of Glory. Seek the Lord while He may be found; welcome Him in to rest and abide in you, for as He dwells there the earth shall be transformed. With a kiss of His presence we, as the Bride, shall come forth arrayed in His magnificent glory.

Lord, give your people the desire and endurance to intercede again for the birth of another great awakening and a habitation wherever we are!

Dear Friends, pray for us as we are busy preparing fervent prayer conferences in 2018 as a ministry to call forth by faith a fervent army of believers like Nash, Hyde and Howell to welcome our wonderful Lord!

Steve Porter

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Steve and his wife Diane founded "Refuge Ministries." Steve is a regular contributor to many prophetic publications including the Elijah List, Spirit Fuel, and the Identity Network. His writings have been read worldwide by hundreds of thousands of people. He also has been interviewed by the Trinity Broadcasting Network and a few other TV programs. Steve's books, articles, and videos have touched countless lives around the world. The Porter's reside near Rochester, NY.