



Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

Ezra 3:11-13

“And they sang together... “Because He is good; for His mercy endures forever...” And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the whole house had been laid. But many of the priests... who were old men, who had seen the first house... wept with a loud voice *while* many shouted loudly for joy. *It was so loud* that the people *could* not discern the noise of the shouts of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people... and the noise was heard a long way off.”
Ezra 3:11-13

There is a sound of revival. “Their sound is gone out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world.” As the gospel pierces the hearts of men gripped by sin a new sound may be heard – those who once cursed, now offer praise. What were once angry words is now a deep found joy issuing out of the forgiven and liberated hearts!

The sound of revival may begin with brokenness and weeping as the conviction of sin mounts heavily upon the human heart. The realization of wasted lives, lost talents, and ill-spent time is a bitter thing. The understanding that it was our sin that crucified the Lord Jesus Christ brings deep sorrow and true repentance. But as the reality of forgiveness sweeps over the repentant and broken soul, soon joy begins to break forth as well. “...and I will turn their mourning into joy.” (Jeremiah 31:13).

And it is as these sounds of repentance, brokenness and rejoicing blend together into a paean of praise that the sound begins to carry and be heard “a long way off” that as others begin to recognize its sound, they too, may begin to experience for themselves, “the sound of revival.”

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