



# A DIFFERENT RACE OF MEN

by Greg Gordon

*“Help, Lord, for the godly man ceases to be,  
For the faithful disappear from among the  
sons of men (Psalm 12:1).”*

**T**HE psalmist penned this startling observation in his day but how true for us as it speaks of our current situation. As another translation states: “have vanished from amongst men.” Spurgeon states on this verse: “For the godly man ceaseth; the death, departure, or decline of godly men should be a trumpet call for more prayer.”

Where are the men of God in our generation who are likened to the apostles, prophets, and believers of God in the Scriptures? Those who walked after God in the power of His might.

I want to say firstly we are called to be strangers in this world a people set apart to God and His purposes. Secondly, there are many who claim to be “people of God” yet are false and malign the Name of God. And thirdly, God is willing even today to work in your life to make you a person He can call His own and do great exploits through.

I can name so many who have reached that “high-calling” in Christ Jesus in the recent past. Men like: Moody, Finney, Wesley, Whitefield, Payson, Bounds, Ravenhill, dare I

go on? It seems like there has been an ending of a line of men who were born not of this world, peculiar to the ways and habits of this world. Men of another sort who were so heavenly minded they were of no earthly use.

Just looking at the list found in Hebrews 11 gives you a picture of a people God could unashamedly call His own. God desires to make a Name for Himself in the earth. Is the world worthy of you? Are you accepted? Think of Christ who was mistreated, maligned and murdered! How can the world accept you if it didn’t accept Him? Does the Spirit of Christ truly have its abode in you?

Leonard Ravenhill said he could read Hebrews 11 everyday and weep over it. “Of whom the world was not worthy!” they wandered around, sojourning as a different race of men.

“Not accepting deliverance!” Oh the stubbornness of their testimony and belief in Christ, they were not willing to accept defeat knowing they were serving the Lord Jesus Christ who was victorious. “They were stoned, they were sawn asunder.” Imagine it! Can we accept this as normal Christianity? Are we willing to suffer for the Lord Who suffered for us?

And when I hear about the next man of God, it usually ends in disappointment. How can God bless men

of God with such a powerful enduing of power only to have them quite soon after fall into gross sin, or teach such heretical and devilish doctrines? There are so many people in the last 50 years who have had an appearance of godliness, but it’s questionable whether they truly walked in the Spirit.

God does not entrust an abundance of His Spirit with a person who would not be a good caretaker of the responsibility given. He entrusts Himself with people who have been tested and shown faithful with the small things. How many of the leaders and so-called anointed men of God these days would lay on their sides for 50 days if God told them too! Ah! But faithful Ezekiel did!

How many cry day and night over the sins of their nation. Forget money, size of ministries, spiritual gifts, Lord give us even a small portion of the burden that Jeremiah had for the lost. These are desperate times and require desperate measures. Help us to see the world that is burning alive before our eyes as we apathetically sit back in our pews not alarmed over the urgency of the matter. Give us eyes to see, awake us from our slumber!

Rise up, men of renown, not in earthly wisdom or stature, but renown for their faith. People willing to go anywhere, do anything! A generation

of believers like Jacob who will not let go until you move God.

The Lord desires to move on our generation... He is hovering over the waters... let the burden of prayer and pleading get heavy and the Lord will break through.

There is a restlessness in my soul and many others for the Lord to show Himself strong on our behalf. I do not want to be as much in the world as I can, and still call myself a "Christian." No! Ten thousand times No! I want to be separate and holy before the Holy God I serve. We have to be a different type of people, seeking those things which are above. How long will the Church go on till it realizes that it's in the world and not being effective for Gods Kingdom?

Horatius Bonar once wrote: "I looked for the Church and I found it in the world, I looked for the world and I found it in the Church!" Surely we must not feel comfortable in this world – we are aliens, foreigners, strangers in the world. We are to be salt and light in this dark and perverse generation in which we live. Oh for men that are so heavenly they are of no earthly use.

These are the type of men needed in these days – a different race of men.

We need desperateness for the times we live in. The world needs revival or it's over! There is such a falling away of any moral standard or rules, people are doing what they wish, or what seems right to them. God is being taken out of the governments, and nothing but a nation-wide awakening of souls will stop this landslide of immortality and filth.

Start today. Stop tempting God, and make it your supreme desire to have Christ reign in His rightful place in your life. Be honest with yourself, wake up out of your complacency and see your nakedness. And dare I say to you Christians: "Repent! For the time is short and we will stand before the One to whom we must give account for every word spoken and every deed done."

Surely you will have the words of Jesus ringing in your ears "Blessed is he who hears the words of God and obeys them." God is a holy God and we need to be a holy people. A different people set apart to God, strange to the world yet precious in the sight of Christ. "He who has an ear, let him hear what

the Spirit says to the churches." God is calling for a different race of men! Will you hear this call?

The Church historian David Smithers retells the lives of two spiritual giants from the past. Oh, to realise that we can walk in their same ways. They were men of like passions! Consider these two saintly lives: Robert Murray M'Cheyne and William Bramwell. Surely they were a different race of men.

"It is not how long you live, but how you live that counts." Robert Murray M'Cheyne was a living example of this often neglected truth. At 23 years old he was ordained and inducted into the church of St Peters at Dundee. At 30 years of age he finished his course, dying in the spring of 1843.

"Like John the Baptist and the Saviour Himself, M'Cheyne ushered in Christ's kingdom in just a few short years. It was during his brief public ministry that Scotland experienced one of its greatest revivals.

## BETTER ACQUAINTED WITH JESUS THAN ANY MAN

"M'Cheyne's power in the pulpit was the result of his intimate knowledge of Jesus. He could boldly say, 'I am better acquainted with Jesus Christ than I am with any man in the world.' Often as he preached the entire congregation was brought to tears.

"M'Cheyne's diary and letters describe for us some of these precious meetings. He wrote, 'It was like a pent-up flood breaking forth; tears were streaming from the eyes of many, and some fell on the ground groaning and weeping and crying for mercy.'

"At other times men and women were so overcome with grief and conviction that they literally had to be carried out of the church. 'In some areas whole congregations were frequently moved as one man, and the voice of the minister was drowned out by the cries of anxious souls.'

"M'Cheyne's voice, eyes and gestures spoke of the tenderness of Christ. It was not Robert Murray M'Cheyne the people saw, it was Jesus. M'Cheyne declared, 'A man cannot be a faithful minister, until he preaches Christ for Christ's sake – until he gives up striving to attract people to himself and seeks only to attract them to Christ.'"

"The life of William Bramwell is

a vivid picture of one who followed hard after God and as a result truly lived. Motivated by a fervent love and a haunting view of eternity, William Bramwell sought the face of Jesus with all his heart.

"It is in a letter written by Mr Bramwell in 1807 that we get a glimpse of the driving passions that motivated his life and ministry. He writes, 'Pray, O pray, my brother! Never, never quit your hold of the fullness of God; for time is nearly over, and if this fullness be lost it will be lost forever. I am astonished that we do not pray more, yea, that we do not live every moment as on the brink of the eternal world, and in the blessed expectation of that glorious country.'

"Again he writes, 'I grieve that my love is no stronger, and that I am no more like Him. I wonder at His glory, and sink before Him with shame. How is it that the soul being of such value, and God so great, eternity so near and yet we are so little moved?'

"William Bramwell sought to redeem every moment for the kingdom of God. Therefore he gave himself to prayer and intercession literally day and night. He would spend two, three, four, five and sometimes six hours in prayer and reflection. He often entered his room at nine o'clock in the morning and did not leave till three in the afternoon."

Leonard Ravenhill laments: "Do the Pentecostals look back with shame as they remember when they dwelt across the theological tracks, but with the glory of the Lord in their midst? When they had a normal church life, which meant nights of prayers, followed by signs and wonders, and diverse miracles, and genuine gifts of the Holy Ghost? When they were not clock-watchers, and their meetings lasted for hours, saturated with holy power? Have we no tears for these memories, or shame that our children know nothing of such power?"

How far we have fallen. There has been a whole generation that has been raised on a form of insipid Christianity. Oh how we need men of another sort to arise! Lord raise up a race of different men!

Men who are willing to count the cost with Jesus Christ. ☩

