A revival is a work of God’s Spirit among His own people.
—VANCE HAVNER

Divine omnipotence is the doctrine of a revival.
—C. H. SPURGEON

The end of our vision is not the starting-point of God’s working . . . . It is wisest for us to keep human agency in its own place, and to aim at reflecting all the glory on the Sovereign Lord.
—WILLIAM GIBSON

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

John H. Armstrong

*Alexander, Archibald. The Log College. Edinburgh, Scotland: Banner of Truth, 1968 reprint of 1851 edition. The “Log College” was the name contemptuously given to the ministerial college that was the forerunner of Princeton Seminary. Includes biographical sketches of William Tennent and students greatly used in revival ministry during the First Great Awakening.


Armstrong, John H., ed. The Coming Evangelical Crisis: Current Challenges to the Authority of Scripture and the Gospel. Chicago: Moody Press, 1996. This recent volume includes essays by a number of evangelical leaders who are concerned that evangelicalism faces a crisis. This crisis has come because of the ravaging effects of revivalism.

Armstrong, John H., ed. The Compromised Church. Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, 1998. This is a companion volume to the one listed above and addresses how the crisis can be seen in the doctrine and life of the church. Unless we recover a sound view of the church we will compound revivalistic solutions.

Armstrong, John H. *When God Moves: Preparing for True Revival*. Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House, 1998. This is my attempt to distinguish between true and false revival. It brings the reader up to the present and deals with issues which are important for understanding true revival.


Bryant, David. *The Hope At Hand: National and World Revival for the Twenty-First Century*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1995. Bryant, best known for his leadership in the “Concerts of Prayer” movement, is an engaging proponent of revival prayer. The weakness is that he is not sufficiently careful theologically to escape several of the pitfalls of revivalism.

Bryant, David. *Stand in the Gap: How to Prepare for the Coming World Revival*. Ventura, California: Regal Books, 1997. The book’s cover proclaims the view that “an awesome move of God is unfolding across our nation and across the planet . . .” Useful, but still needs to be balanced by older, theologically careful books.


Edwards, Brian H. *Revival! A People Saturated with God*. Darlington, County Durham, England: Evangelical Press, 1990. This is one of the four or five best general titles on the subject that the average reader should procure. Filled with accounts and stories as well as wise pastoral counsel.


*Evans, Eifion. *Fire in the Thatch: The True Nature of Religious Revival*. Bryntirion, Bridgend, Wales: Evangelical Press of Wales, 1996. Evans is one of the most helpful historians of revival writing today. His special interest is his own country of Wales, “the land of awakenings.”


Finney, Charles G. *Finney's Systematic Theology*. Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 1994 reprint of 1878 edition. This definitive edition of Finney will demonstrate to the discerning and careful reader just how far
he drifted from any semblance of orthodoxy.

Finney, Charles G. *The Memoirs of Charles G. Finney: An Annotated Critical Edition* (Garth M. Rosell and Richard A. G. Dupuis, eds.). Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1989. This full edition is extremely important for serious scholars. It shows Finney as he really was, not as public relations people have sought to make him.

Finney, Charles G. *Revivals of Religion*. Grand Rapids: Fleming H. Revell, n.d. This is the famous manual that promotes the steps one should take to guarantee revival.


Hanegraaff, Hank. *Counterfeit Revival: Looking for God in All the Wrong Places*. Dallas: Word, 1997. An exposé of the various “counterfeit” movements of revival that have swept America in the last ten years or so. Hanegraaff shows that these movements have gone far beyond older Pentecostalism and are dangerous. He is particularly critical of both the Toronto Blessing and the Brownsville Revival.


McDow, Malcolm, and Alvin L. Reid. *Firefall: How God Has Shaped History Through Revival*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1997. A very helpful historical overview, though the theological arguments are not carefully thought out and the conclusions, as a result, are affected.

*Murray, Iain H. *Revival and Revivalism: The Making and Marring of American Evangelicalism 1750-1858*. Edin-
burgh, Scotland: Banner of Truth, 1994. If you read only one serious book on revival make it this one! This is the most interesting and important book available on the subject of how and why American revivalism arose.

Murray, Iain H. *The Puritan Hope: Revival and the Interpretation of Prophecy.* Edinburgh, Scotland: Banner of Truth, 1971. Even if you do not share all the views outlined in this volume you will not find it easy to put this exciting book down. It wonderfully fueled my own hope for God to revive us.

Murray, Iain H., D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones: *The First Forty Years, 1899-1939.* Edinburgh, Scotland: Banner of Truth, 1982. The first forty years of the most able preacher in Great Britain in our century. His concern for revival and his understanding of the subject is unparalleled. He experienced several visitations of God upon his first pastorate in Aberavon, and reading these accounts will give you a picture of God moving in a church.


*Murray, Iain H. *Pentecost Today? The Biblical Basis for Understanding Revival.* Cape Coral, Florida: Founders Press (P.O. Box 150931, Cape Coral, Florida 33915), 1998. This is the best modern treatment available, hands down! Treats the work of the Spirit in the older way Reformed ministers once believed. Every pastor in America ought to read this wonderful book!


*Packer, J.I. A Quest for Godliness: The Puritan Vision of the Christian Life.* Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, 1990. This collection of essays on the Puritans includes several important chapters on revival that should not be missed. It is a vivid, warm, and immensely useful book.


1860 edition. A good account of the awakening that was ongoing in 1860.


Roberts, Richard Owen, ed. *Sanctify the Congregation: A Call to the Solemn Assembly and to Corporate Repentance.* Wheaton, Illinois: International Awakening Press, 1994. Contains fifteen wonderfully doctrinal sermons which were useful in calling the church to repentance and to the need for revival in days past.


Sprague, William B. *Lectures on Revival.* Edinburgh, Scotland: Banner of Truth, 1959 reprint of 1832 edition. This is a classic. Lloyd-Jones highly regarded it. Sprague was a prominent historian and church leader during the Second Great Awakening.

Thomas, I.D.E. *God's Harvest: The Nature of True Revival.* Bryntirion, Bridgend, Wales: Evangelical Press of Wales, 1997. Though it is only sixty-two pages in length, this recent reprint is clear, beneficial, and warm.


*Tyler, Bennet. *New England Revivals.* Wheaton, Illinois: Richard Owen Roberts Publishers, 1980. These accounts appeared in the *Connecticut Evangelical Magazine* from 1792 until 1802. These are some of the most inspiring records of revival I have ever read. I have read these accounts to church gatherings in order to encourage prayer groups for revival.

*Wells, David F. *No Place for Truth: Or, Whatever Happened to Evangelical Theology?* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993. Wells presents the most penetrating analysis available of the state of modern evangelicalism. A must for serious readers.

*Wright, Eric H. *Strange Fire? Assessing the Vineyard Movement and the Toronto Blessing.* Darlington, County Durham, England: Evangelical Press, 1996. Many critiques on this movement have been written, both pro and con. This is the best critical approach I have read. Wright has a sound view of revival and applies it carefully to this much-studied movement.*

*Highly recommended*