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The revival that happened in the 1970's in Monterrey, Mexico

Part 1.

I will base this on my personal experience in the revival of the 70's in Monterrey, Mexico. For me it is a supernatural move of God to bring repentance, salvation, signs and wonders, to wake up the church and draw many to God's Kingdom.

I had been born again in Brighton in March 1968 and received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit in September 1969. I was married in May 1969 to a methodist who had been a Christian for about 10 years and had recently been baptized in the Holy Spirit. In 1971 we got to know Roger and Maria Wolcott. They had just returned from Peru where they were missionaries for the Methodist church. They had just received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. This was very rare in the Methodist church, so we started praying together.

As an evangelist for the Methodist Church Roger had the responsibility of visiting Methodist Churches in the North of Mexico. As we prayed the conviction grew in us to take small groups to share their testimonies about receiving the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and teach the new choruses that sang to the Lord and not like hymns where you sing about the Lord or express doctrine in song. We got to know others who had had the experience of the baptism in the Holy Spirit and began to travel to different churches in groups. There was a supernatural move of God in every church with repentance, salvation, healing, and Baptism in the Holy Spirit. In one church a wind blew and the windows rattled. In several churches the pastors stood up and confessed their sins to their congregations. I would say we felt more like spectators, moving as the Holy Spirit led. It was easy to sense what He wanted. There was a flow.

Part 2.

We started a prayer group of about 20 people in the back of a church. Also we would get together in small home groups. The Holy Spirit would lead us in ways of prayer that we had never experienced before. We would spend a lot of time singing in tongues. It was like waves of beautiful harmony and melody. Many times we would be guided in dancing before the Lord. Also we would enter into waves of intense intercession and crying out before the Lord. The Lord would bring before us petitions and supplications. We would lose a sense of time as we were immersed in the Spirit.

Maria Wolcott started a Bible study with very rich ladies and most of them grew amazingly. Then their husbands wanted a man to teach them, so Roger opened up a Sunday afternoon group in the back of the church where we prayed. It began to take on the format of a church service and people of different walks of life were added. They began to express different desires of how things should be done, so Roger told them he would seek the Lord and let them know how God wanted things to be done. When he shared what he felt God wanted, half the congregation left, but then an "explosion" occurred.

People would come without any effort on our part. As the months passed the church filled more and more and people were standing outside looking in the windows trying to be part of the meeting. The worship was very simple, but the presence of the Lord was very real. The Lord moved in the gifts of tongues with interpretation and prophecy; there were healings, repentance and salvation and teaching in every service. We could be there several hours without noticing the passing of time. Children were there, sometimes in the services and sometimes in their own classes. They were also affected by the Presence of God.

We started praying for a bigger place and the Lord provided a big building that needed a lot of repairs. We started using it and restored it as the Lord provided. For a few years we were baptizing about 100 people a month. We had several retreats a year and God moved in each one. God gave us a connection with David Wilkerson and he would send us Bible teachers to teach the foundations of the Christian faith during these retreats. Many were born again, received the baptism in the Holy Spirit and many were healed even without the laying on of hands.

After a while the auditorium became crowded and we built a bigger one on the side of the existing building. That one held about a thousand people, but after a while we had to have 2 services.

Part 3.

The Lord also visited many churches in the city, including the Catholic church. Sadly many traditional churches did not want revival and told those who had received the baptism in the Holy Spirit to leave. Other, new churches were formed with these people. In the main Methodist Church, the traditional people bought a piece of land and built a new church requiring that any person or pastor becoming part of the church would remain in their traditional ways.

In our group none of us were very mature and we were suddenly overwhelmed by people needing help and needing growth. We established a discipleship programme teaching basic doctrine and had to be involved in a deliverance ministry and helping

many alcoholics. There was a great need for counselling. It was more than we could handle and novices began to take leadership too soon, resulting in conflictive situations. The simple praise and worship began to evolve and the revival began to wane. One of the dangers of being a leader in a time of revival is burnout and being so involved in ministry that your own family suffers.

The revival church I was involved in multiplied and the last I knew has about 60,000 people in various parts of Texas and Mexico. I miss the time of revival and pray and long for the last great revival and harvest that will cover the world before the very last days. I have seen several documentary films of the Welsh, Hebrides and Azusa street revivals and have been greatly blessed by them. Every awakening in history brings cleansing and a turning towards God, which is much needed at this time. I asked the Lord to help me remember correctly and although very concise I hope this information is useful.