



## WHAT CAUSED THE THIRD GREAT AWAKENING IN AMERICA? **GOD!**

Ed Stetzer wrote the following regarding the Fulton Street Revival of 1857:



"If I am doing the math correctly, about 3% of the population became Christ followers during this awakening. That would be the equivalent of 10 Million people becoming followers of Jesus today.



In 1857, there were 30,000 men idle on the streets of New York. Drunkenness was rampant, and the nation was divided by slavery. God raised up a praying businessman, Jeremiah Lanphier. On September 23, 1857 he began a noontime prayer meeting on Fulton Street in the Financial District of Manhattan. Out of a city of one million people, six people showed up a half hour late.

The group decided to meet the next week and there were 14. The next week there were 23. The following week there were 40. Within weeks there were thousands of business leaders meeting daily. God moved so powerfully that the prayer meeting spread across the nation. It is estimated that nearly one million people were converted out of a national population of 35 million, including 10,000 weekly conversions in New York City for a season."

[from Fulton Street Revival Anniversary, September 23 2007, Christianity Today, The Exchange with Ed Stetzer]

What caused these six businessmen to begin to pray? The American economy was collapsing and Wall Street was failing. A very large Insurance Company failed, which started it; but a ship carrying gold to New York City sank in a storm in the Atlantic off North Carolina, and then the financial dominos really began to fall! Businessman Jeremiah Lanphier was used by GOD to get businessmen praying, and GOD was merciful! In answer to prayer, GOD came and souls were saved!

WE ARE FACING A SOVEREIGN-GOD-ORDERED CRISIS ACROSS THE GLOBE due to a tiny virus; and it is time for the real Christian Church to arise and begin to pray for a true Word-based REVIVAL like we have had three times in America. WAKE UP CHURCH and ARISE to the occasion! Call upon GOD to send a spirit of repentance in the pews across this nation and world! May the Church not lose this opportunity as it did for 9/11! LORD, please send us a TRUE REVIVAL and a TRUE GREAT AWAKENING and a TRUE REFORMATION to AMERICA and the WORLD!

### Wayne Johnson's January 1, 2017 article entitled "The Fulton Street Revival" writes:

"Today, we might assume an outpouring such as Fulton Street would be the result of a well-executed marketing plan, conceived by church growth experts and accompanied by conferences, celebrity podcasts and lots of branded merchandise.

Fulton Street was none of those things, and it was never intended to be. It began and ended as a thirst for souls, and a conviction that unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain that build it. Social historians are quick to point out that the Fulton Street Prayer Meeting flourished precisely as the economy slid into depression, and millions suffered. That's true.



But it's also true that the consistory of the old North Dutch Reformed Church didn't launch their committee to create a neighborhood evangelism plan after the October 14, 1857 bank crash, but in May, *five months before*, making the Fulton Street Prayer Meeting a testimony not only to God's grace, but to His providence as well. The old North Church had a plan for the neighborhood, but as it turned out, *the Lord had a plan for the nation.*

Not only did the prayer meetings flourish among businessmen, but when the Civil War broke out shortly thereafter, tremendous revival occurred in the camps of the armies of both North and South. The church where the Businessmen's Revival began had a confession of faith that spoke to both our "certain knowledge" and our "heartly trust". While some view piety and doctrine as polar opposites, the Fulton Street meetings were neither a rigorously theological movement, nor an exercise in mere pietism. Indeed one of the lasting results of the movement was the replacement of an effete moralism w/ genuine piety.

If there is a lesson for us - and there is - it is to not despise the day of small beginnings for the harvest is truly in God's hands."



### The Panic of 1857 (from Wikipedia)

The Panic of 1857 was a financial panic in the United States caused by the declining international economy and over-expansion of the domestic economy. Because of the interconnectedness of the world economy by the 1850's, the financial crisis that began in late 1857 was the first worldwide economic crisis. In Britain, the Palmerston government circumvented the requirements of the Bank Charter Act 1844, which required gold and silver reserves to back up the amount of money in circulation. Surfacing news of this circumvention set off the Panic in Britain.

Beginning in September 1857, the financial downturn did not last long; however, a proper recovery was not seen until the American Civil War in 1861. The sinking of SS Central America contributed to the panic of 1857, as New York banks were awaiting a much-needed shipment of gold. American banks did not recover until after the civil war. After the failure of Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Company, the financial panic quickly spread as businesses began to fail, the railroad industry experienced financial declines, and hundreds of workers were laid off.

Since the year immediately preceding the Panic of 1857 were prosperous, many banks, merchants, and farmers had seized the opportunity to take risks with their investments, and as soon as market prices began to fall, they quickly began to experience the effects of financial panic.



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