

## The Revival At Kilsyth, Part II

By William Chalmers Burns

### **Master Ministries International, Inc.**

2700 Marfitt Road, #315

East Lansing, MI 48823-6338

Website: <http://www.masterministries.org/>

Online Sermons: <http://masterministries.sermonaudio.com>

"Because of the rain, the vast crowd who had assembled in the market place had now to assemble in the Church building. The building was thronged by men and women and children, all in their working clothes, and among them some of the wickedest and most profligate of the whole district.

"They sang the 102nd Psalm, and when the speaker read the lines:

‘Her time for favor which was set, behold is now come to an end,

the word NOW touched his own heart and encouraged the hope that God's set time was actually at hand. The text was chosen from another Psalm, the 110th. **THY PEOPLE SHALL BE WILLING IN THE DAY OF THY POWER.**

"It was a sermon orderly in arrangement, expository, and evangelical in its teaching. The following was his outline.

I The persons spoken of - they are God's elect - those given to Christ of the Father.

II The promise of the Father to Emmanuel regarding these persons - ‘they shall be willing.’

Willing to be saved by Christ's righteousness alone.

Willing to take on his yoke.

Willing to bear his cross.

III The time of the promise - the day of Emmanuel's power.

It is the day of his exaltation at the Father's right hand (verse 1), i.e. the latter day.

It is the day of the free preaching of the Divine word.

It is the day in which Christ crucified is the centre and sum of the doctrine taught.

It is the day of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit - ‘The Lord shall send,’ etc.

"As he drew to the end of his sermon, he suddenly felt led of the Holy Spirit to recount some of the mighty awakenings in Scottish history, among which he recited the thrilling story of John Livingstone and the Kirk of Shotts.

"It is astonishing to see how the awakenings under McCullough and Whitefield at Cambuslang and Jams Robe at Kilsyth and that under John Livingstone at Shotts are all linked with the mighty days which were to follow once again in Kilsyth and later in Dundee and

Perth. Revival fires spread; the relating of what god has done in the past or what God is doing now in other places, encourages others.

"Thus, in order to understand what followed at Kilsyth, we need to recall with William Burns something of the scene at Shotts on that memorial day, June 21, 1630.

"It was Communion Season in Shotts, also, and thousands of believers had come from all parts to meet with their Lord. Among those who had been asked to speak was a relatively unknown young preacher named John Livingstone. He was astonished and pleaded with his elders that he was not capable enough to do so. At last, however, he consented. The night before he was to speak he could not sleep, and so he spent the whole intervening hours in mighty intercession, with an overwhelming sense of his utter weakness."

Stewart, James Alexander, D. D. William Chalmers Burns, A Man With A Passion For Souls (Lamplighter Publications: Alexandria, LA) p. 23-25.