


*A Theory of Spiritual Revival - Plus of a
going beyond just revival, to an ever
expanding spiritual development—*

*Earl R. Curry, Kirtland, Ohio May 1975,
Pages 1, 6-7*


“There has been a continuing decline in the level of spiritual life of the Restoration, in general—ministry and people alike—that has been going on for many scores of years. As a student and observer of all that is involved in this area of spirituality, I estimate that the causes of this decadence are, in the main, as follows:




1) The pressures of satanic deceptions




2) Increasing worldliness, arising out of the ubiquitous radio and television, a rather earthly literature, a constantly growing materialism, and a growing agnosticism spawned by many facilities of our civilization.




3) Even among priestly leadership, there has very evidently been an increasing antagonism toward spiritual gifts.



4) Pressures of worldly concerns $\frac{3}{4}$ business, employment, pursuit of riches, and the proliferation of many time consuming activities.




5) A quite unspiritual priesthood. There is no training in the understanding of the deeply spiritual things. There are few challenges toward spiritual development, and all too often, none at all.




6) *There is therefore a dreadful lack of appreciation and comprehensive perception of the realm of the spiritual.*




7) All this results in widespread spiritual ignorance and lack of desire.



8) This is turn leads to spiritual lethargy, laziness, inertia, doubts, and even to spiritual blindness.




9) This almost universal tendency of decreasing spiritual vitality has gone so far that the deeply spiritual, so often goes unmentioned.




10) Also, there is an increasing agnosticism evident at almost all levels of the world educational process, tending to build up almost complete trust in human wisdom


One time in past years, there opened to my comprehension nine ways satanic forces will use to try to overthrow the church from within.




1) Such forces will tempt leadership and priesthood to abuse their powers of office, seeking mastery and domination.




2) They will tempt the church—its ministry and its people—toward an arid intellectualism that will neither nourish nor sustain God's people.




3) They will tempt all of us to substitute lesser interests and concerns for the greater and really important ones.



4) *They will tempt us to become deeply involved with world movements and interests which have some values, but not kingdom building value.*




5) *As far and as widely as possible, they will attempt to create a distrust of spiritual gifts, and divine guidance, and of any spiritual development that will lead toward a time of great endowment.*




6) *On the other hand, they will encourage a counterfeit spiritual life that will tend toward becoming very deceptive and misleading.*



7) *They will do all possible to cause division and a paralyzing dismay.*



8) *They will try to overwhelm the church, as well as the world in general, with reading matter that is evil in its influence, corrupting in its nature, and which is wicked in its devastating results.*



9) *They will actively attempt to deceive the church and its people with the notions, philosophies, theologies, and theories of men.*