

Paradox # 3 (1961)

Bro. Lee Vayle - August 4, 1984

1. ...with visions in the Paradox in 1961, and he speaks quite a bit about the various visions, and tonight of course we'll even read just a little excerpt of another vision that he had. And we got as far as page 28 and paragraph 184 is what I want to read, then I'm going to revert back to page 27 to paragraph 179, and then we'll just move on in from there.

Now, you know of course, a paradox is something which is incredible. It is literally past belief. It's true, but it just doesn't seem that it can be true. What it is, it's so different that people just cannot reconcile it to the ordinary course, which would be taken according to their own understanding.

2. All right, Bro. Branham says here: (paragraph 184, we touched on.) [Paradox 12-10-61]

[68] *"What you bind on earth, I'll bind in heaven. What you loose on earth, I'll loose in heaven." Yes, He gave that not to a learned high priest, Caiaphas, but to a ignorant fisherman. Truly a paradox.*

Now, I'm going to go back to 179, that's to refresh your mind, get our contexts, get our place we're at.

[67] *I believe in paradoxes. Yes, sir. I believe. I believe in them with all my heart.*
(Now, he said,) *It was a paradox when all the smart men there were in the world, yet God put the key to the kingdom in the hands of the one that was considered the ignorant and unlearned.*

Now, there's your paradox that he's starting with there. Remember, he had other paradoxes, but this is where we're starting. Now, concerning human intelligence of itself does not have a place in the purpose and plan of God. Now, let's watch.

That's right.

[68] *One of the smartest men in the world in that day was Caiaphas, the high priest; others were emperors and kings, and all the great men of the earth, like presidents and so forth, all these great men. And what is the most important thing in the world? It's God's Church. God made the earth; He made it for a purpose: to take a Church out of it, a Bride. That's the most important job in the world.*

Now, the most important thing now is the Church. So naturally if you're going to look at the Church you would do it in view of what would be the greatest things in the earth. Now, that's human reasoning, but it doesn't work. That's the paradox. See, now how could you find the greatest thing in the world to be made up of what would be the use, the most common or useless, or unadorned, or unrecognized. See?

3. Now, what is the most important thing in this world? All right, it's God's Church. Now, that's all very well in a theory, but that doesn't hold up. Truly. See, that's what the way the world looks

at it. See? Now he says here, *"It's the most important job is to get a Bride out of this world."* Which is world systems and world as it is.

And the smartest men He had was emperors and kings, and potentates and monarchs, and high priests and church men. (Sure, because all those are leaders.) He could have taken any of those. But it was a paradox when He called a man who couldn't even sign his own name, and said, "I give you the keys to the Kingdom. Whatever you bind on earth, I'll bind it in heaven. What you loose on earth, I'll loose it in heaven." (Now, then he says,) *Say, I just thought of that about that vision, "What you loose or bind."*

Now remember, he starts with the vision of the serpent, the mamba, which typifies, which was Satanic, (or was Satan typified,) which was also given to understand that it was sin and death. And Bro. Branham was given through the power of God the ability to bind and to loose which happened in the vision which we understand in this hour, the man was given something, (now let's find where he gets it, let's keep all this in mind now,) he said: *"You loose here, I'll loose in heaven. You bind here, I'm right behind you to do it."*

Now, this man was given something, or had something. And where did he get it? Which evidently pertains to this hour where people are not going to die. That sin and death will be bound, because death is the consequence of sin. So sin and death are going to be bound, and then they'll be loosed. See, again, then bound again. So there's something going on which is applicable to this hour in this man's ministry.

4. Now watch, I just thought of that vision, what you loose or bind. Now, he just quoted concerning Jesus giving the keys to the kingdom to Peter. Now, he quotes on 184, which I read.

"What you bind on earth, I'll bind in heaven. What you loose on earth, I'll loose in heaven."

Now, most people do not understand, that the little rendering of that term is this: what's so ever has been previously loosed in heaven, (you know) you can loose on earth and I'll back it up, and what has been previously bound. In other words, Peter was not given of himself the right to do this. He could not bind, and he could not loose. And that's what the church has taken upon itself usually in the form of Catholicism, but the Protestants aren't very far behind in doing the same thing as though the church has a power. It is not in their power to do this, unless it has been given to them and established in heaven.

For the Scripture distinctly says, *"Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done [in] earth at it is in heaven."* [Mt 6:10] So therefore, it must have previously bound in heaven, So therefore, it must have been previously bound in heaven, or previously loosed in earth, *"Therefore, is Thy Word is forever settled in heaven."* [Ps 119:89] As Bro. Branham said to the Roman Catholic, he said, *"Well the church can loose and bind (he said,) sure, if you do it the Scripture way."*

"Well," he said, "what is the Scripture way?"

"Well," he said, "Peter stood on Pentecost (he said,) repent and be baptized, everyone of you in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, you shall be saved." [Acts 2:38]

So, what he did he bound and he loosed according to the Word which was forever settled in heaven, but manifested at that time and for this hour, and up to the end of this hour upon earth. And anybody can do the same thing. So, you see the keys of the kingdom in that particular order.

5. Now, you'll notice here that if you are going to talk of binding or loosing, you are going to have the Word of God and must have the Word of God as your authority, It is the first one of all.

So let's go to 1 Corinthians here, and I hope I can get finished tonight, if we don't we'll have to finish it Wednesday, that's all that we can do. But we'll go to 1 Corinthians 1:19, here now I want to start reading.

(19) For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

(20) Where is the wise? where is the scribe?...

Now, the scribe is simply a man that copies something down. So this fellow here must be copying something down that God does not recognize. Now remember: "Behold I send you prophets and wise men and scribes; and some of them you kill and crucified and harried them from city to city." [Mt 23:24] So, you got in here, as you know, in the Word you got a false prophet, you got a false teacher, you got a false scribe, and so on. Now, he's just looking at the world's system. Now:

(20) Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? (Like your Aristotle's, and the rest of them, see?) hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

(21) For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

6. Now, this Cloud appeared up here, this ring of Angels, a friend of mine right away wrote to newspapers and to **place**, and he said, "I can tell you all about what that cloud is."

I said, "Don't do it." Because I knew Bro. Branham wouldn't want it done.

So, Bro. Branham tells us right on the tape, I was there of course when he said it. "Well," he said...you know, he was telling those astronomers and those scientists, *"there's not going to believe it anyway."*

Now, would they believe that was a Cloud of Angels? Well, the answer is: if you and I weren't of this frame of mind would we believe it? The answer is certainly not. You know, so... Now, It says here:

(21) For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God,...

Now, It tells you right there that there is no way that man has an entree to God, or any knowledge of God apart from something that that God would have to do for the person. It tells you right there. Now:

(21) ...it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe

(22) For the Jews require a sign, the Greeks seek after wisdom:

(23) But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and (to) the Greeks foolishness; (There's your paradox.)

- (24) But unto (both of) them (that) are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.
 - (25) Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
 - (26) For (you) see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, (now, It didn't say, after the spirit, he said after the flesh.) not many mighty, not many noble, are called:
 - (27) But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;
 - (28) And base things of the world, (that's the very common) things which are despised, (In other words, says, "ho-hum, you know, hum-drum, because they're so common,) hath God chosen, yea, and things
(that) are not, to bring to (nothing the) things that are:
 - (29) That no flesh should glory in his presence.
 - (30) But of him are (you) in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:
 - (31) ...according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.
7. All right, now with that we go to Philippians where you find religiousosity of the highest order and the so called spiritual which is handed down through generations of teaching, much of which the truth had been based on the truth at one time. And he says in Philippians 3:4-8.
- (4) Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any man thinketh whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:
 - (5) Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; (Well educated, see.)
 - (6) Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.
 - (7) But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.
 - (8) Yea doubtless, I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but (refuse, or) dung, (manure,) that I may win Christ,
8. All right, now notice what the same man said in 2 Corinthians 10:3-4.
- (3) For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:
 - (4) (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

Verse 5, especially:

- (5) Casting down (reasoning's), and every high thing that (exalts) itself
against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every
thought to the obedience of Christ;

So therefore, you know if there's anything special that's going to attend the Rapture, or have anything to do with the Second Coming of the Lord, it is going to be abysmally weak and unfavored in the eyes of people who are not spiritually understanding.

Now, I don't care what anybody says. I know what I'm talking about, because I just read it. Any doctrine, any specific event. Any turning of a corner. Any juncture. If God is doing anything at that particular time, and who is to say that He won't do something? Then that will not be accepted by the people. It'll be a paradox, they can't take it. It just won't fit in with their thinking. And if it doesn't fit with their thinking, then it can't be God.

9. It's just like the people that bug me concerning William Branham. They say he's a prophet then turn around and say he made mistakes. Tell you the Church Order is not what he meant. Any number of things. And because of it, you're going to find more and more of adultery increasing. I told you for years how that adultery is a sign, the physical sign what's going on in the ministry. You'll find more and more of it, so don't get shocked. If you're shocked you don't belong here. You're too weird for me. Not just ...?..., you're just too weird for me. You get inured [accustom to hardship] to these things. You know what's going to come. The cup of iniquity has got to flow over.

Bride's not going to get out of here, until the cup of iniquity is full. We've been pronounced righteous. We've got our calling card. We've got our entree. The measure of the grace of God has been filled up. He can come right here and stand like He stood with Abraham called, "friends of God." [Jas 2:3] Why he said, "A servant doesn't know what the master doeth, but he calls us friends, we know what's going on. We'll talked about that, right here in the Paradox. People can't take that, they can't fathom it. They don't want it. See?

10. Now, let's just look at this power that Bro. Branham had, that Paul had, these men had. Let's take a look at it. Was that Peter had. Why he said, "Whatever you lose is loosed." It had been previously loosed. It had been previously bound. Now, Paul tells us in Ephesians 3:20.

- (20) Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundant above all that
we ask or think, according to the power that (is at work within) us,

Now, that's not exactly what It says, exactly says this: "Unto him, who in the exercise of his power that is at work within us." The power lies within us, but the exercise of it, is sovereignly controlled by the man whose power it is. That's why William Branham had 'Thus saith the Lord'. That's why the Bride at the end-time will have 'Thus saith the Lord' without saying 'Thus saith the Lord'. She will have the Word and know what to do with It. And this is exactly where Peter was, and he could not do that before Pentecost. And at Pentecost, the whole thing came together, because he spoke by the Holy Ghost wisdom which he could not speak of himself. Because Peter was just as kooked up as anybody was, as kooked up as Caiaphas without God.

If Caiaphas had of stood there that day and challenged Peter, and Peter said, "Thou art the Christ the Son of the living God." [Mt 16:16]

And Jesus would have simply said, "Now Peter, you're on the right track."

And Caiaphas would have said, "Hogwash."

And I'm going to tell you something: Without a divine revelation, Peter would have simply have given a good guess. But Jesus said, "Flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto you." [Mt 16:17]

And Paul said, "I did not get It of myself, and nobody gave It to me, and God gave It." [Gal 1:12] It was a revelation. So, Peter at Pentecost was under the inspiration of revelation. And so was Stephen. And so was Phillip. That's why it could not be **gain said**, what those men were saying under the power of the Holy Ghost when they preached. Bro. Branham will bring that up in a little while. It's in paradox here. Just haven't go to reading it yet.

11. Now, he said, *"I thought of that vision."*

All right, somebody comes in a room, he said, *"Healing you I cannot. Pray for you I can."* And he turns right around and admits that he's got a gift that could take it off you, but God hasn't told him to. And he said, *"What if God put that on you and I take it off, then I'm countering the will of God?"*

He told me personally, *"Lee,"* he said, (we don't have the picture, it's out there I guess somewhere the flames of Fire,) he said, *"Lee, those are the nine gifts, I've got them all today."* He told me. But he said, *"They can't be used, except at [my] discretion."* So when the church was put in order, so the discretion of God would come amongst us the people turned It down. Paradox. Huh! I'd the word paradox...oh, forgive Bro. Vayle, he don't like the word 'paradox', he likes the word 'flatheaded stupidity', [laughter] spiritually groundout, let's face it.

You say, "Well, you're kind of mean, just because you've got some, like you run them down." My brother, my sister, let me tell you flat, there's a judgment coming. There's something that I can say that helps you, or hardens this thing down to the point where we're going to get to the place we've got to act in accordance with the Word of God, we'll do it. I'm ready anytime you want to put a little room there, I'll go in with you. It's not my job to go in there, but I'll go in. I'm not afraid. I've stood before people and prophesied right down the line, came right to pass. Visions not failed, or anything. Not even things off the cuff, spoken or failed one time to my knowledge. I'm not afraid to go in the room.

You say, "What's going to happen?" Who knows? Likely nothing. [a banging noise is made] It's not my ministry. But I'll be wide open. You thought I closed the door didn't you? I didn't close any door. I don't know what to expect. My ministry is up here with the Word. That's complimentary. Bro. Branham said he'd go in, so I'll go in. Sure, no problem.

12. Who at the exercise of his own power. What could Bro. Branham do? He could do nothing except it be given to him from above. Now, he said here:

...an ignorant fisherman. Truly a paradox.

And the paradox didn't lie in the fact that the man was ignorant, the great paradox is this: that God should use that fellow. When everybody stood by and said, "Well, if God is going to use anybody, He's going to use me." The Jesus Only people. Call them what you want. I think that's the group. Categorically said, "Why we know Bro. Branham is a false prophet, because if he's a true prophet he would have come to us."

That's one thing that's made me wonder, how I ever got to know the prophet. I look at myself and I say, "There's got to be a few mistakes somewhere." And there's another paradox. Paradox lies right there. What is God's choosing? God's election? God's sovereignty?

13. Now listen: Paradox again.

[69] We see Paul, a little old hook-nosed Jew on his road down, arrogant, going
down to bind those people who are making noise, and shouting and things;
they threw them in jail, making havoc of Church; stoned Stephen,
witnessed to it, held their coats. He was a terror. How would God
ever choose a man like that? (How would He?) Look, at the bishops, all
the apostles, they said, "We'll make a choice, somebody to
take Judas' place." (You know, he fell by transgression.) And who do
they choose? They chose Matthias. I believe it's called.
Matthias, yeah. Matthias, they chose him by casting lots, and not one
thing did he ever do. He seemed to be a righteous man. And God chose the
most high-tempered, meanest guy there was in the land to take his place.
Paradox, that's what God does: paradox.

And the paradox always messes everybody up. I don't care if the church is full of the Holy Ghost, this is the toughest lesson to learn: Old Samuel came down one day and God said, "Now, I'm going to tell you, Jessie's sons, there's ten of them down there," (I think there's ten of them) he said, "one of them is the anointed to God."

"Why," he said, "I'll just amble right down and anoint him. I don't mind at all, I'm the prophet of God." So he said, "Call out you sons, (he said,) I got the old pot just ready, I'm going to anoint him." He said, "God sent me down here, hallelujah, one of your son's is the king to come.

14. So, big old Eliab comes out, he was a great big muscular looking guy maybe a little under the stature of old Saul, the king, and he looked just like he would make a doozie of a king. When he said, "...?... man," he said, I'm going to pour the oil on. God said, "Hold it, hold it, hold it." Paradox. He said, I look on the heart, you look on the outside." He said, "The outside looks good to you, but it's rotten to me."

So old Samuel, he's a pretty smart boy, he took his licking. He didn't stand around going, mope, mope, mope to God. He said, "Okay, okay, okay, have it Your way." Uh, huh. "I'll be glad to anoint whoever You say Lord.

Next one come by, "Nope."

Next one come by, "Nope." That's eight. Seven, six, five, four, three, two. Said, "Where's ...there's got to be one more somewhere. Ain't there one more?" [this line not clear] Jehoshaphat said, he said, "Isn't there just one more prophet somewhere?"

"Why," he said, "good heavens there's four hundred here. Four hundred astute men." Bro. Branham brought them a paradox, didn't he? (On the paradox I'd say.) "Why," he said, "You couldn't ask for better more educated people. And look it, a prophet is supposed to know the Scripture." Prophecies outside the Scripture he's no good. "These men know the Bible, they're trained, seminary men."

"Why," he said, "ain't you got one more?"

Oh, these thorn in the flesh guys that are full of the Holy Ghost and stick to the Word of God lead by the Spirit, they mess everybody up.

15. "So," he said, "Well, (he said,) there's got to be one more, (he said,) well, (he said,) yeah, but he don't count."

He said, "I didn't ask if he's educated." (I just slipped that in.) [laughter] He said, "There's got to be one more."

"Well," he said, "yeah, but he's down there messing around the sheep you know. He's kind of funny, he ain't like the rest of the boys. He's kind of runty you know. And he just likes to go down there and herd the sheep. He's pretty good at that, (you know) he sings with his harp, and he's pretty fair with a sling-shot too I must admit. He does funny little kind of goofy things. I don't think you'd want him."

He said, "That's not for me to say, or you to say, that's for God to say. You better bring him in."

I'm going to tell you, if that old boy hadn't lift his arm to pour the oil, the oil pot would have lifted his arm. I'm going to tell you, God's got a way of doing things. Paradox. See, right there. A paradox.

16. People just...right in the Holy Ghost churches I was saying, people have an awful job believing. Why? Because the church is run by politics. It's not run by the Spirit of God. You noticed, the first thing that Bro. Branham mentioned, he said, "*You have a church...*" (Oh, we'll get through Paradox two years from now.)

Bro. Branham talked about the church, he said, "*They're going along not too bad, not too great, but one day they have enough money to build a little nicer church. And they said, 'now the thing is this: we build a little nicer church, some nicer people will come in'.*" Fap! Throw some mud on the wall, we've got **plenty** of nice people here now. [laughter] Let's get this thing ironed out.

He said, "Yes, (he said) *you build a nice church so the mayor will come. And pretty soon the mayor comes down,* (and he said) *now Reverend Sir,* (he said) *I know* (he said) *that you really know your business, you're a fine man of God, but* (he said) *you know I-I-I...*" Yeah, I-I-I. I'm going to tell you what: the word 'run' injected with the letter 'i' spells 'ruin'. And any man that puts the 'i' in the word 'run' when God wants him to run, he's going to mess everything up.

So that mayor comes along, and he says, "*Now look here,* (he said) *I got a lot of friends, and I can bring them here.*" And he said, "*What does a preacher do? He begins just playing the whole thing down. And pretty soon he's got a man made religion.*" See, that's the paradox. Even in the church where the Holy Ghost is. You say, "Why?" Because, Bro. Branham gave us one of the biggest paradoxes of all, he said, "*A man full of the Holy Ghost with a genuine gift could be used of the devil.*"

17. Now, you heard me say that, I don't know if I'm full of the Holy Ghost or not. According to some people I sure ain't. That's their business. Say what they want. My business is believe what I want. I believe that I got a genuine gift. People doubt that too. But I'm going to tell you one thing, I can be full of the Holy Ghost tonight with a genuine gift, and be led of the devil. Be used of the devil. Certainly. That's a paradox.

"Except the Lord build a house, they labor in vain that build it." [Ps 127:1] He's the Head of the body, He's everything. But people don't want to recognize that, it's too much of a paradox to just knuckle right down to the Word of God and say, "Listen, this is how God does things." They just can't accept it.

You say, "Well now, if you put this frill on it, that's going to be nice. If you do this, that's going to be nice." And that's what they did with our food.

18. I was just talking to somebody the other day, we're talking about homemade bread. And I said, "You know I remember my mother made bread, it didn't get moldy so quick." Oh, what's wrong today? They fill it full of preservatives. Of course we had a big family and we made bread often, that's what the way it should be. They made bread every day in the Bible.

You know, our houses are so full of conveniences, why don't we get something really convenient? Have homemade bread every day, instead of all that junk. But, I'm just trying to show you something. You see, you get more and more refined. People get more and more refined, and they're more and more lead of the devil instead of lead of God. See, they believe in refining things, then they've got to put a touch on it. Got to do this, got to do that. Eating so many chemicals today, no wonder everybody's sick. And they're going to be sicker, that's all there is to it.

This world goes out by the knowledge of men. Bro. Branham even put the atomic bomb at the time before Noah. What's doing it? It's the wisdom of man. See? The church is full of it, it's a pitiful thing. Well look it, that's what he says right here.

Full of the Holy... Those people... of course they weren't yet full of the Holy Ghost, but they were believers. And they said, "Now look, we better bring in somebody here to fill this fellow Judas' place. Because there's got to be twelve of us." [Acts 1:]

"And he by transgression fell." [Acts 1:25]

"So what do we do? We'll choose one." And the choosing was wrong.

19. Now, you can vote for a preacher, providing you know he's really full of the Holy Ghost, he's a real pastor. How many get in as a pastor? Where they try to a job they're not qualified for. I'm one of the least qualified men in all the world to do pastoring. Yet I can sit down and hold people's hands, majority of pastor's can't do, ...?... called pastor's ...?... just plain useless, that's all there is to it. You might not like what I say, and people hearing the tape might not like it, but I don't give two-hoots, or a can of sardines I can just tell you that. Because it's the truth. Look, I'm not seventy years of age for nothing. Or maybe I am. Haven't been around all these years for nothing, maybe I am. See?

Now, that vote's alright. See, Bro. Branham spoke two ways about a vote. One's pure politics, and the other as the Voice of the Holy Spirit in the majority. But you better know you're full of the Holy Ghost, and you better know you're voting for a man full of the Holy Ghost. That's right. God made choice, and He passed it on to a people. But you watch the paradox every single time. Man will want to go this wrong way. He just won't take God's way.

20. Now:

*It was a paradox when this ungodly, high-headed, high-tempered, mean,
despicable Jew was on his road down one day to a city, to bind the Christians
and put them in jail, and when all at once he was stricken down...he
looked up, and he saw a Pillar of Fire, and a Voice coming, saying,
"Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?"*

[70] *It was a paradox when he could see It, and the rest of them couldn't see It.*

Certainly, they just saw some kind of a flash, I guess, or an after effect. You say, "Well, just a minute, I believe the Bible says they saw something." Sure they did, like the people in the Tabernacle, they didn't see the Pillar of Fire, but they saw the reflection. Prophets see Pillar's of Fire. Camera can take It. What did he take? A reflection. The Light was there. Did the photographer see it? No way. Where did It come? On a film. God let the camera take It. Now remember, of course Paul was chosen before the foundation of the world.

Somebody said, "Oh, I never see That. There's no such a thing there; yeah, you don't. (Then they say) That's wrong." About this today, they say this, "I don't believe such and such." No, sure not. Certainly not. But there are those that do see It. (Not the Pillar of Fire, but see what's going on today.) Sure, if you can't, you're blind; you can't see It. A fellow said to me, some time ago, been several years ago, (in fact,) "Now, if I'm in your way..." He said, "Now, Paul struck a man blind." He said, "If I be of the devil," he said, "you strike me blind." I said, "That doesn't necessarily have to be done. You're already blind. See, you're already blind. And yours is the worst kind of blindness. Anna, in the temple, could see farther than you can see, she was blind, physically." He was blind, spiritually. Sure. It was a paradox.

21. Now remember, a paradox is not a puzzle that you have to puzzle out. It's an actual attested and tested, as it is in our case, a fact that is incredible, because you can't adjust your thinking to the things of God. That's exactly all it is.

Now, we can talk tonight and everybody get...leaving here thinking this paradox is something like an enigma, or a puzzle, or some kind of riddle. Now, it's that in a sense, but it's not. It's that which is absolutely incredible because of the background of the people. They can't get in line with God.

It was a paradox when God made so-called heresy...

[71] *All that noise, and shouting, and praising God, and speaking in tongues, and people who are despised and rejected, and called idiots and heretics; it's a paradox when God, the great Father of all, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who chose a bunch of heretics to bring salvation to His Church, instead of the well trained ecclesiastical, theological system. It's a paradox. (Certainly. Certainly it's a paradox, those guys didn't have anything to give anybody.)*

You know something? Paul said all of this stuff was manure. How do you like yours, raw or refined? Don't blush and get embarrassed, I ask a good legitimate question. I want to explain it. Right today, they tell me chickens are fed refined horse manure. Right! I know what I'm talking about. How do you want yours? Refined or unrefined? The church simply refines it, that's all. Paul was a case with the Pharisees of the well refined manure. That's all it was. Because he said, "It's nothing but manure."

22. The man that's self righteous without the righteousness of God, that is self righteousness is called 'spoiled fruit'. Rotten fruit. You show me what rotten fruit is good for, except to attract fruit flies. It doesn't even make fertilizer, come on? I've been around orchards long enough to know that. A farmer doesn't care two cents if those apples were for fertilizer. Take the leaves of the tree. I was never known to be a nice preacher. I fact I'm x-rated, so that's alright. But I'm also

x-rated, you want to look in my heart anytime you want, that's your business. I'm not lying to you. I'm not fooling with you.

Theological system my brother, my sister, refined system, or unrefined is out. That's what happened with the church, you got refined. Pentecost got refined. And if we keep on the way we're going we're going to get refined. Yep, come to the place where we're going to have to be nice. Do something about it you know. Attract a better bunch of people. Oh, God have pity. I could say a lot of things right about now. But this is the end of the age as we have the cream of the crop, and the slop of the crop. I don't think I want to go any step further than just sit right here and wait for God to get us out of here. You do what you want about it, but I come to that conclusion.

23. *Not long ago I was in a city in Washington, or I believe it was Oregon. A reporter came, (listen to the little story) two little reporters, had cigarettes in their hands. (They're women.) They came in. Were going to write me up, sure, really good, you know. They were going on, saying this thing and another thing. And said, one said, "Are you a holy-roller?" I said, "No. I haven't ever rolled. But I guess if He'd tell me to roll, I would." So went ahead talking like that, you know. She was going on and on.*

[72] *And I said, "Just let me tell you something, little lady, you write up anything you want to. You're a Catholic." She said, "That's right." She said, "How'd you know?" I said, "Well, just the same way I know those other things on the platform. See?" I said, "You're a Catholic. (And he caught her spirit, just what she was going to do.) And you go on and write it up, and I'm warning you right now; in thirty days from now, you write it up, and you'll be laying on the side of a road with your throat cut by glass off your own car, screaming for mercy, and you'll think of me many times." She said, "Aren't you Irish?"*

"Yep."

"Was your people Catholic?" "Perhaps before me." "What would your mother think of such, about you doing things now?" "I baptized her in the Name of Jesus Christ. And she received the Holy Ghost. Uh-huh. Yep." And I said, "Now, if you want to go in that way, then I'll take your name and you take my name. Then if it isn't so then, after thirty days, you write it up in the paper that I'm a false prophet. Now, you go ahead and write it."

[73] *She said, "Well, I'd hate to think, when I got to heaven, that a bunch of ignoramuses like up there at that meeting you're in, would be ruling heaven." I said, "You won't have much trouble." I said, "The only thing is... Unless you change your mind and your way, you won't be there anyhow. See? Because they'll be there. God has chosen that."*

24. Now, I want to just draw your attention to this. Here's a real paradox: Why doesn't God do this all the time? I guess once was enough. We'd say, "Hey, wouldn't that be great if we could just handle that?" No. No. You and I don't have that ministry. And you couldn't tell them anyway. If you did know as God told you to say those very words. Because Bro. Branham said, "I'm the only living one who can tell it as He showed me, and tell it as He told me."

Now, if you don't believe that, you talk to Junior Jackson. Now, he got his dreams mixed up. And you talk to W.B. Grant's son unless, see if he can tell it exactly right, because somebody's off the Word somewhere.

The Trinitarian's revelation is like the woman in Drumheller, Alberta who saw three gods, a big one, a middle one, and a little one. And I said, "She saw the three bears." [laughter] And I've been...I just about had to run for my life. [more laughter] They've been gunning for me ever since, because the thought that was irreverent. What's irreverent about a vision that's as false as God knows what? What's irreverent about it? What was irreverent when the prophet's of Baal were gashing themselves, calling blood, and bringing out blood? And old Elijah said, "Yea," he said, "yell louder. I think He must be asleep." He said, "Hey, you asleep up there? Oh," he said, "maybe He went on a holiday out hunting. After all, squirrels' season's out, now the moose season. You got your gun you might get a goose or two. He might be hunting? Why don't you sit down and wait awhile?" What was irreverent about it? What was irreverent about this? It wasn't irreverent. I don't think so.

*It's a paradox, that God had taken the foolish things, those things. He, God
chose to bring salvation to the world through such a bunch, a paradox,
altogether different from their high-trained and polished scholars,
theologians and things. God just bypasses that, takes some little
ignoramus (sure, but he's not ignorant of God's Word, or God's way, or
God's wisdom. Maybe pretty gunky as far as the world's concerned) raises it
up, puts His Message in him, (he's talking about himself now) like He did
John the Baptist, some of the rest of them, Peter and them, sent them
on out and preach the Gospel, bringing in His Church... there it is.
See? And just let this great polished stuff go off. Oh, my, it is sure
something.*

25. Okay, let's just read back here, I quoted last night to a woman that came by the house. I could almost quote this now. [Anointed Ones at the End Time 07-25-65]

[118] *Now, I want you to know this for sure. That you that listen to this tape, might
have thought today that I was trying to say that about myself, being that I was
packing this Message. I have no more to do with it than nothing, no more
than just a voice. And my voice, even against my better judgment I
wanted to be a trapper. (There you are.)*

How smart was William Branham? Not very. Not very. Naw, if he would have had education, he could have stacked up pretty good in the world, because he was no dumb-dodo. He'd have been quite a philosopher. He'd have been a little bit like Solomon in the natural, ...?...knew the things about the wild life and nature and all those things. If you ever went walking with him, he'd talk about all those things. Tell you all the things that goes on in the woods. He's a real woodsman, a real hunter. A real naturalist. He was a conservationist, a very, very fine person. But what would he have been as a Christian and a prophet to the church outside of God and heard God alone? Nothing. Nothing. You know really, what would he have been?

"Well, he could have preached." Sure I think he was a good preacher, that would have been fine. But he never would have been the William Branham we know. See? He took an ignorant man, He did it.

[Paradox 12-10-61]

God, when God chose the ignorant and unlearned, instead of the education and learned, for His Bride...

[74] *Could you imagine a man, choosing his bride, that way, a man with the highest supreme powers...*

26. Would you imagine that a man that was way up there in this world wouldn't marry into his own circle so to speak? Oh God, did really, but you'd never get the world to recognize that.

But God chose His Bride out of a bunch of people like that. Now, anybody saying that that isn't so, then you don't believe your Bible. That's exactly right. Read your Bible; that's exactly what It is. It was a real paradox when God chose the foolishness of inspired preaching instead of high-polished theology. A man that didn't know, hardly, to use words said, "hit, hain't, tote, fetch, carry," all words like that, and say all kinds of things out of his grammar, and ungrammarized, everything else like that, and God chose that instead of taking the great scholars and the polished, who can really pronounce the words and say it just right. But it pleased God to take the foolishness of inspired preaching, some little old plowboy didn't know his abc's, and take that man and win souls by him. When, deceivers, all polished up, just leading the blind leading the blind. A real paradox. (Now, he's talking about the rough and the polished.)

27. Let's go back to page 22, (I won't read too much there) this is gone good old Samson.

[Paradox 12-10-61]

[55] *And that roar run out against this little curly-headed shrimp, we'd call him, and then something happened. That little shrimp walks over, and gets that lion by the mouth, and puts one hand down this a way and one in that way, not nervously now, and just pulls him apart and lays him down there.*

That's a paradox. What caused it? If you'll notice the reading just before it, "And (a conjunction)and the Spirit of the Lord came upon him." That's what made the difference. And he slew the lion. [End of side one]

[74] *Oh, the Word's so full of it. So much I just got to bypass, (he says.)*

[75] *It's true that the big church shines and glitters with polished theology, while the Kingdom glows with humility, the poor and humble. The Gospel doesn't shine; It glows. Fool's gold shines; real gold glows. There's a difference between a glow and a shine. We know that. While the big church glitters and shines with high-polished scholars, and fine pews, crucifix's all over the wall...*

And those crosses cost money. I remember years and years ago, I understood the average cross in a Roman Catholic church was sixty five thousand dollars in gold. [makes a while sound] At thirty bucks an ounce, figure what that is today. Well, they can have it. ...?... You know the price of gold is going down again right now? That's to get...so the church can buy it cheap. They'll buy it, don't worry. So, look it, I don't care what you do, you know, look at all this talks going on in the world by Christians; I think it was Dr. Bernie, who brings out that they've got the

American money reprinted now to close us all out. If we stolen it from the government they're going to break the money in. Let's just see if Dr. Bernie is telling the truth. ...?... seventy percent of all the commerce of the world is done in US dollars, how could they call that money in?

I don't believe it. I only believe one thing, the prophet said, and he said they'll shore it up with the gold. And if they even did bring it in, expose anybody or anything, what would it do, or took it all away? They'd still have to come back to the Roman Catholic system to bail it out. Because that's the lying sign and wonder. Just stay with what the prophet said. Take your chance on it brother/sister. You don't take a chance on God, that's the only thing that's sure. Only one man was vindicated. I'm going to stick with that. I don't care what anybody says, or anybody tries to bring out. Just won't. I won't fool with it.

28. Okay, so the church is getting all the gold, the gold is going down. I was going to tell you the Bible said, "Your silver and your gold is corrupted." Then It said, "Go to ye rich men, weep and howl, for your miseries has come upon you." [James 5:1]

Oh, look at the rich man now. They've got the unions all stirred up. So the unions will get blamed now when they say, "Hey you birds, you took millions and millions of dollars that we've earned. We took a back cut, we stood still, you got more money than you ever had, and now you want it all. We've going to fight you into the ground." That's why I don't blame the union. Don't blame the unions. Don't blame the unions. Put where the Bible says the blame is.

I know the unions have gone pretty screwy, I'll admit that. They've let crooks and criminals, the mafia, the mobsters get in. I admit that's wrong. I'm going to tell you one thing: the Bible doesn't say anything about the working man, except to give an honest day's work. That's roughly what the Bible says for an honest day's pay. But it said, "Rich men weep and howl for your miseries come upon you." Your silver and your gold is corrupted, because you've held the wages back. Now, read your Bibles the way your Bible is written.

"They that were rich," the Bible says, "bring many a snare and a temptation." [1 Tim 6:9]

29. Met a friend just the other day, I haven't seen him for twenty five solid years or better, he wanted me to buy a highest sweep-stake ticket, so he might get twenty one million dollars.

I said, "What for?"

"Well," he said, "I want to help the poor people in the world."

I said, "Son, twenty five billion dollars will not get rid of poverty in one nation."

Let's also consider the curse upon the heathen for denying God.

I'm going to tell you something: everyone of you buy a lottery ticket and everyone of you make twenty one million dollars, but don't bring one nickel in this church. Don't bring one nickel in this church, go out and spend it and do your best to serve God, and I'll watch you go down in the city dump.

And I'm going to tell you, I learned a lesson this week, why the worm doesn't die, and the fire is not quenched. I've got a little tree at home in the front yard there, we have it and it's one of those sweet-gum trees. And one of those tent-worm kind of deals got in there and he blew himself up a tent and I didn't see it till just the other day. And I said, "Well look at that." And I thought, I got some insect spray, I'll spray it. I thought, no, I'm pretty devilish. I admit, I'm rotten.

30. Years ago I use to let the mosquitoes stick their noses in through the screens then I'd take my tweezers and pull their noses off. [laughter] Because they'd bite me and I hated mosquitoes. Confession may, or may not be good for the soul, I care less I'm telling you. So, I thought I'd get these rascals and I took my pruners and I'd cut off the end of the branch, and I took that [caterpillar] tent and I'd use my blow torch. And you know something? I'm going to tell you, it's one of the hardest things to kill those worms. They're almost like asbestos, that would literally almost make them red before they'd expired. And I found how it is the Russians found that almost even fire doesn't kill some germs. And I thought, in my thought the Bible said, "Where the worm dieth not, the fire is not quenched." [Isa 66:24]

And as I was pulling some weeds the other day and I looked down and I said, "Hey, that can't be a weed. Looks like that plant." And I said, "Nah, come on," And I looked again and it was a weed. And the same weed in that plant had thinner longer leaves then the same weed in another plant that had fatter leaves. You know that old tare in there, that old lousy weed he can look just like the Christian? Oh yeah, he'll act like a Christian under certain conditions. I think I'm right in what I'm telling you, because I looked at those weeds and I'm pretty sure it's the same weed. Christians, they just are Christians. Yeah, they're just old Christians you know.

31. Anyway, here's this big fine bunch of scholars and they got all the gold, and all the polish and everything else:

*... and towering buildings, (and you know) all like that; the little Kingdom, goes
down in some little alley somewhere is glowing with the glory of God, filled with
the humble in heart. God working in them, healing the sick, raising the
dead, and casting out devils, and so forth; just letting them pass by.*

That was a good statement. It's still a good statement, but I'm going to tell you right now, you can get the same thing in the churches that are full of the devil. Because they've got an anointing of them. The anointing is real, but the men, the people are false. Oh yeah. Oh yeah. You go to Notre Dame and you'll find out what goes on up there. But the Christian's ...?...

*There was a great ministerial meeting. Don't forget this now. (He said,) There's
a great ministerial meeting sometime ago in a certain city and some people
right here were in the meeting. And there're certain man...a theologian, "He
had a message for the day, for the people." He's studied two or three weeks
on that message.*

[76] *And when he walked up to the platform, not a wrinkle in his clothes, finest of
clothes, and he walked up there, stuck out his chest, and laid out his material
the message out there in front. And he really preached an hour's message
could not be touched intellectually. He stuck his chest out, took the
name of L.L. Doctor So-and-so, from a great big certain
school...highly polished, scholarly, he brought a masterpiece
to the people, psychology and things. And everybody said,
"It was wonderful." But some Christians setting there, just
like the Nicene Council, it just grieved the Spirit. It was a masterpiece,
sure. Yes, sir. It had all the polish on it, they could get. But the real Spirit-filled
people, just, "Huh?" It just didn't go with it... no Spirit to back it up. So when
he come down, he had his head ducked down; he saw it didn't go over
amongst those people. He was from another school; and here he was*

*with Pentecostal
feathers was dropped down.
stuff under his arm, walking down*

*people. So when he come down off the platform, his
Started walking down there, with all of his
through the congregation.*

[77] And a wise old saint sitting over on the right-hand side, reached over to another man and said, "If he would've gone up the way he come down, he would've come down the way he went up." That's it. If he'd have gone up humble, he'd probably would have come down filled with the glory. He would've went up the way he come down... (See? That's a paradox right there.)

32. Okay: let's go to Luke 14:7. Bro. Branham said it's a paradox, so let's find out. No doubt it is. (I think this is what I want.)

- (7) And he put a parable to those which were bidden, when he marked how they chose out the chief rooms; saying unto them.

Now, these guys thought they were pretty big stuff, so they were going to sit at the head of the table where the big thing were.

- (8) When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding, sit not down in the highest room; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him;

- (9) And he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room.

- (10) But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then thou shalt have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee.

- (11) For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Now, that's pretty hard against the American tradition: "Get well the getting's good, and he that fusstist with the mostist will win the battle." It doesn't add up.

- (12) Then he said also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends,

Now, here's where I get in with my wife the odd time, I say, "Look, girl, I don't owe anybody anything that could take care of themselves." Or they could take care of themselves, nobody owes them anything. It's when they can't, is when you do something. When America opened its purse to anybody and everybody, they destroyed about everybody.

33. America today is a bitter nation on two counts: Those that haven't got it and won't work for it want it. And those that work for it and got it, aren't about to give it and got to. And so, you got a bitter nation. Now, people really need it, I'm a hundred percent for it. When they have got to have help, they got to have help. The church... the Bible recognizes everybody does. But you cannot, you cannot possibly reconcile the abuses of this hour with the Word of Almighty God.

Now It says:

- (12) ... When thou makest a dinner, supper, call not thy friends, (scratch their back, and they scratch yours,) nor thy brethren, (your kinfolk),

nor rich neighbours; lest they bid thee again, and a recompence be made.

(13) ...when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: (and so on.)

(14) And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: (Now, there is where it is. There is where it is. See?)

Now, you say, "What is behind the trouble where it's at and nothing is being done?" Because the rich man had added house to house and land to land, and destroyed the laborer's chance of getting a job. What did DuPont do in spending eight billion dollars, or was it four? They didn't add jobs, they took jobs. What happened when your farmer had to take bigger and bigger land? You don't have farms here at all. Fap! You got chicken ranches. Go to Canada, to the prairie provinces, three thousand acres. Or go to Texas, there you'll see some farms. You'll see real farms, thousands of acres. Here, you're just playing around, really. The Bible said, "Woe to them that join land to land and house to house. [Isa 5:8]"

34. So, they made bigger and bigger farms and took away the horses and the cows, so now they can't manure the soil. What fertilizer does the tractor put back in the land? Yet, the farmer's got to get bigger and bigger to exist, and then it comes to the place where he's going to go down. And what did it? Disobeying God's Word. There's your paradox. You can't get people to understand that. Never will understand. This government is very much at fault. Old Teddy Roosevelt is ...?... to the plan. To keep companies from taking over and monopolizing. And I don't know that that's a hundred percent right. And yet if the government says so, that's alright. God must have a hand in it somewhere, because He's over the whole thing in a direct manner, indirect manner.

Now, they can join land to land and house to house and not add one job. And take more and more money off of the market for a dead horse. And armaments are a dead horse. Anybody knows that the economy goes bankrupt ...?... , yet our government's doing it. I'm surprised at Mr. Reagan. Of course I told you long ago, he has the idea if Jesus Christ, the twelve apostles were here, they'd be straight square conservative Republican businessmen. Hogwash. [laughter] Don't give me that nonsense, (fap!) they would be.

They would do what This [taps the Bible] says. They'd help those that need help. And there's no shame to needing help, and you give help. But it's hypocrisy to do anything the way the government is doing it, and the way a lot of people do it. They give simply to get. Invite their friends to do this and that. No sir. Paradox.

35. I'm reading, where I'm reading the Scripture Bro. Branham, he said I should look up Scripture, and I'm reading Scripture. Okay, don't feel too bad if I wallop around here. I don't feel bad. I admit my mistakes, and I know you'll admit yours too. Sure, I fed people who will feed me in return, that's being sociable. But it'll also feed people and do things I know can't do a thing for them and I don't want anything done. Why should you want to?

You say, "You sound like you hate it."

Certainly, I would hate it, to have it done. Don't worry. I know...look it, you're not talking...I'm not talking up here like some dummy that doesn't know things. Let me tell you: I know what it is to help people that are really down and out. And then somebody maybe the guy

down there he just can't wait to pay me back, because it's some kind of a...something against his high-something.

I'm going to tell you, if I ever get really down and out, (and I could be,) I won't feel bad at all if you're nice to me, and do something nice ...?... I'd appreciate it very much. I'm not hinting, I'm just telling. I hope I'm not some stupid person up here. Maybe I am stupider than I think I am.

Don't be funny. Look, don't be... look, I'm going to tell you something: God's wisdom is the greatest and most wonderful wisdom in all the world. Just give it a chance. Don't supersede it, don't throw it to one side. Live it up in the Word. You can't go wrong.

36. Let me read Proverbs 11:24-25. Let me show you this here, because you ought to know It, and I do, and I know you do know It.

(24) There is that (which) scattereth, and yet increaseth; and withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

(25) The liberal soul shall be made fat: he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

(26) He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him: but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.

Well, you see that's where you get your cartels and thing that I'm...and hold it until (you know) just want to make a big deal of it.

Now, this is not here to something that you and I might be doing in a way of business. This is where you get the upper hand and you put the thumb screws on until you get the guy to where he's got nothing. Because the Bible warns against usury, [Ex 22:25] and this is the same category. But I want you to notice the Scripture says; It says here:

(24) There is that (which) scattereth, and yet increaseth...

See, it scattered abroad, he's given to the poor, comes back on him. This is a scriptural principle I have used for twenty five years I suppose or better. I'm going to tell you, you can't beat it. You can't beat it. You'll sacrifice to do it, but the rewards are good. You know that God can't fail. Paradox.

37. I remember years ago when I was a young fellow preacher, I talked to some good Nazarene folk. He had a good job, worked where my wife worked, she had a good job. That's why I married her and she lost her job. [laughter] That's a joke of course. Been poor taste and very poor joke. So forget I said it. (Yet it's on tape.) [more laughter]

But anyway, we talked to them, we weren't married then. My wife and I talked to them. And he said, "No, I can't afford to tithe."

I said, "What? You're one guy that's got a good job."

"Oh no," he said, "we can't afford to tithe."

"Well." I said, "I can't afford not to."

Who had what? Who had what?

38. Okay, Romans 12:10. Here's a good one, Romans 12, what's Romans 12? That's about where the gifts ministries are, right? Okay.

(10) Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

You say, "Oh, I ain't going to get nowhere if I prefer my brother." That's where you do get somewhere, and God will stick up for you. What I've gone through in my life in more recent years, if I had not honestly in honor preferred my brethren I wouldn't stand here tonight with my conscience free. And my heart rejoicing in the Lord God my defense and my Savior. You won't go down brother/sister. If you go down the right way there's suddenly "the everlasting arms" will take care of you. Don't be afraid to honor prefer your brother.

Now, you say I'm closing now. Oh, we'll close this tonight, even if we have early. See if I can do it for you.

38. Here we're getting to the part that I really like. So:

[77] *The old prophets' vision is still a paradox. It's untouched. Who can say that a man four thousand years ago could speak a horseless carriages jostling in the broadways, (I think he's referring to Nahum chapter 2 there.) The Old Testament prophets, how they could foresee things and foretell it, lifted up by the power of God, they saw it the way it was going to come years before, and foretold it to the accuracy of perfection. Explain it. It's a paradox.*

What's he talking about? His seven major visions. His prophecy's. How could he do it? Because he could tell it as he saw it. He could tell it as he heard it. Nobody else can. That's why you're safe and secure. A prophet was in our midst. Just like this. God gave those prophets the ability to tell It exactly as it was, and scribes to put It down exactly as they heard It.

"Oh," you say, "Bro. Vayle..." Don't Bro. Vayle me. I can get you today in this world at least a hundred men with photographic minds. They can tell it exactly on what page and letter by letter. The man that worked for Seagram's, (I think he's dead now) a Hungarian Jew made up the newspaper. [Bro. Vayle demonstrates a person committing pages after pages to memory] What's on those eight pages? Word for word tell you. Ha! And people think William Branham made mistakes.(Shooo, boy.) I love the pulpit, I just kick it plumb out the window to let you know the wrath that Lee Vayle has in his feet. Never mind the wrath of God.

39. What do they think in talking about God? Gave men plans for a temple. Took the plan to heathen countries. Brought the pieces in, without a sound of a hammer or nail that went up. I wish I had kept the article how that Solomon's throne rotated. The master mechanics that he had. Tremendous work of art. You talk about the state of the ark, the state of the art, the state of the art. [repeated sarcastically] What's the state of the art my brother/sister? Never mind your state of the arts. What's the state of your soul tonight? Are you up to date in the Word of God? Fap! Goodness me. Paradox.

Another one, I want to give you a little insignificant.(Paradox, little insignificant.) ...?... said, my conversion... (Insignificant?)

[78] *I say this with love and respect. My parents are gone on. My mother's people were all sinners, trappers, hunters, mountain people. My father's people were drunkards, bootleggers, gamblers, gun-shooters, killing one another; most all of them died with their shoes on. No speck of religion any of us. And*

what
morning, you

was *That that came into that little old log cabin up there that
see pictured on the wall?*

The cabin, but not the Light that came in the window. There's no window there. Kind of a trap door thing open. I guess maybe screen, no screen. The Light came in, same Light you see right there. [points to the picture of the Pillar of Fire]

Why? *It's altogether different. (You put it now he said,) you put a grain of
wheat in the ground, it'll bear a grain of wheat. You put corn in the ground,
it'll bear corn. You put a cocklebur in the ground, it'll bear a cocklebur.*

But *this is a paradox.*

What was a paradox? A grain of wheat that looked like a cocklebur until God got a hold of. That's all, paradox. Why didn't God take somebody all smoothed out? Somebody real nice? I've got news for you, there's ain't no such animals. [laughter] The Bible says, "There's none righteous, no not one." [Rom 3:10]

One day they came and said to Jesus, "Oh, good master..." he said.

"Oh, you called Me good. Why do you call Me good, there's none good save God? Are you trying to tell me that I'm God you recognize? " ...?...

40. No sir, listen brother/sister:

*Here's another paradox. How can I, after preaching nearly thirty years, (now,
he goes to vision, but he doesn't talk about it,) still dread that thought of going
yonder? How could it be? After been preaching since I was a little boy, (I
think about twenty two years of age) and now a man fifty-two years old,
and think of dreading... I knew I was saved, but I was dreading of the
thought of going beyond. But the love of God one morning
came down in my room, lifted me up, and took me into a place
where the redeemed were. Indeed a paradox.*

Now, Bro. Branham as he died, he could not tell you whether he was really there, a vision or what. He looked back and saw himself, but that has been done by others. I don't understand those things. I don't pretend to. I don't want to. I take his word for it. Paul the apostle had the same experience. In the body, out of the body. He said, "I was up there." He said, "It felt like I was in, I don't know," he said. [1 Cor 12:2] William Branham didn't know either. Same experience came back and saw the glory of God. He saw the people and he said he was satisfied that he was one of them.

[79] *I want to ask you something. I might cut this off here. I want to ask you something.
(Tell me, tell me) What is That on that picture there? (See that Halo) Where did
It come from? What's It here for?*

41. That's the question Lee Vayle always asks. You know that I know, we all know that I'm highly criticized for what I teach. It has to do with the Presence. In my books He's still here. And I can prove it by the sermon, He's still here.

The question brother asks, why is It here? Why, why is It here? It doesn't need to be here. Oh no, I can prove that. I'm as smart as the rest of the theologians.

"Well, bless God [said in a big-shot voice] see, I am saved and full of the Holy Ghost. And if I am saved and full of the Holy Ghost, I have got it made." So, that's that.

Now, isn't that the truth? It's exactly what they say. What if a prophet came and he said, "You ain't got it." What are you going to do with Elijah when he must first come? You got the paradox of the ages right here. Who needs it?

"Well, it's nice of you Lord, but (heh, heh, heh,) we've got a party going on down here amongst us intellectuals, and You've done all You ever need to do. We've got perfect trust in You."

Now come on. Now come on, am I wrong? Am I being foolish up here hamming it up, and being some kind of a stupid ass? I want answers. Because the prophet asked the question: "*What It's here for?* Now, you can't deny that *It's here.*" That's what he said.

42. *Science can't deny It. What is It in the meetings, that stands there and combs the people through, and tells them, "Back yonder, what you did... You're here for this purpose. You're here for that"? It's incredible to the scientific mind.*

Now, this is not the baptism with the Holy Ghost. The gift of discernment is not even mentioned in the Bible. Discerning of spirits is. The word of knowledge has been confused with discernment. Discernment is a gift given by God to William Branham, period, for this hour. You do what you want with it.

And you'll say, "Well, Bro. Vayle, I can't take it, because I don't see Scripture for it."

Then, you'll go to hell with everybody else that denies it. Because there's no Scripture for John the Baptist to be full of the Holy Ghost in his mother's womb. See, you better get your thinking straightened out, and you better start looking for paradoxes. You better...start looking in your mind and say, "Hey, hey I'm too polished." Now, let's get it, raw or un, or raw and unrefined manure, or refined manure is the same thing. *Ninety nine percent truth is the biggest lie* Bro. Branham said that can be told. So, we're on good ground. What is it all about?

Are we not saying, "Lord, you set this party up, and we're perfectly content for us to have it Your way, our way, as He got it nicely planned, and we'll meet You in the air and that's it."

43. I don't have The Breech with me, I read it the other day though. Page 81, he said, "*This Coming.*" I think page 78, they got another quote the same way, "*This Coming.*"

What's It here for?

Now, we know telepathy. Telepathy is, say something, like you say something and I can say the same thing (See?), or I'm reading your mind; it's happening right then. But when you see It tells things that'll happen way out yonder, that leaves telepathy alone. (Discernment is a paradox brother/sister.)

Now listen, when you see It. What's the 'It'? Well, we see the picture of what? The veil of God. We don't see God. Here's the great paradox in this hour.

It's incredible that God in this last days...

Now, watch his language, it's lousy. What does this man unpolished got to tell Lee Vayle anything? One time I was flawless in the English language. Not anymore and I care less. But I was. You don't write hundred percent and not be flawless. He said, "*this days.*" It's 'these days'. So, we shouldn't listen to him should we, because he's not polished? Proves he's not fit to listen to. That's what people...come on, let's get down to where he is. Say without these... see the prophet,

well he's a little fellow, and he's not too educated in, and these things he's saying (you know) they're so simple-like, and they're so little funny-like, and they're little, little (you know) tiddly-winkie things. What doesn't he come out with a grrreat [Bro. Vayles rolls the 'r's] big things? He has. Anything bigger than That? Merciful God, have pity on the people.

It's incredible this last day... (these last days, this last days, who cares?) as He promised He would do, would do such a thing. (It's here, that's what he's saying.) But it's true; it's a paradox. The same God that always had paradoxes and showed them, He's the same God today, because He keeps His Word. (What about? A paradox! He's talking of paradoxes.) Science cannot deny It; It is there on the mechanical camera. It's a paradox: God!

44. Now, he's not saying that God made a paradox. He's saying God is a paradox. He's been telling that all along. What is in it?

[80] *What is It? In Exodus the 13th chapter, we read that God gave the children of Israel, which was a type of the church today... As they journeyed naturally, we are journeying in the Spirit.*

Well, are you here, you what you do when you get home? I imagine most of you, you just read this and say, "Well, he said Exodus 13 and you don't look It up." So, we're going to look It up, because you're lazy like me and just as stupid. So now we're going to be smart tonight. We going to read verses 21-22.

(21) And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:

(22) He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, before the people.

Now, what was He doing? It said He led them the way, to lead them the way. He gave them light. Now, why didn't He just give them instructions?

45. I had a dream one time, of course I had a stupid dream like this, because I had stupid ideas about these things. So, I'm in my dreams I saw writing in the sky. Fap! Oh yes, it's over here in the...(yeah, I won't say it, it's not a Book in the Bible,) I was going to say, it's over here in the book of baloney written by the prophet macaroni. [laughter] "That thou shalt see writing in the sky." Didn't say that. Then why do we want to twist our thoughts and turn them into God's thoughts? Why do we want to negate God's thinking?

Now, It says, "that Pillar of Fire," and it's Exodus time and we studied Exodus, the Third Exodus, it's a paradox. God leading them. I can categorically say by this Bible, "I don't need God to come down here and lead me personally." I can say that as a man well versed in Scripture. Because Christ died and rose again, and I'm full of the Holy Ghost that guarantee's me. Then, I don't need That. [pointing to the picture of the Pillar of Fire] Understand what I'm saying? You follow me? You better. You better, let's see if you believe in a prophet and God. We're going to probe the minds by Scripture.

As an astute [of keen discernment] student, I don't need it. You know why? Because when I pit Scripture against Scripture, I willfully ignore the Scripture I don't want to listen to, the Scripture, "Behold, I send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord."

46. Let's go to Malachi 4. I got no trouble with this. I preached on It. I figure some of the best preaching I did in my life was on this.

- (1) For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, (it'll) leave them neither root nor branch.

Now, that's the Lord of hosts. And He said at that time:

- (2) But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings...

In the day of the Lord of destruction, God promised that He Himself would come down and hover us. Then don't put that against the rest of the Word. No wonder the Bible is full of contradictions, because your stupid theologians. I'm preaching straight from my heart and not my head. And I'll tell you why: because I go through this stuff all the time. I go through my eyes narrow, because I don't like a certain thing I'm reading. And I got to say, "Hold it, hold it, hold it, hold it." Of course you people are all wonderful. You're real super spiritual, you don't have one bit of trouble. So, pray for me, hallelujah, you've got it made. Don't sit there, or I'll come down with a four by four and set you straight. Because if I got trouble, you've got trouble. Let's get this flat. I'll look everyone in the eye, I'm scared of none of you. Just look me back.

47. You got to come to this place where every word he told it exactly as he heard it. He told it exactly as he saw it, and he's exactly right. And it's a paradox, because you can pit Scripture against Scripture, and when you do, you don't understand there's a Word for this hour. A Word in season, spiritual Food in due season. And so you'll settle outside the Word of Almighty God. He said, "*What is It here for?*" And he could have read us over here in Exodus, but he didn't do it. He walked on by.

The same prophet said, "The Pillar of Fire is here to lead us into the Millennium."

"Oh, that just a nice way of saying it. Ha, you know, little catch phrase."

"Two by two, they'll go marching through. (You know) Sweetheart's on parade..." [this portion not clear] Do what you want with It. Sure, I'm a rotten preacher, I'll admit that. And I slug when I shouldn't maybe. I want some answers. We're not to foot-washing yet, I'll get into that later. We're not finished... [mentions about turning the tape] ...we set the meeting back tomorrow morning, because we're here all night long. I care not, I feel good now. There's times I feel pretty rotten, today I feel good. The worse I am, the better I feel. I can get rid of my spleen and my venom that way. Because you see, I get very upset over these things. I get angry. I'll tell you. I'm not self righteous anger, holy anger, yes, I just get angry period. I shouldn't, but I do.

48. Now listen, as they journeying naturally, we are journeying in the Spirit. Well, just a minute, you say, "Well, praise God we in the Spirit." Are you? Not in this hour, because unless the Life that is in that Word comes to Life in you, you are not journeying in any spirit but your own. Where'd you of come from? Where did you people come from? Don't tell me God, forget that. You came from your father, right? And your mother. Where did they come from? Father and mother. Where did they come...? Father and mother. Where did they come...? Father and mother. The life that you got right now, and the life that I got came from w-a-a-a-a-a-y [holds the a's] back, six thousand years. It's the same life.

I want to tell you something: I don't look like my mommy and dad. Yeah. They say I'm a splitting image of my uncle. How many of you look like your uncle's? How many of you got color of the hair from the other side of the family? The strange thing, the uncle didn't even come to this country, so what does that do? Trace...go on, check around. Who you look like? And how come?

49. Where is that Life Who's coming down? Then God...doesn't God's Life come down too by the Word? Doesn't He have His mask so to speak? It's not hard to understand these things if you let your thinking go. If you say the prophet is right, now let me see what the prophet is saying in the light of how he is saying it, and I will adjust my thinking to His Light and to His Words, then you watch what begins to happen. Sit back like a bunch of old Pharisees. It's not over yet, they'll be more and more adultery. Now that ain't no prophet, but he ain't. But he knows that much.

Next Sunday we're talking about that now. Remember, it's all on that. See?

Now, how that where they went on the ground, materially, like this, (that's in Exodus) God was with them, the Church is seated with Christ in heavenly Places in spiritual realms a-going, with all dominion under our feet.

Now, he said, "Already." That's what Daniel said under the Fourth Kingdom the Saints possess the earth. When we've been declared the Bride of the Lord Jesus Christ then one with the Father, and one, who owns it? Because, everything is in Him and we inherit through Him. We have it. [end of tape one] All right.

Yes, sir. And they had a Pillar of Fire, a Light that they followed. Wherever this Light went, they followed that Light. Thousands of years has passed, hundreds and hundreds of years has gone by, and It's still alive. A paradox.

That's the Light that took them into the Promised Land. The same God, so He's here. Who was He back there? Jehovah, originally the Elohim, because there's only one God.

40. All right, Matthew 24:27 said, "The Light moves from the east to the west." John said, "If we're in that Light we have fellowship and the Blood cleanses us." [1 Jn 1:7] If you're not in that Light, then the Blood does not cleanse you, you don't have fellowship. Now, if William Branham is in the category of John and those men then there is no life outside of this Message. And the worst death of all then is the fool with this Message. A paradox.

The same yesterday... (He should have quoted the whole thing, Hebrews 13:8. We told you the double meaning on that.) Fulfilling the Scripture, It's here for a witness; (Now listen: It's here for a witness,) not because of us, but because that God promised It, that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Now, he tells you what's It's here for. Now Pentecost said, "Well, isn't that the raspberry, we've always known that. Mark 16 is not Hebrews 13:8. It's a minuscule portion of It. 13:8 is That, [points to the Pillar of Fire picture] the God that never changes. The same God that was here in a human flesh appearing to the Gentiles. Just like the Scripture says, but He's not in the flesh.

41. Let's go to Matthew 12:17. (Might not sound like it, but I love the Lord and the people of God. I just work hard at this.) Now listen:

(17) That it might be fulfilled spoken by the prophet Esaias, saying,

- (18) Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: (I'll) put my spirit upon him, (that's exactly what happened back there in Israel. And notice:) and he shall (show) judgment to the Gentiles.

And when He does, and He's got to:

- (19) He (won't) strive, (he won't) cry; his voice (shall not be heard) in the street.

It was, when He was in the flesh in Israel. He was in the street, He raised His voice, He yelled. He kicked over the money changer's table. He took a whip and he excoriated and bruised them and knocked them out of the house of God. Incited literally to riot as it were when He was in the flesh. The same one now won't do that. He won't strive. He won't cry. His voice won't be heard in the street. The bruised reed he won't break. He took away everything Israel had and smashed it. The smoking flax, the Light went out. But with us He won't do it. Standing outside of the door and knocking to get back in to get the Bride. Understand what I'm saying?

- (20) ... (He won't,) till he send forth judgment unto victory.

- (21) And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.

42. He was there in flesh. What we have today is the evidence, the witness. It's the same One. What's It's to us? What's It going to do? It says, in His Name we'll trust. Then listen: at this time they're made to trust in the name must have disappeared. Oh, come on. Come on. Come on, get your thinking cap on brother/sister. Start lining up with the prophet honey for once in your life. Start lining up with what the prophet said, never mind what I say. Line up with the prophet.

"And hast born in patience in for my name, for my Name's sake hast thou labored and not fainted." But they were going to lose the Name. Oh yeah. And he was going to bring It back. And we were going to trust in It. And this: the same yesterday and forever, and the discernment was a witness that He was here as He said He would be here, a promise. Then if the promise is fulfilled now, where was it before? Unfulfilled. Then He's here in a way He wasn't for two thousand years. (We'll talk about that, because we got it right here in the notes.)

43. Now listen: fulfilled in the Scripture, It's here for a witness, not because of us. But because God promised it. And Bro. Branham said, *"If God ever sends His power to the Church again, it will not because of the obedience of man, it'll be because of grace."* Understand what I'm talking about? Okay:

... that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. It is the One
that Moses esteemed the riches of Christ, or the reproach of Christ greater
riches than the treasures of Egypt. And what was the Christ that went
before Him? A Light, a Pillar of Fire. (Now notice, It went before Him, not
after Him.)

Now, the other day when we studied about the Rock that followed. The following Rock is not the answer. That's a shepherd scooping up around his sheep. Putting his sheep forward. But this is a shepherd going before being led into. Get your... Bro. Branham...although he inadvertently said adjective, and sometime, or adverb instead of adjective. He warned us, *"You watch your adjectives and your adverbs. Don't get the cow picking grass off the top of the tree."* Was one of his favorite expressions.

44. Now, listen:

[81] *He said, "I come from God and I return to God." He did. "A little while and the world won't see Me no more, but you'll see Me; for I'll be with you, even in you, to the end of the world." Right down at the end of the world, He'd be there too. Here we are. Where?*

We are here at the end of the world and He is here. Let's keep reading.

After His death, burial, and resurrection, Saint Paul met Him on the road down to Damascus; He was back to that Pillar of Fire. Almost two thousand years has passed since then, and here He is, not amongst the denominations, amongst the high-polished scholars of the day, but a bunch of poor and humble. A paradox--a paradox. To those who love Him, believe Him, thousands around the world who believed Him, it's to fulfill His promise of both New and Old Testament. (So this is in the Old and New Testament.) That's what it is, a paradox. (Now remember, they had a mixed multitude back there.)

Now watch: *Almost two thousand years has passed since then, and here He is.*

45. All right:

It was a paradox when God promised to give the Kingdom to a little flock, instead of a great organized church. "Fear not little flock; it's your Father's good will to give you the Kingdom." It's a paradox.

[82] *It'll be a real paradox, one of these days, when Jesus comes;*

Now, right away you're going to pit quote against quote, and when you do you're out of this Message, you've cut your throat, you might as well go out and drink beer and get lost. Because you're lost already. Because here he said, "*When Jesus comes*" and up here. He said, "*He's already come.*" See, right back to the Breech in this Coming which is to the Gentiles doing the same thing He did to Israel when He was in the flesh. And it's a witness, "He's the same yesterday, today and forever." And it's a witness to His Name and that's what the Gentiles have exactly, because the Jews had the flesh, we got the Name. Now, they got the Holy Ghost too if they want Him. They had a portion at that particular time. Now:

It'll be a real paradox, one of these days, when Jesus comes; and the dead in Christ shall rise, this mortal takes on immortality, and the rapture of the Church comes.

And yet, Bro. Branham in 1965 went far beyond this. Because he explained the paradox of the Rapture, that: "The Lord Himself descends from heaven with the Shout." [1 Th 4:16]

Now, that that message that He descended with was categorically what Bro. Branham brought us, because he said, "*You might have thought I was trying to say this about myself seeing I was packing the Message.*"

46. Now he said, [Anointed Ones at the End Time 07-25-65]

[118] *I wasn't the One that appeared down on the river; I was only standing there when He appeared. I'm not the One that performs these things and foretells these things that happens as perfect as they are; I'm only one that's near when He does it. I was only a voice that He used. It wasn't me, the*

seventh messenger, *oh, no; it was a manifestation of the Son of man.*
(And that was a Spirit form.)

He said, *"I am not the Son of Man. the Pillar of Fire is not the Son of Man, It's in the form of the Holy Spirit."* It was the Holy Spirit moving. The same God moving through William Branham, performing exactly in the life of William Branham what Jesus did when He was here in a human body. Now, He's got William Branham's body.

"When you see God descend from heaven, stand before groups of men and declare Himself as ever He did." That's in a prophet. God the same, "yesterday, today and forever." Proving exactly how He is. Doing exactly the same thing, and exactly the same way. Using exactly the same tools. For exactly the same kind of people, for exactly the same purpose. Getting the same thing accomplished.

*It wasn't the messenger, his Message; it was the mystery that God unfolded.
It's not a man; it's God.*

[119] *The messenger was not the Son of man; he was a messenger from the Son of man. The Son of man is Christ.* (We'll talk about that at foot-washing, when I read the verses)...*he was a messenger from the Son of man. The Son of man is Christ. He's the One that you're feeding on. You're not feeding on a man. A man, his words will fail, but you're feeding on the unfailing Body-Word of the Son of man.*

In other words, the Word of this hour we're living on, and when you receive the Word of God, you become the Word of God in your flesh, and that makes for the transfiguration.

47. Now, as this mortal takes on immortality... Now, we're over here in Church Order.

We say this: [Question and Answers 08-23-64]

[51] *Now, after His death, (of Jesus Christ, death,) burial, (resurrection, and so on,) ascension, the Holy Ghost, Saul on his way down to Damascus, was struck by a Pillar of Fire, the Logos. And that Jew never would've called the Pillar of Fire, "Lord," unless he knew It was the same Logos that his people followed through the wilderness. Now, that was not the Son of man; that was the Logos.*

Well, certainly that wasn't Jesus Christ in human form. Pillar of Fire is not the Son. What woman had a baby ...?... the Pillar of Fire? Merciful God, what nonsense. That substance of God was the Pillar of Fire who reduced to a sperm and an egg and put in a woman's womb. There's your Son of man.

[52] *Now, we say this with reverence, and love, and respect. See? As Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever, and also that in the last days, as it was before Lot's time, or in Lot's time in Sodom, so shall it be in the day that the Son of man reveals Himself again, revealing Himself. Now, in this last day the Logos that was upon Jesus--which has become from that back to the Pillar of Fire again has descended down on the earth.*

Then were was It before? It wasn't down on the earth. And I could read on and on and on.

48. Okay We want to close off here. [Paradox 12-10-61]

[82] *In this Christmas (he preached it December 10) people are shopping, and dancing, and drinking, celebrating something that they know nothing about, like they was celebrating Washington or Lincoln's birthday, and not worshipping God. They still got God in a manger...*

Where have they got God today? In creeds and dogmas and something else. He's not in the Pillar of Fire. He's not with the Bride. See, that's where they've got it all messed up, that's what they think.

But God is *not in a manger. He has raised from the dead, and alive forever...*

Now, how could God die and be raised? We showed you that on the board the other day, how those genes of the male and female genes and chromosomes explains the whole thing. It was the attributes. And when you get the attributes that is God in a form. And that's a form that could die. But Spirit couldn't. See? I hope you understand that.

49. Look brother/sister, I told you about the animals, He said, "Let the earth bring forth the beast of the field." Come on, come on, you know the earth doesn't bring forth beast. You've been to evolution or something stupid. The beast was there to be clothed. Where are the spirits of things now? They're waiting to be clothed. Do you think animals aren't coming back in a resurrection? The prophet saw. He saw his dog and his horse.

"Oh," you say, "I think that was just a..."

Well, you call it what you want. See, I'm a realist, I'm really a Christian and I'm really going to get there with a real God that's a real body, and it's going to be really good. I know I got to be changed to fully appreciate it, but so do you. So that lets us in the same boat.

...He's not in a manger, He's *alive forevermore... proving Himself, as the same God that the Nicene fathers carried, and down through the ages has come since the day of Pentecost. The same God that met Paul on the road to Damascus; he was a missionary to the Gentile a messenger from the Gentiles. (Listen:) The Gentile's Message (now notice, the Gentile's Message, didn't say, "the church open," the Gentile's Message) started by a visitation of the Pillar of Fire, and it ends the same way.*

That's not Pentecost. That's not the baptism. That's the One Who brought the Message to the man who was full of Holy Ghost. Now, it says you've got the same thing. That's what Bro. Branham said, "*Just think how wonderful, the same Pillar of Fire that brought the Word to Paul, is here revealing It.*" Right?

[83] *The Gentile kingdom started off, the kingdom of the world (That's the world.) started off with a rebuke from a heavenly language in the days of king Nebuchadnezzar; ends up the same thing, as the Holy Ghost poured out upon the Gentile church at the last days to rebuke the Gentile nations again with a handwriting on the wall...*

50. What handwriting was on the wall? The Seven Church Ages, written on the Branham Tabernacle. "Oh," you say, "Bro. Vayle..."

Don't Bro. Vayle me. If you can believe the Bible, Nebuchadnezzar's palace, the handwriting was on the wall, you can believe the handwriting was on William Branham's Tabernacle walls

too. Because if I can't believe that, there's no use me trying to believe it was on Nebuchadnezzar's wall. Fap! Why should I? Oh, the hand of God write in some dumb heathen place. He sanctified the very hills Sinai when he stood there. I'm using my words well. Don't worry, and very wisely. I don't feel one bit of condemnation, because I'm not condemned. You know the only reason He could write that handwriting on that wall of Nebuchadnezzar? Because the prophet was there, Daniel.

Now, at the end time, the same writing came on the wall, the Pillar of Fire wrote the Seven Church Ages out. William Branham stood there and the people saw a reflection. "So, I don't think I can take it." I can take it, right down the line. The only thing I can't take, I'm miserable because I wasn't there. Just might as well tell the truth.

...the handwriting on the wall, that God has prepared His Church, He's prepared His people, He has prepared His place, and they're waiting for Him to come.

Now, what one's he talking about? "The LORD said to my lord, sit thou at my right hand." [Mk 12:36] The LORD Himself shall descend and take us up to meet the Lord in the air. Which Lord? The Lord Jesus Christ. "For God hath made Him both Lord and Christ." [Acts 2:36] And when God did, He didn't say, "I'll step aside I'm no longer Lord."

51. Oh, come on, come on. No brother/sister, somebody's mixed up, and we're not mixed up, I can't believe that for a minute.

And that rapture. "When the trumpet of God will sound...

Remember, this was written in '61 Bro. Branham preached the whole truth, of Rapture in '65, actually he told us in '65 nobody had the revelation of the Rapture till that time. Right? Exactly what he said. So let's not fool with it.

"When the trumpet of God will sound, the dead in Christ rise, we which are alive and remain shall not hinder them that's asleep. For the trumpet of God will sound, the dead in Christ will rise; and we'll be caught up together with them, to meet the Lord in the air." A paradox, one of these mornings, when the graves open and the dead walks out; and the ones who are living will be changed in a moment in a twinkling of an eye, go up in the air to meet Him.

Now, the way he says this, is the way the Rapture speaks. Watch what he says here:

[82] It's a *paradox, one of these days, when Jesus comes; the dead in Christ will rise, and this mortal takes on immortality...*

Well, just a minute, I thought the dead would have already risen and to be here for several days, and then we'll get our change; then He'll ...?... and we'll get Him? Does he contradict himself? No. He's not contradicting himself. No. I don't care how you put it. What is he doing? He's simply telling you what's going to happen at the literal time that we meet Jesus. There'll be a Resurrection, there'll be a change to immortality, we're going to be caught up and see Him.

52. What does the Bible say actually per se? "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a Shout, the voice of the archangel, the Trump of God and the dead in Christ shall rise first." And Bro. Branham went right through It, word by word. I.e., [that is] he's not pitting Scripture against

Scripture. One place he just gives a general statement, throws it together, the next place he quotes the literal Scripture, and then he explains it back in 1965.

Well, that took care of this for the time being. So we won't have to deal...anymore. He goes into the prayer line, and then he talks some back here, but I...just a few pages and I am not going to go into it. Although there's some things in here that (you know) they're quite good, but you can read for yourself page 34 from paragraph 233 and you'll see that.

Now let's just pray for a second shall we:

Heavenly Father, we look to You, we thank You for the time we've had together. And we know, Lord God, that forceful speaking is not what counts. It's whether Your Word is what was truly preached as It should be. And we know also, Lord, that the strong statements do not overcome the enemy, it's only Your Word that overcomes the enemy.

And so we do not put anything upon ourselves, Lord, how we've said it, or what we've said, except, Father, we do believe that and in all we have said what the prophet said. And what can I do, Father, but stand on it. And I know that You will not back up my words, but You'll back up Your Own Words. And if I've been wrong, You'll still back up Your Own Words, You won't back up anything I've said. But You will perform Your Own Word.

And, Lord, I can say truly with the prophet that if we're not Bride, there's a Bride out there somewhere, and by the grace of God I hope I can say with the prophet, and we can say it together that we won't stand in her way. I hope we can do that, Lord, I don't know.

In myself, I know right now I'm a failure, but in You, Lord, I would look to at least that much of grace that somehow not do it. But, if I'm wrong, then I have stood in her way, and I've been very, very abysmal. But I do not believe, Lord, I...at this point I cannot believe as far as the Word is concerned that that has been done, unless something about me has not been right, so people misunderstand and get carried away with wrong things. But, I do believe, Lord, the great Paradox is here. And the prophet said, "*Why It is here?*" It's a witness to a promise. And that promise absolutely [Hebrews] 13:8, and brought It right to the Rapture.

And, Father, I cannot change from It, because he said, "*Once we believe this, all we'll see in the Word is That.*" [Pillar of Fire picture?] And we know other people will say the same thing, but somebody's got to be right. And, Lord, by grace we believe we're right with the One who has proven to be right. Who was vindicated by the great Right One Himself.

So, Father, here we stand. Help us, Lord, to have the right spirit as never before. Because we know in this hour we don't only need the truth, we've got to have a right spirit with it, which we want to go into, Lord, and see more and more in our lives, because we believe as we talk about these things and believe them, and stand out here with them that You will anoint the very Word that will come back upon us. And we then in turn will be a manifestation of that. Not surely like the prophet, because he had an office of his own, but we can be like whatever you gave us to be, Lord, and perhaps very uncomely, but we know amazing grace makes up for it. We've got Your very Word, and the very thing and it makes us very happy.

So now, Lord, as we turn to the Foot-washing and Communion we pray You'll be with us to give us grace in Thy Name great glory, and unto Thee we give the praise in Jesus' Name. Amen.

[Communion service follows]

I want to go to John 13, and we'll read this concerning foot-washing, and we will go to 1 Corinthians 11 after a bit. But I want to read in John 13 and you'll notice in here that Jesus takes the towel and he girds himself and he washes their feet. And he said in verse 12:

- (12) So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said, Know ye what I have done to you? (In other words, you know what I've done. Now, He explains.)
- (13) (You) call me Master and Lord: and (you) say well; for so I am. (Now, He said, "Master and Lord," and He was.)
- (14) If I then, your Lord and Master, washed your feet; (you) also ought to wash one another's feet.
- (15) For I have given you an example, that (you) should do as I have done to you.

Now watch what He said:

- (16) (Truly, truly,) I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

Now, you understand what He said? "The servant is not greater than the Lord." And He steps it up. "Neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him." So, somebody is a servant to a master, because somebody was sent by the master.

- (17) If (you) know these things, happy are (you) if ye do them.
- (18) I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me. (Now, that's the heel of Satan right there, because that man became incarnated to bruise the Head of the seed of the woman.)

- (19) Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, (you) may believe that I am...

Now, this could be a hodge-podge if you don't put it together. Because it can sound like, "Well I tell you what: we're going to go to town today. Oh, by the way, did you hear that I went to town yesterday? Now, when we go to town today we will have dinner at a certain restaurant. Oh my, I think I forgot to give the car keys to the boy."

He's not doing that. He's not doing...everything is in here with an order to it. Now He said:

- (18) I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me.

Now, He's putting this whole thing in context. Now, let's keep reading.

- (19) Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, (you) may believe that I am he.

Now watch:

- (20) (Truly, truly,) I say, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.

Now watch:

- (16) ...The servant is not greater than his lord; neither (is) he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

And then He tells you repeating It down here that there are certain things that will come to pass that He will be in Himself that you will not understand until afterward. And He tells you conclusively it has to do with somebody being sent. See? And He said, "I'm telling you this so that you're forewarned." And this is in the same category of Luke 17. "You'll desire to see one of the days of the Son of man and you will not see It until a certain time, and when you see It, that's the time."

Now, He's saying the same thing here. See? Now, there's something, therefore you will know that you will be involved in. That has to do with the one who sends somebody. And the only reason that he will send him, is because there is a Message and a promise that must be fulfilled. And that's what He said in Paradox.

Now, you get a big mystery here concerning Foot-washing. It's to learn in honor to prefer each other and to be humble, and to know the very thing that you are doing is the setting where in Jesus Christ Himself said, "I am going to tell you something that's very simple, that's very humbling, that's a great paradox. Now, somebody is going to send somebody and that person is not greater than the one that sends him." Then why did people make William Branham Jesus Christ? And they did. And he's not! He's a servant.

Now, if you're in the right atmosphere, and you're in the right place, you're doing Foot-washing and these things, and most people don't do Foot-washing, they think it's just some little silly thing.

Now notice: verse 19.

- (19) Now I tell you before it come, when it is come to pass, (you) may believe that I am he. (That I Am. That's because He was I Am.)

- (20) Verily... I say, He that receiveth whomsoever I send (receives) me...

Now, the Pentecostal world under Gordon Lindsay wrote a book called: 'A Man Sent From God'. And turned right around and denied it. You say, "Then he that receives William Branham at this end-time (if we have this thing right,) actually receives the Lord Jesus Christ." That is exactly right.

And He that received Him, and you go back to Matthew 25, "Behold, the Bridegroom," receives the marriage, the whole thing. Invisible union, he receives all of it, and you're part of that great Bride.

Now, you'll notice at this particular time that Jesus, Himself, ministered in humility as a servant when He was their Lord. And the same thing repeats at the end-time, that Jesus Christ literally, as it were, because He said, "He that is washed all over need not, save wash his feet." [Jn 13:10] The same One came down here....[tape two ends]

