

Shalom #21

Jigsaw Puzzle Explained

May 27, 1989

Heavenly Father, we are so happy we recognize Your Presence as understood here by signs and wonders, but even more particularly by the vindication of Your Word and the beautiful pictures that we have hanging on the wall that have meaning, because they have caught a representation of Your Own Being. And we thank You, Father, that we're simple-minded enough to believe that and that we can stand on these things that the world calls trash and foolishness and thinks we're under some kind of delusion or heresy. But that's the way it always was.

And Father, we know that even though You appeared in the burning bush to Moses and went down to Israel, You knew they wouldn't believe that without some signs; and even then, there were those who didn't really believe, because then, they turned on Your great leader, Moses. And we appreciate all of these things, Lord, as references from the Old Testament to us in this our hour, for we see the same thing happening now.

Deliver us from that, Lord, that unbelief, that curse that's upon the earth, that turns good meaning people, well-meaning people, into haters of the truth, all the time claiming to believe the truth. Father, may we be spared from that great hypocrisy and the condemnation that follows it. May we be one with You and one with truth, O God, because we know that's what it's going to take. Let the Word live within us. We'll give You the praise, Lord, as You teach us tonight further, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

You may be seated.

1. Now tonight we are on number 21 of "Shalom."

Now, last Sunday morning we found ourselves dealing with paragraphs 161 and 162, which certainly are only not very far down the line but is hardly halfway through. And we saw Bro. Branham delineating upon the wondrous promises of God, which are ours at this very hour—which promises are in progress of actually being fulfilled, even now at this moment, although it's quite a bit like Jesus said in Lk 17:20, "The kingdom of God cometh without observation." In other words it will be going on and progressing as it is supposed to, but we won't be aware of it." And I'm sure, except for the fact that Bro. Branham taught us as we have been taught, there's none of us tonight would actually believe what is going on, because we are not actually aware of it.

2. Now, with Abraham and Bro. Branham... And, if you just listen, you'll find this is very true, that Bro. Branham came to the faith of Abraham. With Abraham and Bro. Branham we have entered into a vindicated faith in the presence of God. And our confession is the same as theirs, in that we, too, believe in God Who raises the dead and especially calls those things that are not as though they were, because in this very hour their fulfillment has started, and none can stop it, for its completion is guaranteed. Now Bro. Branham told us that. Their finalization is upon us. As far as God's ability and reliability is concerned, it is already done, and we are there at whatever place His vindicated judgment has assigned us. And Bro. Branham assigned, according to the Word of God, an absolute vindication to the Bride, ("You're the righteous, sinless virgin Bride of the Lord. You didn't even do it.") and pronounced us at the White Throne, where we are literally advocates, and also taking the place of those who are lawyers or attorneys, Bro. Branham said. All right?

3. Now these realities of which we speak are derived from the presence of the Day Star, as Bro. Branham said, that was He amongst us, His Word being vindicated, which is the Light of the hour. In other words it's the Light to the Light to the Light. God does everything in threes, and the vindication

was to bring us to the Light, which in turn would bring us to **The Light**. See? Now that is the guarantee of it all, that is the vindication amongst us. It is made manifest to us that the promise is ours. The Judge has made His Own decision; and, contrary to normal law, the Judge will carry it out. Nobody else will do that.

Now we know that this is true by vindication. We accept that. That's the vindication, the premise on which it's built, and that is faith. That's exactly where our faith is. The Light is come, and so we arise and are no longer virgins asleep as concerning His Presence. And we look up to the Word of the Voice of the One Who is from heaven, and Who is now speaking according to Hebrews 12, which is now at the doorstep of Mount Zion.

4. Now this is the Word of Light that Bro. Branham is explaining. It is set forth in the Bible. It is vindicated and made manifest to us today. But, even as this Light is spoken of in the Scripture and now revealed, there is also a Word about the darkness. This is also revealed. It's revealed to us today, the same as the Light has been revealed, and it requires a revelation and not merely a statement. Many people feel that they do not need a revelation concerning the Scripture word 'darkness'. All it is to them, then, is a statement. It must be revealed to us. You cannot take the Bible simply as statements; it will not work. It must be a revelation. So, darkness is revealed to us, as to what it really means, and it requires a revelation. So, it is not just a statement. Now these two revelations are running parallel, which you know I've branded, or called, the parallelism of Scripture: such as there's good and evil; there's blessing and judgment. They always go together. They are never separated, except perhaps in the time element. But, when they are put in the Bible, they are never separated. And so it is with light and darkness. We find that in the Scripture, and they both must be revealed.

5. Now last Sunday, with this principle in mind, we began to teach on arising and looking up and shining with the glory of the Lord. And, of course, that actually is taken from over in the little tiny Book of Zephaniah. It's very hard to find; but, if you thumb through enough of the small books, you'll finally come to it. That's what I do anyway; because, when I think I got it memorized, I find it's some place else. And it's not Zechariah, (That's a bigger book.) but Zephaniah, the little Book after Habakkuk: Zeph 3:14:

- (14) Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem.

In other words any reference to Zion and Jerusalem, whether literal or as in symbol, and they're all here, God has a Word.

- (15) The Lord hath taken away thy judgments, he (has) cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the Lord, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more.
- (16) In that day it shall be said Jerusalem, Fear not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack. (You notice there's a compound actual meaning there.)
- (17) The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, (he'll) rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.
- (18) I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly, who are of thee, to whom the reproach of it was a burden. (And so on.)

6. So, this is where that Scripture was taken from, as well as over in Isaiah. So, we're going to go over what we took last week, because we couldn't finish it, for the sake of continuity, and we'll see the promise of God to the Bride in its pure form and original intent without the interpolations and various

interjections that are there, that actually give us problems as we deal with Scripture. So then, we'll deal with the parallelism of Scripture, where we see passive faith and active faith running together, and thereby causing great confusion, unless we learn to separate them. For this is where Calvinism and Armenianism came from. Calvinism could separate the passive from the active. They could understand exactly what God said He would do and what God did, and they left it within the realms of sovereign grace. But the Armenian cannot do that. Now we realize that Calvinism went to seed under Luther. And God allowed Wesley to come on the scene and swing the pendulum as great a distance out as the pendulum swung away from the truth of Calvinism. But, under the prophet, who came to us, you can see these laws and begin to understand exactly what is of God, as per the grace of God and the gift of God, and what is incumbent upon us as per a manifestation toward the Word of God in obedience and in an active faith. If we have a true revelation, we will have an active faith, as James said.

7. So, that's what we're looking at. We're looking at a passive and an active faith running together, which will not any longer cause us any confusion and divide us into two camps or cause us to have doubts as to who is right, but we'll know what is right; and then, we'll progress in a way of a conduct, which I trust will be glorifying God. Confusion disappears only when we see God's Own purpose and plan that can never be altered or limited or negated. Injunctions, interjections, commandments, though they be a part of the Word and Christian life and experience, that's all fine. It is there. And they have to do with a life of faith. But what we're looking at really is to understand the passive faith; then, the other will follow in its line. So, all right. We go back, and we look again at last Sunday, before we take up again where Bro. Branham says, *"Look up and shine with the joy of the Lord."*

8. Now the specific reference to looking up—if you want a specific reference that says, "Look up," because you're supposed to look up according to the Word of God—is found over in Luke 21. Now, here It says in verses 25 to 28:

- (25) And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; (And we know that is more political than it is physical.)
- (26) Men's hearts failing for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.
- (27) Then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.
- (28) And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

Now you cannot separate this portion of Scripture from the hour in which we live, because you'll notice that the Great Tribulation is on its way. But also, you'll notice It says that there is absolutely the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And Bro. Branham took the Scripture where "He cometh with clouds." He said, *"What if that should happen to be a cloud of glory?"* which he is indicating that it definitely was. Which we can say positively, if this is not the whole of it, this is the part of it. [Bro. Vayle points to the picture of the Pillar of Fire.]

9. Now It says, when that takes place you are to look up. That's what the Scripture tells us. Now it is not necessarily meant to take the place of 'arise' when It says 'to look up'. But to me it's an admonition that having once arisen, conditions are such in a world of darkness that the one who has arisen must look up. He's got to look beyond what is going on in order to survive the darkness and overcome the darkness that is present. As Bro. Branham said so many, many times, *"I the Lord have planted it and watered it, lest any man pluck it out of my Father's hands."*

Now, what will be that understanding to you and me? In here you will notice that there are certain things that nobody can do anything about. No matter how hard you try, you can do nothing about these things that are indicated here. Now you might be dying with cancer. Cancer can be healed. If you're dying with AIDS, I don't believe you can be healed, because I believe that is a plague that you entered into, and judgment comes. I'm not saying that God couldn't do something for somebody, like you got a bad needle, or it was inflicted upon you. I can see mercy and grace there. I can understand that. But these things here, you can do nothing about the cataclysms that have come upon the earth; you can do nothing about the gross darkness and these things that are here. All right.

10. Then, what is it 'to arise' and 'to look up'? Well, look; as far as I'm concerned you go over here to Luke 1, and you can understand, then, what my thought is. This is concerning John the Baptist. And It says here that after John's birth, here's what he will do in verse 16:

(16) And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord God (of Israel).

Now you know the many is always the elect. It doesn't say everybody; It says many.

(17) And he shall go before him...

Now, that's the Lord God of Israel. Before the Lord God could come down and inhabit a body, there was a man who went before Him. Now this is alpha; so therefore, omega must follow in line, because He said, "I am Alpha and Omega." And this is the alpha. So, you've got to look for the omega. So therefore, before there can be an incarnation, which is a reincarnation, this must then happen: something has got to go before it. And we know that's Elijah coming the fourth time, and we believe that was William Branham. Now:

(17) And he shall go before (the Lord God of Israel) in the spirit and power of (Elijah), to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children. (Now that was already done. What was not done in Malachi is turning the hearts of the fathers back to the children. Now, notice:) (even) the disobedient to the wisdom of the just.

Now, that is an understanding! It is not a matter of people doing, as I've said many times, contrary to the will of God! It is not a people in rebellion against God! It is a people who don't know what God wants! They're in a state of darkness, which is a state of misunderstanding.

11. So therefore, John the Baptist, simple little Kentuckian—because that's what he was down there you know, in his own home state of Israel, kind of like a Kentuckian, a common type of person—comes out of there roughly clad, with no education, and he is actually going to teach the people something they need to know, which will get them ready, even though they're the prepared vessels of the Lord. That blows the Baptists plumb out of the water, because they think they've got their own priesthood. That is ridiculous!

In the alpha, so is the omega. God has to send somebody who has the ability to tell us. And I'll tell you, he won't be like the average theologian. He won't be a kind of a fellow that is going to make everybody happy and sit down and have a drink and be in king's palaces and soft garments and tickle the babies and chuck them under the chin and get a bunch of votes. He'll tear them to pieces just the way John the Baptist did; but he'll bring the elect where they ought to be.

Now this is the Bible I'm preaching! And, if you've got your own idea that Omega's different from Alpha, you tell me where it is. You will have nothing but a bunch of creeds and dogmas.

12. Now, listen.

- (17) ... (Even) the disobedient (That's the people who don't know. In other words, there is a darkness upon them not of their own doing! Although they have added to it through ignorance. See? Now then,) to make ready a people prepared.

And there's only one place you're going to find that word, and that's over there in Romans 9, where It tells you God has a prepared people—God doing the preparing. Now He's going to get them ready.

So, let's go with this to John 5. And we're going to understand here what we've said many, many times, taking this Scripture positively from Bro. Branham who was vindicated. Now I know a lot of people don't believe in vindication. We'll show you where that comes from too. John 5:39. He says:

- (39) Search the scripture; for in them (you) think (you) have eternal life: and they are they (that) testify of me.

All right. What does it mean 'to look up'? It doesn't only mean 'to elevate your understanding beyond what is here earthly', 'looking for God to do something'... And you better know it's going to be God. I also believe, as Jesus said, "Why don't you go to your Bibles and begin to look things up?" Look them up. He said, "Search the Scripture. Look up in your Bibles what it's all about."

13. Now, with that we go over here to Jn 7:52. Now here's old Nicodemus. He said the Pharisees, "Are we going to judge this man?" He said, "We don't know anything too much about Him; He could be a prophet." And here's what the Pharisees said:

- (52) They answered and said unto him, Art thou also (out) of Galilee? Search, and look: for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet.

Now they were right concerning the fact no prophet came out of Galilee. But Jesus did not come out of Galilee. He came out of Bethlehem of Judea.

Now you say, "They're going to have some excuse."

What excuse could they have, when a few short years before, almost every family in Israel lost a baby in death to Herod? And they knew the story of the wise men and the shepherds. They knew plenty. That is why they were held in judgment at that time.

14. Now Bro. Branham uses Isa 60:1-2¹, where we noted already that speaking of arising in the time of darkness wherein light comes; that's according, as I see the Scripture in Matthew 25, where you're looking at the virgins. Now It tells you here that the Bridegroom tarried, and so the virgins went to sleep. Then, It says in verse 7:

- (7) All those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

But you'll notice, in the arising only five looked up! They were the only five that could have looked up, because only the five had a vessel that could contain oil. Now you know, as well as I do, (A vindicated prophet tells you.) that the conduit of the Holy Spirit is the Word. So, these people here evidently had a place for the Word. Now Jesus told the Pharisees they had no place for the Word. Over there in the Book of John, the same very Book we're looking at, he says, "You don't have any place for that Word."

¹ Isa 60:1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. 2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

15. Now we saw then here, they were tarrying and sleeping. There was darkness there, and they rose and trimmed their lamps at this time of midnight darkness. We also went to Ephesians 5, and as we did, we read only one verse, because we were going to come back to Eph 5:14 at a little different time. Now Eph 5:14, and he says here:

- (14) (Therefore) he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

What you're seeing here, then, is a great sleep at a certain time; and Paul wants them to come out of their slumber, to arise. And It says, "Christ will give thee light." Now, listen; it is very evident that Paul could not give that light! Or it would have told them what it was. It wasn't to be given. It must be something mystical and mysterious, because Paul had a commandment from God to bring the Word; and he said, "I'm clear of the blood of all men, because I have held nothing back." That's the Book of Acts 20:26-27. So, Paul held nothing back. But Paul did say at the time of the raising of the dead, there was something he did not have pertaining to a revelation. He didn't have it. So, all right. There's something here, then, that Paul tells about that's down the road.

16. Now, in all cases you'll notice where I read, we are told of gross darkness. Now that gross darkness is at the end time, and let's notice how gross it is. It's not just concerning depth, but the things that we call gross have to do with such poor judgment on the part of a person that in acting, he is literally stupid; he is dense; he is gross; he is absolutely, like you might say, unforgivable in the way he acts. Now, you look at Revelation 3, and you will see a people in gross darkness. They are utterly gross. For It says here in Rev 3:15, God speaking:

- (15) I know (your) works (in verse 15), (you are) neither (hot or) cold: I would (you were) cold or hot.
- (16) (And) because (you're) lukewarm, (You make me nauseous. I'm going to) spue (you) out of my mouth.

Now, you know, the Bride is not in the mouth of God, and the church never was in the mouth of God. So, what is He talking about? In the very beginning He lets you know they have left the Word! Paul said, "You have left the truth!" So therefore, you'll notice in here that this church cannot be the mouthpiece of God, when the church is supposed to be the mouthpiece for God. They're absolutely nauseating to Him.

17. Notice, he said:

- (17) Because thou sayest, I am rich, (I'm) increased with goods, (I) have need of nothing, and (You don't know that you are.) wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

That is a gross person! Because he is acting as though he was all the part that he says he is! Now that's a pretty gross individual. You talk about a hypocrite. He said:

- (18) I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, (you may) be rich; white raiment, (you may) be clothed, the shame of (your) nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eye with eye-salve...

There is a gross darkness there in that particular area. And then, He says:

- (20) Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, open the door, I will come in.

As Larkin said, (And Bro. Branham vindicated Larkin.) “Christ was outside the church trying to get back in.” And, remember; Christ is the Light of the church. So, how in the world is He going to get back in and give the church Light?

It is self-evident, then, from Rev 3:14-21, that the awakened one is awakened both to light and darkness, because he doesn’t know one from the other! He thinks he’s in light, and he’s in darkness! He thinks the blessing of God is upon him, but anything but the blessing of God is upon him! They are in pitiful condition.

18. So, we see here, then, that both light and darkness must be understood. Darkness is necessary to be truly understood, just the same as the light. One is not without the other. There is always light; there is always darkness. You will notice it’s only in the New Jerusalem that It says there is no need of the sun, and there is no darkness. So, all right. As long as we are here, even through the Millennium, you are going to have it, though there will not be a darkness amongst the people as per a judgment, which is a spiritual condition. It is not that way. And Bro. Branham in the sentence up here, reading in paragraph 161, mentions both of them.

19. Now I just want to review this condition of darkness that we’ve come to. But, before I do, I want to show the parallelism of Scripture that I spoke of, that Bro. Branham said in his Message, that the Bible was like a jigsaw.

Now a jigsaw puzzle is where every piece is a part of the picture. And those pieces must fit exactly right in order to give you the true picture, the true understanding. Now, why I’m going to go into this, reading carefully from the Book of Ephesians and other Scripture, is because, if we do not understand what I am talking about, we will not dispose of our own doctrines or ideas and look to God’s Own plan and purpose for us.

20. Now, do you remember when I preached the “Ultimate of God?” What I brought out was that God, in His sovereignty, dedicated Himself to what lay within Him. And what lay within Him was to bring forth a family of God-children and place them where they would be completely benefited by, not only the Fatherhood, but everything that lay in Him, as to both omniscience and omnipotence. There was nothing too good or too vast in God but what He dedicated to His children. And we saw that that plan and purpose was not something that men like.

As Bro. Branham said, *“God has a plan, and man always has a better plan.”*

It was just like God had a plan in the Garden of Eden. And in the Garden of Eden, whether you know it or not, (And you’ve been taught well enough to know.) when they went to grasp the Tree of Life, where there was immortality, they could not get to it.

So therefore, the ultimate of God was not Adam and Eve living in the Garden of Eden and pruning the Garden and doing such and so and so, but way beyond it into immortality. That’s exactly right. Now that immortality is to come 6,000 years later, which is even now.

So, what am I trying to tell you? I’m trying to tell you this: if you don’t stick with the plan of God, per se, never mind fringe benefits, never mind junctures, never mind commands, never mind anything but the plan of God, or you will find yourself confused or even bemused, if you get cynical and say, “What is this all about?” Do you understand what I’m saying? This is what we are looking at: the revelation, absolutely vindicated as truth and given to us by Elijah, as our hearts are turned to the ‘original’ truth of the apostle and prophets, who are classified as ‘fathers’.

21. So, we’re going to go to the Book of Ephesians; and remember, I am not a prophet. I’m a very poor teacher, quite radical. I try to get Bro. Branham to hold me down and just see just what he’s talking about. So, I can be making a mistake here in the sense of a perfect delineation; which means I am going

to look at a plan, and I'm going to look at nothing else but that plan! That's all I'm going to look at. And I don't know I'm going to do it perfectly. But I'm going to try the best I can. So, get your Bibles; we'll open the Book of Ephesians, which is the great Book of the Bible. There is no Book like it. [Ephesians 1] It is the whole story of eternity to eternity and our part in it through Jesus Christ.

- (1) Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, (even) to the faithful in Christ Jesus:
- (2) Grace be (unto) you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. (Now there's two of them. So, don't try to make it any different. We're not Jesus-Only. We don't believe in two gods or three gods. There's a great God, the Father, Who had a Son.)
- (3) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in (the heavenlies) in Christ.

All right now: "Blessed be God Who hath blessed us in the heavenly." What is heaven? It is an elevated place. To an elevated place you look up to. So, it's telling you here now, we are blessed in the looking up. This is where the blessing is going to come from, the divine wisdom, from the revelation of almighty God, from that which is inherently in God through Jesus Christ. That is what you are to look at. Understand? So, we're looking at it.

22. Now, watch.

- (4) According as he hath chosen us...

Now, if you're not chosen in Him, it's not going to do you any good. You can't do it. You will try. You will mince around. You'll dip your toes in the water. When the net is cast through the Word of God—some minister—and the net is pulled in, there'll be, as Bro. Branham said, "*crawdads and turtles and other things*," crustaceans, which are not fish, but there'll be some real fish too. There has to be. And, what will happen? The frog will start croaking; he'll go back to the water. The crawdad will sidle along; he'll go back to his food. The eels will go along and go back to their homes. But the fish will be happy in the net of the Lord.

So, this is what we're looking at: "according as He hath chosen us." If you are not one of the many of the Lord Jesus Christ, that is a true child of God, being seed, you'll never be going to the City. Accordingly now, you're looking up to this Word. The Pharisees couldn't do it, but the simple people who were of God could. Some, like the woman at the well, knew the Scripture already and were looking for its fulfillment in a 'prophet-messiah'.

23. Now:

- (4) According as he hath chosen us before the foundation of the world (before a speck of stardust).

Here is a loving Father, determined to have children, and He's going to have children; and then, He's going to have to have the very best for them. As Bro. Branham said, "*Before God made a fish with a fin, He made water to swim in.*" So, before there would be one child born to God, there would already be something that God had prepared for the child. Now that is true predestination. And that's the way a Father would do it. Now, watch.

- (4) ... That we should be holy and without blame before him.

- (5) In love, having predestinated us unto the adoption (or the placing) of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,
- (6) To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.
- (7) In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.

Now this is actually thrown in there. We can jump down to where It says:

- (9) Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he purposed in himself:
- (10) That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and are on earth; even in him:
- (11) In whom we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.

So therefore, I see a plan here in verses 3 and in verses 4 and in verse 5. Then, It goes down to verse 9 and to verse 10 and to verse 11. It's telling you something. Now, let's go a little further and find this: it's in Eph 2:19. What is up here is a blueprint through the ages.

24. Now we start concerning ourselves: these who were in Him, chosen, and elected, foreknown, positively to be placed as sons. Now they're sheep gone astray. Let's take Eph 2:19:

- (19) Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;
- (20) And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;
- (21) In whom all the building fitly (joined) together grow(s) unto (a) holy temple in the Lord:
- (22) In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

Now It states that this great plan God had evidently is going to require some redemption, and in the doing of it, it becomes a building and a habitation to God, just the same as Jesus was a building and a habitation to God. See, he's telling us something here.

25. Okay, let's go to Ephesians 4, and we read verse 4-16.

- (4) There is one body, and one Spirit (now that's a habitation), even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;
- (5) One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- (6) One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

(7) But unto every one...

Now, watch what's thrown in here, telling us, which we can leave out, if you want to leave it out; it's an interpolation of where you're coming right down here. And It says here that this body is coming into a place of which we are—to a perfection.

(12) For the perfecting (the equipping) of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

(13) Till we all come in the unity of the faith, (even) the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, (That's a perfect measure.) unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

Now then, you can leave out verse 14 and get to verse 15:

(15) But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

(16) From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

So, all right. We see back here in chapter one that God has a plan. And that plan absolutely is a body or a church of which God is the head. And he tells you He's going to bring it right to perfection, and it's going to have an increase of itself by the Spirit of Life that started the whole thing.

26. Okay, where do you want to go from there now? Well, we can go, then, to Eph 5:18, and we're going to look just at the middle of it. And now he says to this group here,

(18) ... Be filled with the Spirit;

(19) Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing making melody in your heart to the Lord;

(20) Giving thanks always for all things unto God the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now that's something that's thrown in there. The major thing is to know that this church, this Bride, will be filled with the Spirit. Now this is not something you merely hope for. This is not something that's solely incumbent upon you. It is because you are seed that you will receive the Holy Ghost! That's in the Book of Galatians. All right.

27. Let's go a little further now, and see this same church. We go to Eph 5:23.

(23) ... Christ is the head of the church: (being) the savior of the body. (All right, verse 25, the middle.)

(25) ... Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; (Now, notice; this is something that He did.)

(26) That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, (Now, notice; He's doing it.)

- (27) That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but it should be holy without blemish.

Now that's very good. We won't go any further there. We drop down to verse 30:

- (30) For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. (See? Now:)
- (31) For this cause (He's illustrating.) (as) a man leave(s) his father and mother, and be joined (to) his wife, and be one flesh.
- (32) This is a great mystery: (of Philippians where Christ comes down, becomes a tabernacle of Almighty God, gives His life to bring this Bride right to God.)

Now in here you'll notice I've done my best to steer you away from every single thing that you think is incumbent upon you. I am merely trying to show you everything that God planned and everything that God is doing! And you've got to keep it separate! It's not that they don't go together in the Bible. But here's your jigsaw. If you start throwing the pieces in that belong to passive faith into the active, and vice versa, you will get your cow picking grass on the top of a tree. Now Bro. Branham came to bring us the doctrine; to give us an absolute understanding.

28. Now I read in verse here:

- (32) This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

All right. Now, let's go back to chapter one. And in chapter one, Paul tells you how this is going to be done. Now, let's go not to verse 15, 16, 17, but let's go to verse 19. This is God doing it, not you and me. Up above is giving us a clue to how He initiates it. But here It says, "And we are going to know:"

- (19) What is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,
- (20) Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead,

When? The time element has told us when God Himself, by His Holy Spirit, comes down and gives us a revelation. And that doesn't have a thing to do with any effort you might attempt. It is the sovereign grace of God, the same as with John the Baptist. But it's the throwing of the net, the Shout, that will bring in the elect. Now, let's keep watching.

- (20) Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in heavenly places,
- (21) Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:
- (22) And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the church,
- (23) Which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.

29. Now, as we read in Eph 4:16, the increase of the body. We saw it likened to a husband and wife, and this is it! Now, let's go and see the husband and wife. To do so, we go to Revelation 21. And you can see the purpose of God, as I've taught a whole series on It. Rev 21:9-14.

- (9) And there came unto me one of the seven angels which (held) the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew (you) the bride, the Lamb's wife.

Now here is God's picture. And you will notice it is a completion of what God wanted done and what God did, of which we are the recipients. And, unless you have a true passive faith revelation, you and I cannot understand this. We're going to go back and forth between the Calvinism and Armenianism. And I've seen it in the so-called Message. I've seen it where people say, "I believe Bro. Branham; believe this Message; prophet anointed of God; blah, blah, blah," right up and down the line, turn right around and go Seventh Day Adventist. Seventh Day Adventism is a cult—led by a woman! [End of side one of the audio tape.] All right. I'm not vindictive about it; I'm just illustrating.

30. (10) Carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,
- (11) Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

He now shows you where the Bride is. Now, here is what I say is the parallelism of Scripture, where you see passive faith, and you see active faith. Now, listen; we were there in God at the beginning but had nothing to do with it. It was God's Own reproductive forces that brought us forth. We were a part of that Word. A very meager part of omniscience and omnipotence; but nonetheless, we are genetically connected to Almighty God, because that which is the seed is our soul. And it took that material, which God had at His disposal, in the way He wanted it, to bring us forth into a body. And the body's not commensurate with the soul! So, when the body dies, then the soul can go to a body, which is commensurate, which is theophonic form, which it formed, and in itself is eternal; because, if the soul is eternal and the soul is forming from the only substance which there is there, which is spirit, it would have to be eternal. Now that's a mind-boggling thing, but what's the difference if it boggles the mind? Just get your answers right. Then, you see, you're moving in the realm of the complete and true revelation. All right.

31. But, notice what happened. Let's go back to what happened in Revelation 2. Now here's where the trouble comes in—the same as in the Garden of Eden. Revelation 2:1-7.

- (1) Unto the (messenger) of the church (which is in) Ephesus write; These things saith he that hold(s) the seven stars in his right hand, who walk(s) in the midst of seven golden candlesticks;
- (2) I know thy works, thy labour, thy patience, how (you can't) bear them which are evil: (you) tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and found them liars:
- (3) (You've) borne, and (had) patience, for my name's sake (have) laboured, and hast not fainted. (In other words they knew exactly what the apostle Paul said, and they stood with it.)
- (4) Nevertheless (I've got) somewhat against (you) because (you've) left (your) first love. (Now they've wandered off from their first love. And at the end, they become absolutely lukewarm. They don't know where they stand: wretched, miserable, naked and blind. Now It says,)
- (5) Remember from whence thou art fallen.

Now, what did they fall from? They fell from the Word. They had enough reality to know that they could come against anybody who denied the Word of the apostle Paul, because this is a Gentile Church. But they themselves were beginning to lack in revelation and slightly changing the Word. Now, you think that can't be done?

“Oh, I believe Bro. Branham absolutely.”

And then, go right and change his Word! They're doing it everywhere. They're using the same scheme that the devil used and the Pharisees used and the theologians used. They pit Scripture against Scripture, the same as Calvinism against Armenianism. You know that's got to be a lie, because God's not divided! They don't understand passive faith from active faith.

32. Passive faith is a complete revelation of exactly God's relationship to you and your relationship to Him.

You say, “What about these other things?”

Never mind until you got that right! How are you going to come into my family, if I leave an inheritance, and you try to get it, unless you prove your bloodlines, and you are a child of mine! So, you better be quiet. And, until the Bride knows who she is... And Bro. Branham said there'll come a time when she does. He said, “*The mule doesn't know the mammy and the pappy.*” He's a bastard; he's a hybrid. But God's children know their Father. Now you see, they didn't repudiate the apostle Paul, but they began going away and drifting. We'll get to that. We'll get to that very, very shortly.

33. We just turn to 2 Corinthians 11. It's very simple. We've been there time after time. Now Paul said:

- (1) Would to God (you) bear with me in my folly (a little): and bear with me.
- (2) I am jealous over you with (a) godly jealousy: I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. (Now, where did her virginity lie? You can find out by finding where her dis-virginity lay—where she lost it.)
- (3) I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Now that's where the church was in the beginning in the Book of Ephesians. They had the apostle Paul, and he brought them the true, vindicated Word of Almighty God. And though they believed in him with all their hearts, and they could tell absolutely where certain people were radically wrong, they now began to get a little mold in the eye where they couldn't see all the truth and had a little drifting—a little drifting from the Word.

Now here's what Paul said is happening; and this is horrible, really. He said:

- (4) For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, (Now you've got two of them at least.) whom we have not preached (Notice, It says “whom we have not preached.” In other words the definition of the apostle Paul.) or if (you) receive another spirit, which (you) have not received, (In other words something I didn't bring you.) or another gospel.

So, here they've got another Jesus—maybe several. They've got another spirit. Who knows how many? Now they've got another gospel. Now, how far has this church fallen? At this point, not very far.

How far will this church have fallen before it's over? "Wretched, miserable, naked, blind, everything against you; not some little thing against you, but everything against you." Now that's where they're standing.

34. Now this brings us to Ephesians 5. Now we're talking of light and darkness, remember? We're talking what the light is. We're talking how darkness comes in. Ephesians 5 tells us this, and we're going to read now. We're going to read Eph 5:14 surrounded by 13-15. Now he says here:

- (13) But all things that are reproved are made manifest by the light: (Well, we could start quicker than that. Let's go to verse 6.)
- (6) Let no man deceive you with vain words: (In other words, words that aren't the Word of God, because God would not stand behind any man's words. You're just vain to believe them.) for because of these things the wrath of God (cometh) upon the children of disobedience.

Now It tells you right in there there's a child of obedience and one of disobedience. There are children of God that are ignorant and can be taught. And there are those that claim they're children of God, and they go right against God. The Bible says in Peter, they'll deny the very Lord that bought them. Now:

- (7) Be not partakers with them. (Now, watch.)
- (8) For (you) were sometimes darkness, (But you see, you could be taught; you could have your eyes open, because you're sheep gone astray.) now (that you're) light in the Lord: walk as children of (the) light: (Now there you've got a commandment; now that's an active faith working with your passive faith.)
- (9) (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) (Now it cuts the fruit of the Spirit down to three. Number one: all goodness, righteousness and truth.)
- (10) Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.
- (11) And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. (Now what's the unfruitful works? The Word that's off.)
- (12) For (it's) a shame even to speak of those things done (by) them in secret.

In other words it's absolutely a shame that these things are in existence. You even got to spend time about them. Not something that the Swaggarts and the Bakkers are doing in a motel. Sleazy sleaze scumbags, with their sleazy people. That could be part, but that's not it. He's telling you here: it's a pity that this is so! That's how I'm looking at it. You can look at it any way you want, but I'm looking at it this way, especially for the sake of the Gospel tonight.

35. Now It says here—watch:

- (13) But all things that are reproved are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light.
- (14) Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.
- (15) See then ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,

(16) Redeeming the time...

Now, in there you have, absolutely, God's beneficent Word that says, "I will give my children a revelation." And, when they get the right revelation, they'll be doing works also! But without the revelation, your works don't count, but go against you. They put you in debt. Now you'll notice there's light and darkness right here. All right. This is none other than Matthew 25, (See?) which we looked at: the virgins arising out of darkness and some of them have something whereby they can get the light. Now we've already seen the condition of the Seventh Church Age, which we read about right tonight in Rev 3:14-21. The virgins are completely asleep as to their condition until the appearing of the Bridegroom. And only the wise has what it takes to get the gold and the raiment and the eye salve.

36. Now, let's get over here to John 8. I mentioned we'd look at It. And in Jn 8:37:

(37) I know (you're) Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word (has) no place in you.

That's the same as Jesus saying, "I know you're Christians. I know you believe what you call the gospel of the Word. I know you believe in incarnation, virgin birth,... I know you believe all those things. How come you want to kill me?" How come they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh? Because you have the 'alpha and omega' situation. You couldn't have an omega without a complete omega person and the omega situation. Here is the alpha. Now they seek to kill Him.

(38) I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and (you) do that which (you) have seen with your father.

And they had the same Word. They're looking at the same Word now, brother/sister. Don't try to fool yourself. Jesus picked up the same Bible they read from cover to cover—the first thirty-nine books of the Bible.

(39) They answered and said, Abraham is our father. Jesus (said), If (you) were Abraham's children (you'd) do the works of Abraham.

(40) But now ye seek to kill me, a man that told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham.

(41) (You) do the deeds of your father. They (said), We be not born of fornication; (That's your serpent seed right there; because, when they can trace themselves back to Abraham, they're right back to God. Never mind the rest of the genealogy; they knew they didn't belong to Cain.) we have one Father, even God. (Try to find Cain in the genealogy. His name's not there. How could his name be in the Lamb's Book or anything else?)

(42) Jesus said, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

(43) Why do ye not understand my speech? even because (you) cannot hear my word.

Now, down here he says in 47:

(47) He that is of God heareth God's word: ye therefore hear them not, because (you're) not of God. (Talk about evidence of being seed!)

Now It tells you right there exactly how revelation comes, and who is going to get it; therefore it tells who is going to have the light and who is going to have the darkness! Now, remember; He said, "When your light becomes darkness, how great is that darkness!" That's exactly what happened to the Roman Catholic Church. It happened to Luther. It happened to Wesley. It happens to the Pentecostals. And it's happening to many people who say, "I believe Bro. Branham's message." Where do you get the two souls and polygamy and all that stuff? Why, they show exactly what they're of; they're deceived.

37. Now, at this particular time the parable of Mt 13:31-35 takes place. So, let's go take a look at it.

- (31) Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field:
- (32) Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, (it's) the greatest among herbs, and become(s) a tree, so that birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.
- (33) Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, (Now leaven's a bad thing.) and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.
- (34) All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; without a parable spake he not unto them:
- (35) That it might be fulfilled spoken by the prophet saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.

Now, at this particular time, then, the parables of Mt 13:31-35 are fulfilled, which take place at the same time as Isa 60:1-2; because It tells of the mustard seed. In other words the tiny little seed that was sown in Christianity spreads over the entire world, and the birds of the air are lodging in the branches; and birds are a symbol of evil. There's no two ways about it. So now, this takes place at the time of Isaiah 60: "Arise and shine for light has come upon thee, but gross darkness upon the earth." These parables are none other than Revelation 18.

38. So, let's go back and see It, because all Scripture runs in continuity. Not because I say so, as though I've got some discernment or judgment. This is what the prophet taught us. Rev 18:1-8:

- (1) After these things I saw another (messenger) come down from heaven, having great power; the earth was lightened with his glory.
- (2) He cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, (How?) (has) become the habitation of devils, and of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.
- (3) For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.
- (4) And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, that (you) receive not of her plagues.
- (5) For her sins have reached (the) heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

- (6) Reward (unto) her (double) as she (has) rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works:

Now, listen; every place the Gospel has gone, the 'beauty' of civilization has followed—so-called 'beauty', so-called 'civilization—with merchandise. When the Roman Catholics went into South America, what happened? They brought out all the gold and destroyed the people. And, when they left their religion, they didn't mind if the natives put their own religion to the Catholic religion, which was already polluted! And there's no student who doesn't know that Catholicism is nothing but the renaming of gods and giving them names out the Bible and making them saints. Anybody knows that! Don't tell me the Catholics don't know it! They're willfully blind. Willfully blind!

Check it out and see what's happened to America under Spellman and Joe Kennedy which got us into Vietnam. Check it out and find these things. And Jack Kennedy rises up and kills Diem, a Catholic. Even got rid of him. Then, from that time on, downhill, downhill. Look and trace the Catholic Church. And the Protestants have endorsed it! They are accessories, therefore, after the fact. And according to American law, they're just as guilty as the perpetrator. Absolutely, there's no difference between Protestants and Catholics; it's one great big stew pot of filth. Just like it was in the days of the Lord Jesus Christ. No difference at all.

39. Now these parables are none other than Rev 18:1-8 based on Rev 2:18-23. Notice what he said:

- (18) Unto the (messenger) of the church (which is) in Thyatira; These things saith the Son of God, who hath eyes like a flame of fire, and feet like fine brass; (Already the judgment started right back there in this Age, Thyatira.)
- (19) I know thy works, and charity, (your) service, (your) faith, (your) patience, (your) works; the last to be more than the first. (The Catholic Church is absolutely dominated by works. And the priest do all their work in saying the mass and the prayers and everything else for them. What good does it do you? Not one bit of good.)
- (20) Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which call(s) herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.
- (21) I gave her space to repent of her fornication; she repented not. (Now, listen; what's going to happen to her?)
- (22) I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her (that's the Protestants) into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. (And you know they don't.)
- (23) And I will kill her children with death (That's the second death.)

In other words at the end time leaving neither root nor branch and burning up the chaff... At the end time the foolish virgins have all been killed, the Bride is gone, and there's nobody left except the serpent seed for the Lake of Fire. And the church is full of it. And the heathen have never accepted Jesus Christ. You got a billion Mohammedans right there and the rest of them and God knows what. You got a billion Christians and better, and a billion Mohammedans that have been heathenized, right down the line. You see the whole thing coming to the end here. They'll end up in the Great Tribulation. They'll be killed. And he said:

- (23) (I'll) kill her children with death (the Lake of Fire); and all the churches shall know I am he (that) searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one according to (his) works.

In other words, at the time, when the church is fully organized, (And you've got every single last denomination, and there won't be any more.) God sends a discernor on the field. According to Heb 4:12, he discerns the hearts.

You say, "Why didn't the church know it?"

Because your clergy, your ministers, your priests stopped you from knowing it.

I've been independent like a hog from the ground up, and thank God I've got a spirit that's independent. The only voice ever spoke to me said, "Listen to that man," and that man was William Branham. And I'm listening to William Branham by the grace of Almighty God. That's what you're seeing right here, the deadly leaven of the woman, the church.

40. What is leaven? Let's go back to Matthew 16 and see it—and a couple more scriptures with it. Matthew 16:1-12.

- (1) The Pharisees also (and) Sadducees came, tempting desired him that he would shew a sign from heaven.
- (2) He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, (you) say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red.
- (3) In the morning, It will be foul weather to-day: for the sky is red and lowering. O (you) hypocrites, (you) can discern the face of the sky; but (you cannot) discern the signs of the times?

Now that was said by Jesus Himself having done every single thing the Father told Him to do. And He said, "What I have done, commanded of God, has gone right over your heads. It doesn't mean a thing to you. And what you do see, you turn around and demand something else." Let's look at It.

- (4) A wicked and adulterous generation seek(s) after a sign; (there'll be) no sign given it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left, and departed.
- (5) And when his (other) disciples (came) to the side, they had forgotten to take bread.
- (6) Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees.
- (7) And they reasoned among themselves, saying, (Is it) because we have taken no bread.
- (8) Which when Jesus perceived he said, O (you) of little faith, why reason among yourselves, because (you) have brought no bread?
- (9) Do (you) not understand, neither remember the five loaves (or) the five thousand (and many things...)

In other words, "Listen, what are you worried about your belly for? I'm not telling you to lay up store on earth. I'm not telling you to worry about your stomach. There's something else that's different

for you to worry about.” He said, “Fear not him that can destroy the body but not the soul. Fear him that can destroy both body and soul in hell.”

He’s telling them where the trouble lies. There is a certain leaven; there is certain something that destroys. Now you take meal, and you induce leaven into it, it’ll just go through the whole thing, because leaven is a type of a... Well, it’s not a virus; it’s a bacteria. It’s a yeast; it’s a mold. That’s what it is, a mold. Something formed. And it just takes the whole thing over, because it’s eating the food that somebody else should have. It’s taking something that’s good, and it’s destroying it. And, if you eat it, it will kill you! That’s right; it’s very septic.

41. Now:

- (10) Neither the loaves (and so on)...
- (11) How is it (you) understand (not) I (spoken unto) you concerning (the) bread, that (you) should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees?
- (12) Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Now that lets you know what I’ve been teaching all these years to you: if your doctrine is wrong, you can’t understand the Bible and you can’t understand William Branham. You can quote, quote, quote, quote, and I’ll quote right back at you; because, unless you know doctrine, you can’t place it. These men could not understand doctrine. They could not place the doctrine! So, everything was a jigsaw puzzle, and the cow was eating grass on the top of the tree. That’s exactly what took place. So, you see how important doctrine is? If you can’t understand Bro. Branham’s doctrine, there is no use you trying to be a Branhamite. You’re just wasting your time until you learn to divide the Word correctly.

You say, “Bro. Vayle what about it?”

If you’re really sincere, you’ll listen to me and know what I’m telling you: you better watch out. If you have your doctrine wrong, you’re finished. That’s what He says right here. Now I’m not quoting you my own idea. I’m telling you the Bible. Let’s go to Mark 8, because there’s another little bit of Scripture in here, we could take a look at without overburdening ourselves at this time. When I get finished with this, we’ll just quit and call it an evening.

42. Mark 6:14-16, if I got this down right, which I think I have:

- (14) And king Herod heard of him; ((and) his name was spread abroad:) and he said, (That’s) John the Baptist was risen from the dead, and therefore mighty works do shew forth themselves in him.
- (15) (And) others said, (This) is Elias. And others said, (This) is a prophet, or one of the prophets.
- (16) But Herod when (he) heard (it), said, It is John, whom I beheaded: he is risen from the dead.

Now, very good. Now, let’s go back to Mark 8.

- (10) And straightway he entered into a ship with his disciples, and came into the parts of Dalmanutha.

- (11) The Pharisees came forth, and began to question with him, seeking of him a sign from heaven, tempting him. (That's the Pharisees.)
- (12) He sighed deeply in his spirit, Why doth this generation seek after a sign? verily I say unto you, There shall (be) no sign given unto this generation. (You see, the sign was already given. You don't seek a sign, but you recognize a sign, if you're a child of God.)
- (13) And he left them, and (again) the ship (and so on.)

The disciples hadn't taken bread, so they got worried. Now, watch verse 15:

- (15) And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod.

Now, who was Herod? Herod seems to be a title that people took successively in a certain office from Rome over Israel, because Rome was ruling Israel and, consequently, ruling also politically their religion when they could interfere. And you'll notice that this man, Herod, actually believed in reincarnation. In other words it's a simple story of the Catholic Church today where they take the names of saints from idols, because in the idol is supposed to contain the spirit. And now they got a type of idolatry.

And the Protestants don't do any different: the leaven of Herod; the leaven of the Pharisees. And that leaven is 2 Corinthians 11, where it all begins for the church and this age. Now, what do we see back there in leaven? We see Rome and the church. That's what it was. The leaven of the Pharisees, those that had a more correct and proper understanding join up with authority. Now, what's happening at the end time? Rome's got all the gold. The Protestants have a much better doctrine and understanding, although they are wrong too. They have the Pharisaical, and Rome has Herod. So now, they both get together. And, what is going to happen? The church is going to rule the world, just like you see here. There is no two ways about it.

43. Now, what did Herod do? Herod turned, because of his religion, to destroy John the Baptist, and he destroyed him. Herod said, "I am going to have all the flesh that I desire." And notice, he wanted to live in adultery when he wasn't allowed it. And, if these guys, like we know personally, and these other guys that practice polygamy, and God knows how many more... They're right in the same mess: the doctrine—the leaven of Herod. You say what you want.

44. So, there's your leaven of the Pharisees and Herod! Rome, the whole bunch. And you show me where there's not a licentiousness within the Catholic Church. How many priests have AIDS right today? How many are homosexuals? Even pick up your magazines today; your magazines will tell you the same thing. What a mess we got here. And, what will they do? They will crucify to themselves the Lord Jesus Christ. They will put down the Bride. What is going to happen to the Bride? I don't know, but there is going to be a pressure come upon her, especially if we preach the truth like we try to preach it here. And notice, after Jesus was risen from the dead, what happened? The church and Herod got together to suppress it.

Who suppressed Bro. Branham in Europe? Norway? He said, "*Switzerland, why did you turn me down? Finland, why did you turn me down?*" And then, a certain German preacher has the nerve to say the Pillar of Fire returned to Europe. Forget it, brother! The Pillar of Fire left! It left with Wesley. It came to America! And it doesn't mean America's got anything! But it means nothing will come out of Europe. It's already come out of America. And the next truth is now over in Israel. Let's get the thing right. These men pervert about everything. Then, always watch how they run to women. Ask Terry [Sproule]; right in his city, the woman the man shackled up with for years was right under his wife's nose. Call himself a man of God? Well, you sit here, and you be the judge. Is that what you want, you Herodians?

45. Another thing about Herod: he wanted another man's wife. You think the church doesn't want to get the Bride? There's your leaven right down the line. It's right amongst the whole world.

Well, you say, "I believe leaven has to do with Trinitarians—three measures: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

That's not what the Bible says. Now, if I can find where Bro. Branham categorically says it, I'll say, "Well, I know by revelation. He's got something from God." Not between the lines, but telling you. But the Bible tells you right here what it is: "Beware of the doctrine." And beware what Herod did. Beware of the melding together for the convenience sake—and the catering.

And I'm going to tell you, when the chips are down, the Protestants and Catholics and the world will get together. They will cater each other, because they started way back in 1948 when they said, "Have a God of your own choice. Just be this; just be that. Let's get together and never mind religion." And right today in the schools, there's no room for prayer. That's why you got a Buzz Lukens talking about morality and a home; he had his home already in an apartment, and girls went there, and he committed adultery. Do you think for one moment America's going to change? Why have they kicked prayer out of the schools? Because they kicked the prayer out of the government. That's what they did. And they kicked God out. You see that little leaven back there of doctrine, the state getting together? It's all right to the end where they'll positively take over.

46. Now the Pharisees refused manifested light and demanded their own unscriptural signs, though claiming to base them on the Scripture, just as Satan did back in the Garden of Eden. And that's what the Pentecostals have done.

Let's take a look at Pentecost today, the world system, in Matthew 23. Let's take a look at it, because they're the ones that had the outstanding revelation of the ministries of God. And It says here, Matthew 23: (You could start almost any place.)

(29) Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!

Now just a minute. Do you realize that a man who doesn't talk doctrine, doesn't understand doctrine. He makes no pretense about it. He just says, "I'm going to write it out."—you can be with the scribes and the Pharisees and the hypocrites, and you know what.

You can say, "Well, I'm going to interpret this Message."

I've got a man in America right now, over there from Europe. I don't have any time for him. I'm not going to bother seeing him. He wanted to see me. Why should I bother seeing him? He's an interpreter. But he'll tell you he knows the doctrine. A scribe does not know doctrine; he cannot handle the Word. Come on. That goes for the Branham message. Let's not pretend we're above the Word of God, brother/sister. Let's not sit here tonight and say, "Well, I'm above the Word of God." You're not above the Word of God; you're condemned by the Word of God, if you come against It. There's a judgment there. So, all right.

47. Notice, He says here:

(29) Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because (you) build the tombs of the prophets, garnish the sepulchers of the righteous, (Said good things about Bro. Branham, that won't get you there.)

(30) Say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. (And Bro. Branham

said, *"If you say that, it shows you would have done it."* That's what Jesus said. It's got to happen again.)

- (32) Fill up the measure of your fathers.
- (33) (You) serpents, (you) generation of vipers, how can (you) escape the damnation of hell?

Now, listen; the wise and the foolish virgin escape, but those that are burned don't! The righteous will not perish with the wicked! Now, remember; that was at Sodom. Abraham was outside of Sodom. God took care of Lot in Sodom! Even got him out of it, and everybody died there. That's the way the foolish virgin are! They will come out, but they will die outside. Only the Bride gets out of here. No foolish or wise virgin perishes with the wicked. It's going to be serpent seed.

- (34) Behold, I send unto you prophets, wise men, scribes: some of them (you'll) kill and crucify; some of them (you'll) scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city:
- (35) That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel (and) the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom (you) slew between the temple and the altar.
- (36) Verily I say unto you, All these things come upon (you).

That happens under the Great Tribulation. In her is found the blood of all the martyrs: Rome. Rome, the Vatican, Vat-i-ca-in, the House of Cain. They even know their own name. Do you know a dog that doesn't know its own name? Pretty dumb dog. They know their name. Vat-i-ca-in. Look it up for yourself. I'm not against them. It's just what they are. I didn't have a thing to do with it. Protestants are with them. There's no difference between the Protestant and Catholic. Is there a difference between a sinner that kills or a sinner that commits adultery that's not born again? There's no difference. If you've offended one point of the law, you're guilty of all.

- (37) (Now) O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, stonest them which are sent unto (you), how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, (you) would not!
- (38) Behold, (left unto) your house is desolate.

Now, look here. He said, "I sent you prophets. I would have gathered you by the prophets."

Now, if God sent a prophet in this day, He did it for one reason: to gather the people. What does the prophet bring? A vindicated Word. A Message right from God. That's Pentecost right today.

48. All right, then. Rome and Israel got together to kill the very Christ of God. And, from that time on, Rome began taking over and over and over and over, until she becomes supreme. And in it you will have the leaven of the Pharisees; you'll have the leaven of Herod: church and state together. There's your leaven; there's what you understand: three gods, brother/sister. It's just a part of the leaven. Don't let anybody tell you that's all of it, because it's not. They've got another Jesus, another spirit. "Handle me and see, a spirit hath not flesh and bone." You can't take that. That's a body, God's Spirit, and another gospel. Where's the world today? If a prophet doesn't come on the scene, brother/sister, we're lost. What if a prophet does come on the scene? What are you going to look for? You have to look for vindication. You just can't let anybody take you in.

So, there's Rome and Israel together, crucified and destroyed the Christ of God, took over the whole system. Then, what did they do? Destroyed it. They put Israel under complete bondage and destroyed every single one that wanted to say his own little say and was willing to stand up for it on a spiritual principle. You don't think they'll kill the foolish virgin? They'll kill every one of them. They'll hunt them down with dogs or anything else, like Nimrod did in that system. They take over the whole system of religion and destroy it by killing and subverting. Remember, the destruction of the souls of men and the selling of the souls of men is not killing the body, but it's killing the soul through the immorality of the doctrines, which they're putting upon the people.

49. And here we are today, ending just where we started, even back in the Garden of Eden. You say, "Brother Vayle, here's a Message that you claim to be God's holy Word, a prophet that you say you knew him, literally ate and slept with him. You saw the kind of life that man lived, and you know the testimony concerning him. How, then, is this Branham message so completely messed up with people who are so completely messed up? What a message!"

Then, what about the Garden of Eden, my brother/sister, where Adam and Eve, pure from the hand of God, and God Himself there, Satan came right on the scene and defiled the whole thing! And you tell me: Are you so naïve tonight, and so foolish as to believe that all filth is not all around us? Are you so foolish as to believe that God will not give you strength to overcome? Let my strength be, if every preacher goes down the drain, I'll stand alone with that Word.

"How are you going to do it?"

I don't know, but I'm going to do it. I'm not here with a perfect conviction. John the Baptist: How perfect was his when he said, "Were You really the Christ, or do we look for another?"

50. I'm going to tell you one thing: I don't look for anybody outside of Bro. Branham having come. If he comes back, that'll suit me fine. And he will come back, of course, that's just great. He'll do what he's supposed to do. I don't know what he's going to do, and I'm not big enough fool to stick my neck out. But I know one thing, this is real to me, and that's real. And I know I don't need anymore of anything to let me know like Elisha, who followed old Elijah, and it's just the same as old Eliezer did.

Eliezer said, "Now look, God, I don't know you, but Abraham does; and I'm satisfied that Abraham knows You by the fact that there'd been some kind of beautiful intercourse here, and demonstrated that there's something real there, and I'm talking to You."

That One. Elisha came behind knowing what Elijah had done, and he said, "Where's the Lord God of Elijah? Not of Israel, not of Jacob, not of the nation; I want the One that stood behind Elijah." I'm sold out on what stood behind William Branham. God! If I can just have that, I'm satisfied. What if something greater comes along? I'm not interested. I'm 75 years old in just a few months.

51. You say, "What if something does?"

Have you ever heard of a counterfeit? I've seen the original as far as I'm concerned. The name of the Lord Jesus Christ answered back to that man, and I saw discernment like you people never will see discernment. I'm not lying to you. I'm telling you the truth. And you can listen to my witness, and I'm not lying. If there are a million hells hotter than the fiery furnace the Hebrew children were thrown into, I tell you before Almighty God, this Bible open, I'm not lying to you. I know what it is to be discerned, where you couldn't hide if you tried. And there's only one source that knew that. That was that something above him. [Points to the picture of the Pillar of Fire.] And I'm not ashamed to close my prayer and my life with saying, "O Lord God of William Branham." And you can have the Pentecostal gods and everything else. Poor ignorant, foolish people, who take the word of some doctor, not even

investigating many doctors, some little two by four doctor, and pit him against what Bro. Branham taught us? What have they got?

I'm not trying to rouse you up, brother/sister. You can do what you want. But something occurred in our generation. Something happened. And I don't want to be guilty for asking for any sign other than the sign that was given. And I saw plenty. That's all I want.

Let's bow our heads in prayer.

Heavenly Father, we didn't get back again into the Word the prophet brought, trying to show the people, and I hope they have been shown, very, very clearly, concerning what the prophet said. Your Word is a jigsaw puzzle, until the prophet comes by and brings us the doctrine. And we have the doctrine; then, it's no more a jigsaw puzzle.

Now Lord, tonight, we know that You are out there. We know that You spoke back, and You're the One we're talking to. And we're standing on that, that somehow we have a liaison with You. We have beyond that even further: we have a kinship with You. We have a bloodline. We have a spirit-line. We have a lifeline. And we want to be linked up with You on the grounds of what we saw, and I'm here telling the people, and they're believing me, and I haven't even begun to tell them hardly anything that I saw. My memory's pretty poor, but I can still tell them different things I saw and different things I heard, because I was there. And a lot of times I wasn't there, but I believe and I'm trying to believe, Lord, exactly what I know when I wasn't there, because I was told by the vindicated man. And I never knew, Lord, where You'd back a liar up, because You said all liars are going to find themselves in the Lake of Fire. And this man You lent Your Name to.

So, I believe, Father, we're on real believing ground tonight, if we just sell out to the Word that the prophet brought us, receiving the blessed doctrine of the Holy Ghost, the Word of God coming together where there's no more cows picking grass on the top of a tree. There's no more faith fighting faith. There's no more works fighting grace. But there's a real people who stand right between the parallel lines of Scripture of light/darkness, blessing/cursing, passive/active faith, and Lord, willing to be channels of all of it.

Grant, Lord, we pray a blessed after-service tonight, Communion, Foot-washing.

We give you the praise, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

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