

# The Message

## Standing In The Gap

preached by  
the late

William M. Branham

17<sup>th</sup> July 1963  
at Jeffersonville, USA

**“God’s Spoken Word is the Original Seed”**

## STANDING IN THE GAP

Preached 23rd June, 1963

at Jeffersonville

Let us remain standing just a moment now, as we bow for prayer. Let's bow our heads, and if there's any special request, would you just let it be known by your hands uplifted. Now, hold in your heart those things that you need. And ask the Heavenly Father, that He'll grant it.

Our Heavenly Father, we are coming to Thee now in the Name of the LORD Jesus. We are coming, believing that the things that we desire are to be made known in prayer. And if we would believe that we receive what we ask for, it would be granted. Now, that Promise is so true. All these years we've seen it tested and we know that it's true. We want to thank You, first, for sparing our lives and permitting us to be back here again together, assembled here in the congregation of the LORD.

We thank Thee for the church, and for the pastor, and for the great Truth on which it's built here and stands for. We thank Thee for every person that's in Thy Divine Presence. And we ask that You'll be merciful to us today, and grant unto us the understanding that we have need of, that we might be a more efficient servant for Thee. It's our heart's desire to serve Thee with reverence and with a true heart, and that You might get the very best out of our lives. Every day, may our walk be such that You'll be well pleased with the things that we did for that day.

Now, we pray for all the sick and the needy today, that are in the Divine Presence here, and in the presence of Your sanctuaries everywhere around the world, that the great Jehovah will come in His power and heal all the sick and afflicted. Get glory unto Thy great Name. Bless every secret in the hearts, this morning, of those requesting prayer. We pray, now, as You look down into every heart and see what they had reference to as they raised their hand, and give to them their desire. And bless us as we further worship You; and when we leave the building this morning and we go to our homes, may we be able to say like those who came from Emmaus, "Did not our hearts burn within us as he spoke to us along the way?" We ask it in Jesus' Name. Amen. (You can be seated.)

I would like to say, that it's good this morning to be here again in the congregation of the people, in the presence of the LORD. It's been a few months since I was back. And last Sunday I intended to come down, but I suppose it wasn't the will of the LORD. Somehow the valley here is very unhealthy for me. As soon as I come into the valley, I find I'm allergic to this air here, and I break out in hives all over. And I think the hives went right straight into the stomach. And I was so sick! I was shivering and shaking, with chills; and I just couldn't come down, although I got up and tried to force myself to do so. And I know that the valley is very unhealthy and, though I'm healthy, I'm not supposed to live in it.

Now, we want to report, we have had a great time in the services of the LORD out across the different parts of the country where the LORD had called us to minister. And now, I wasn't expecting to speak this morning on any certain thing, unless Brother Neville wanted me so say something while being here with the people. He's always gracious in that way, as we all know, is Brother Neville. And we love Brother Neville. There isn't a day that I don't think about him, and his wife, and family, and his children, and pray for them. God give him strength to carry on, As we know, our time is running out. We're just so close to tomorrow, the time at the Evening Light.

Our family's out in the West. We all got along fine. And I gained twelve pounds and lost ten of them Since I've been back. And Billy Paul gained eighteen pounds. And Rebecca, and Sarah, and Joseph all gained. Of course, my wife didn't gain. So - I'd dare not say that up here, you know, because I have to go home after a while. See? But we had a wonderful, wonderful time and are so grateful.

We felt kind of bad, I thought, to come back; but there's one great thing, two things, mainly, that we missed, and there's no other place that can take its place. Firstly, our friends here, and secondly, the church. No matter where we go, we find friends. And we're grateful for our friends. But there's something special about those friends who have stuck with you through thick and thin, and there's no way to substitute those friends. No matter what any other friend could be, there's no way to substitute a friend like that. You're just squeezed into them, you're one. And we're together looking for the coming of the LORD as the days go on. And it's hard to try to think that you could - you cannot be separated.

There comes to my mind a Scripture that I believe Paul wrote, and said in the Corinthians, that there's nothing present, nothing future, and no powers, neither nakedness, starvation, peril, or any creature present, neither life, nor death that can separate us from the love of God that's in Jesus Christ. How that even death itself will never separate us, because we have been joined together in heart in this great fellowship around the Word of God. And even death itself will not separate us. We'll be united in the great Eternal for all times and ages.

And then, the children, every morning! We would go to church, of course, but everywhere you go there isn't the little tabernacle of the corner. And there's something about it. I miss hearing that little old bell, dinging up there on top, of a morning. And I think it isn't ringing at the time, because they haven't put the steeple on just yet for the bell.

And then, together, here, at Eighth and Penn Street, where, some thirty-five years ago, I was kneeling here in an old swamp to build my first church. How the LORD Jesus dealt with me on that! And today, it stands as a little shrine here. As bricks and mortar it stands as a shrine. But down in the inside of my heart, it's a shrine that'll last as long as I have memories.

And what makes a church? It's not the building. It's the people who gather beneath it to worship God. We're grateful for these things.

And now, I thought, maybe, since our time was up, almost, and we don't have much time left, I would just brief you on some things that have happened. And then, I'm going to make some tapes while I'm here. Because I promised

you all (see?) that any new message (taped message) would first be from this platform. Here's where all the tapes are made, not out there. Now, Brother Jim and the others go along and sell tapes in the meeting, and so forth. But, it's always on something that came forth from here first. See? If you'll check anywhere back, you'll find it's so. That's my promise to you, and it will continue that way until the LORD God changes it.

And I think, now, that our tape customers are around the world. A Message that goes forth from here, circles the globe. See? Out into the jungles and everywhere it goes by tape recordings. And to the heathens and so forth; into many, many different languages it's interpreted. So I want, while I'm here, the LORD willing, to make some new tapes. And maybe, if the pastor hasn't got something burning into his heart tonight, well, I'd like maybe to make a tape tonight.

And then I'm going to Arkansas on Tuesday morning, to help out in a little convention there with the Associated Brotherhood of Christians. And I was supposed to have from Sunday, now, on through. But I held today for the tabernacle, to be down here. And then I'll get out on Friday. Friday is when the meetings close down there. And I'll try to get back Saturday night to be here Sunday morning. The LORD willing, I'll make another tape. And maybe sometimes, along then, I'll want to make a few tapes before we go.

And then I'm really pressing for Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for that convention, and then come back. And then I'm supposed to go, by all means, to Anchorage. See? And from Fairbanks and Anchorage, for the Christian Full Gospel Businessmen on those chapters. And then back. And if the LORD is willing, up to Chicago the last week in July.

And I suppose then, about that time, I'll have to hurry the children off to Arizona again to be in time to get them in school. Because, Charlie, I have to be here about the 15<sup>th</sup> of August. So I want to be back by that time, the LORD willing, down in Kentucky. Everybody laughing; maybe some of the newcomers wouldn't know what that meant. I just hope it doesn't sound bad from the platform, but that's when the squirrel season comes in. So, if I'm about I'm depending on that (you see?) for a couple weeks down there for my vacation.

Now, I believe that I have got something here that Billy wrote down for me, some little notes. And one of them said, "Daddy, Brother Neville wants to know if you could dedicate two children." Certainly. That would just be fine. And yes, we have a dedicational service and we might as well have that now. And then, I think, we'll take the next forty-five minutes or so on briefing you on some of the things that have taken place.

Now, this is an open tabernacle. It's never been a denomination, and God grant that it won't ever be. Because we want this as a place where we have no law but love, no creed but Christ, no textbook but the Bible. And then, we do not have membership. We have fellowship, one with another, for all people, and all denominations. Everybody's welcome, and we have fellowship around the Word of God, where everybody can feel as welcome as they can be. And in principle, we just love the LORD Jesus. And we're not a scholarly group here. We're just plain people that try just to read the Bible and put no interpretation on It outside of what It just says.

I believe that God will judge the world some day by the Bible. Now, He's going to judge the world. And if there isn't a standard to judge it by, how will the people know what to do? See? You would not pin injustice on God. And God's got to have something for His standard, that He judges the people by. Therefore, if He judges it by the Roman Catholic church, then the Greek church (the Orthodox Catholic) and many of those are certainly lost, and all the rest of the world. If He judges it by the Greek Orthodox Catholic church, and not by the Roman church, then the Roman church and all the rest are lost. If He judges it by the Lutheran church, then the Presbyterians are gone. If He judges it by the Presbyterians, the Lutherans and Baptists are gone. See? So if He judges it by the Pentecostals, then all besides Pentecostals are gone.

But He'll not judge it by any church in my opinion, because there are too many differences and too much confusion. But He'll judge it. The Bible says, He'll judge the world by Jesus Christ. Now, that's Scriptural. And the Bible says that "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God ... And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. -The same yesterday, today, and for ever." So, He is the Word. And this Book is Christ in letter form. And in the Book of the Apocalypse to the Catholics -Revelation to the Protestants - and the 22<sup>nd</sup> chapter, when this Book was finished, Jesus Himself said, "If any man will take one word from this Book or add one word to It, his part will be taken from the Book of Life." So that is the reason we believe this and say it just exactly - nothing added. He can do things that He hasn't written here, we know that. But as long as we just stay with what He has written, that'll be fine.

And now, in the dedication of children, many of the people the Methodists sprinkle them. And I think they have their first communion in the Catholic church or Lutheran when about twelve years old, and a kind of a baptismal service when they are born. And I think the babies are sprinkled. And I think that split the Nazarene from the Methodist many years ago, over infant baptism. I think that's right, Brother Brown. I believe that that was what split the Methodist church and the Nazarene, because the Nazarene didn't accept infant baptism. But to us, here at the Tabernacle, we are going to stay with what the Bible says, in the only place in our Bible for the children, they brought infants to Jesus, that He might put His hands upon them and bless them. And He said, "Suffer the little children to come to Me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Now, therefore, we, the pastor and I, or any other pastor, know that ours are poor hands to represent the hands of the LORD Jesus. And if He were here this morning, these parents would bring that baby to Christ. But seeing that we are here in representation of Him, that we represent Him, they bring the children to us. And we dedicate them to the LORD by laying our hands upon them in commemoration of His great Word and His act. So that's how we dedicate the little ones.

I thought maybe some mother might be here with her baby, that had never been dedicated to the LORD, that she might want to come along with these mothers or fathers who will be dedicating the children. We just bring them up

here and present them to God, and pray over them, and tell the LORD that we lay our hands upon them in a substitute way for His. And that's as close to the Scripture as I've ever found yet. Now, you might get our textbook out and find something that some group of men said, but I mean what the Word said. You see? And I think I've made it really very clear what it is.

Now, if the pianist (Are you the pianist, brother?) will come up here. Isn't that awful, in my own church, ask, "Who's the pianist?" (I almost had to knock at the door.) All right. They sing this little song or play it:

Bring them in, bring them in,  
Bring the little ones to Jesus.

And while the congregation sings this, let's stand to our feet. And let the mothers and fathers who are bringing their little ones come now, and stand. All right:

Bring them in, bring them in,  
Bring the little ones to Jesus.

(Dedication of the children - Ed.)

Now, I think that just about does this, now. We're just exactly on time at 11 o'clock. Now, you know, I can just imagine, seeing those mothers coming along, and daddies with those babies. I could think of Joseph and Mary on the morning of the dedication of the LORD Jesus.

Brother Kidd, I was having a little interview with someone in the office, but I heard your emotion this morning out here, that of a man of your age. And I suppose you were telling of how the LORD healed you out in the audience. And I almost tore my car up one morning to get to the elderly brother. He's an older minister.

Just think! This man (his little wife is here) was preaching the Gospel before I was born. Preaching this Gospel, up over the mountains and valleys of Kentucky and Tennessee, where coal miners live. And being penniless, and living without anything to eat. And this little wife here, washing on a washboard for about twenty or thirty cents a day, to send her husband into the field to preach the Gospel. That's enough to make a person excited, isn't it?

And then to think, that there he lay when the very best of doctors said, "He's dying. It's prostate cancer all through him. He can't live but just a number of hours, and at most a day or two." And that's been two or three years ago. Three years ago, and here he is this morning; healthy, well, giving God glory. Then, how old were you when you were healed, Brother Kidd? How old are you now? Eighty. All right, he was about eighty years old when God healed him. How, does God care for us old people? Sure He does. Yes, sir!

He healed Abraham when he was a hundred years old; and Sarah when she was ninety. And they brought forth Isaac. Is that right? We're very happy about this.

Now, you're so nice, I could talk to you all the morning just like this. But let's just read some of the precious Word and then go right into the service. Now, I think, if it be the will of God, I would like to brief you on things that have happened. And then tonight, the LORD willing, I want to speak on a subject and I want to tape it mainly to go out. And if you want to come and listen, all right. After the pastor has finished his message, then I'll make this tape. I want to preach on *The Flashing Red Light of His Coming*, how one of the flashes is on us right now. And I want to speak on that tonight: *The Flashing Red Light of his Coming*. He's here, on hand right now. The signal's down. The train's on the line.

Numbers, 16th chapter, to you who will turn and read. This is the Eternal Word, so let's read reverently. I want to read two verses of Numbers 16, the 3rd and 41' verse, to get a little background on what I wish to say.

And now, if the tapes are not on, I wish they would turn them on now; or arrange it so that this part here will be able to be sent out. Can you fix your tapes there to where this part, here, will be separate from the rest of the service? You see, this is a new thing. Now, you can block it right here, or whatever you do. Well then, would you like me to pause just a second and turn it back on, so that it'll give you a block to know where to start from? Or can you start there anyhow? Start anyhow. All right, that's fine.

Now, we're going to read Numbers 16: 3 and 4:

*And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LoRD is among them: wherefore then lift ye up your selves above the congregation of the LORD?*

*And when Moses heard it, he fell upon his face:*

Our Heavenly Father, bless these few Words. And may the meditation of our heart, and the fruits of our lips be acceptable in Thy sight. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

I want to take this as a text, for what I wish to say this morning: ***Standing In The Gap.***

Of this time that we're speaking of or reading, we of course all understand that it was when Dathan and Korah had decided that they would interfere with the commission that God had given to Moses, saying, "You ought to let the whole congregation do *such and-such*. They're all holy." And God had commanded Moses to lead the people to the Promised Land. And they said, "You take it upon yourself to do too much. You make yourself the only one in the multitude that's got any say."

And this displeased God so much, that He told Moses, "Separate yourself from among them. I'll just kill the whole multitude and start a new generation with you." And Moses fell in the presence of God, and said He'd have to come over him. See?

Now, today, if God was going to liquidate the people, and there was a time when God had become tired of our fooling with sin (we're constantly going wrong), who would stand like Moses, today, for the people? Where would we find a person that would stand, or could stand, whom God would accept as he did Moses? And Moses' own life on earth meant so much to God, that it stayed the wrath of God. And God would not cross over Moses. That always was a puzzle to me till one day, in revelation of the Scripture, there came this thought to me, that (you see?) Moses was in act substituting in every way as a type of Jesus Christ.

And when God was going to take the life of the whole world and destroy it, and all the sinners (and they were condemned to die), Christ died for us all. And God could not cross over Christ, being His Own Son. And then Jesus gave Himself freely, that He might pay the way. Moses couldn't have done that. Moses had no blood but human blood, as we have. So, therefore, his blood would not suffice. But Jesus, having the Blood of God Himself, the creative Blood of God, God just excused the entire human race then of sin; because it was all laid upon Him. And He went to Calvary and died cast out of the presence of God, and suffered; and was cast into hell, because that He was sin, having our sins upon Him. And being our burden bearer, He took our sins to Calvary, and from Calvary to hell, and God raised Him up on the third day as a propitiation for our sins.

And today, He's the only mediator between God and man, and we're freely pardoned and forgiven. God doesn't even know we ever sinned. Our sins were put in the sea of forgetfulness, never to be remembered any more. We cannot do that ourselves, we're finite. He's infinite. We can still remember, because we're not big enough; but He's so great, that He even forgets we ever did sin. We are sons and daughters in His presence. And all things that He was, we are. He became my sin, that I might become His righteousness. He became my sin, that I might become His righteousness. So, God cannot see any sin in you, as long as your confession is in Jesus Christ.

Someone said, sometime ago, "If I believed a thing like that, would I ever turn on the steam! I'd paint the town red. I'd go to every dance hall. I'd get so drunk, and everything, because-"

"Why?"

"You're already secured in Christ. What difference does it make?"

I said, "That shows you haven't got it." If the love of God ever struck your heart, in the tenderness of Jesus Christ, you'd be so on love with Him that the world would be dead to you, like your sin. That's how you know you have the Holy Spirit. Not because you can scream, shout, speak with tongues, or whatever it is, but when sin becomes dead and you're alive in Jesus Christ. Oh, love of God; how rich, how pure! See?

Now, here in Louisville, Kentucky, not long ago, a minister was talking about a young lady. She'd waited a little long in life to be married and was somewhere around twenty-five or thirty years old. And she was a fine, staunch, Christian girl. And there was a certain man in Louisville that wasn't. He hadn't lived such a good life. He had run to dances and roadhouses and so forth; but one day he found pardon for his sin and he became a real Christian, real staunch Christian. About a year later, he fell in love with this young lady, and the young lady fell madly in love with him. And they were married.

And after they had lived together about two years (they said), this young lady said to her husband one day, "Dear, I suppose that's kind of hard for you, as just a new Christian. I've been a Christian since a little girl. But for you, a young Christian, to have to stand all the wiles and temptations that go with it after you've sinned so long!"

And he said, "Well, it does become a battle."

She said, "I want you to remember one thing, that if the enemy does upset you somewhere, and you fall and you go back into sin, don't stay away from home. I want you to come on home. You're going to find at home the same wife that you married. I'll help you to pray back, and pray through, and get back to God again. I don't want you to stay away. Look, I married you upon the basis, not of what you were, but I married you because I loved you." And she said, "No matter what you do, I still love you. I married you because I love you."

And the man that day went to work, and was heard repeating it in the place where he was working. He said, "Now, how could a man do anything wrong against something like that? When a woman, who loves him so much that, no matter what he did, she was willing to come back and take him again, and try it again!" See? It shows us. **Now, you multiply that by billions, and then you have some idea of what the love of God is.**

That, when a man falls in love with Jesus Christ, the things of the world die. When you think of what He did for you in the light of the Scripture, not in the light of some emotion, but in the light of fact, and what it is, then there's something happens to you when the New Birth comes. *Sin is as dead as midnight*. As long as that Light is in you, how can darkness shine? It cannot do it. And that's what God did to one man who threw himself in the gap, who could take the promise. And Moses, being a type of this antitype - that's why Moses stood in the gap for the people.

Then I wonder, in this day of this loose, lazy, soft, Laodicean Age that we live in. We all know, who have been through the *Church Ages*, that we're living in the last age, the Laodicean Church Age. And as for this lazy, loose, happy-go-lucky, joking, sinful age of lust that we're living in now, it's a wonder that God doesn't just say, "Step back, Church, I'll just liquidate the whole lot." See? What an age we're living in! And He will do that one of these days, too. We know that it's coming, and there isn't going to be any sparing with this, because already someone has died for those who wanted to escape. But He'll take those who have accepted Christ and become Christians. They'll be taken out of the wrath, because otherwise He could not do it. There was no way of doing it in the time of Moses.

Now in the Book of Revelation, when we get to the Laodicean Church Age, Revelation the 3rd chapter, the Bible says that this age, the Laodicean Age, is blind. "Because you are rich, you say you're rich, and you're increased in goods" (greatest churches, the finest dressed people, the greatest that there's been in any age), "because thou sayest, 'I have need of nothing,' and knowest not, that thou art poor, miserable, wretched, naked, blind - and you don't know it."

Now, if a man was in this condition, and you could tell him his condition, he'd try to help himself if he was mentally right. But when he's in that condition and you can't tell him anything, because he just doesn't believe that he's naked, he doesn't believe that he's in that shape; then it shows here that he's blind. **The god of this world has blinded the eyes of those who refuse to serve Christ, and they're so blind, that they can't see the sign, the hour, the time, that we are living in. And remember, there's already been One stand in the gap, and no one else can stand. You have to accept that remedy, or you're doomed.**

Now get close to what I want to say. (Now, I'm preaching to myself in this.) Could we stand and see a human being that's blind, physically blind, and know that he's walking over a cliff? Could we - in our dull state of mind, that we're in this morning - stand and see a blind man walk over a cliff, blind, and not try to warn him? It would be so cruel! We would be so indifferent in our heart. Could you imagine, a person getting so indifferent, that he could almost laugh, and see a blind man that cannot see, and can't help himself, deliberately walk over a cliff? That would be a bad thing, to do nothing about it!

Well, to my brethren the world over, I want to make this confession. I humbly say it, that that's just about what I was doing, or about to do. I had been preaching for years, and had become an old man and an old veteran preacher. And I had had a lot of hard battles and maybe I'm scarred, all cut up on the inside, from fights. Because my lot, that the LORD gave me, was not to kiss the babies, and marry the young, and bury the old. But it was to hold a two handed sword at the battle-front against the wiles of paganism, and demonology, and the powers of darkness, and fight them with the Word of God till I saw the enemy defeated. I've been cut deep many times.

Then when I come with the Message in this day, and I've said to the church the things that I am about to say and predicted years ago when the Holy Spirit called me to this work, there isn't a person living on earth today, that could say that the LORD ever let me tell you anything in His Name, but that it came to pass just exactly the way it was to be done.

How that He sent me out first, and sent the first gift, and the second gift, and the things that have been said or done the world over, and literally millions have come to Christ, and tens of thousands of preachers inspired, that started a revival that would sweep the entire face of the earth today. And the little group of Pentecostals was the one that received my Message, they're the ones that have gained ground. The Pentecostal church shows more conversions than all the rest of the churches put together. That's statistics. Why? Because of their receiving Truth and receiving a revival.

And now, after the great time came of the healing of the sick, the casting out of devils, and the raising up of the dead - of which we're all witnesses, and so are many doctors, and great men of the earth - came the appearing of the LORD Jesus among us in the sign, there, as you see, written on the wall or wherever it is, of the Angel of the LORD: And now the scientists have copyrighted it, and it's a known fact the world over. And you witnessed the very things that He did; they came to pass every time. Then it was the Pillar of Fire that went with Israel across the wilderness in the days of Moses that we saw. Now Moses was called "The servant of the LORD," and he followed a Pillar of Fire by night, and a Cloud by day.

And when Jesus was on earth, He said that He was that God. He said, "Before Abraham was, I AM." And I AM was the Pillar of Fire that was in the burning bush that spoke to Moses in the days gone by. I think that's correct, Brother Vayle. Then He said, "I come from God and I go to God." And He was crucified, died, and rose, and ascended on high, and laid His body down upon the great altar of the Eternal God, there, ever to be present, to act in our place, to know that He had paid our sin debt. And from there He returned back to the earth again in the form of a great Pillar of Fire.

Saint Paul - before he was called Saint Paul, he was called Saul of Tarsus - was on his road down to Damascus, to arrest some people who were making too much noise, and shouting, and preaching a Gospel that was contrary to the tradition of their churches. On his road down one day, about this time of the day, he was stricken down by a great Light. He, being a Jew, would know that this great Light was the Pillar of Fire that had led the children of Israel, and here It was before him again. He cried out, "LORD!"

Now, if you notice in your translations, both King James and your Standard, and all, it's capital L-O-R-D. And anyone who knows their Bible, knows that when that's capital L-O-R-D it's ELOHIM, the All-sufficient One that created the heavens and earth in Genesis 1: 1. LORD! Now, Paul would not have called some optical illusion, something that he didn't know about "LORD", because he was a trained man in the Scriptures. He was brought up under Gamaliel, the great teacher of that day, and he would not have called that LORD, if he wasn't satisfied that That was Jehovah. He said, "LORD, Who are You?"

Listen to the Voice answering, "I AM JESUS" - the same yesterday, today, and for ever.

So, I think (in the midst of it all, before going any further, both here and across the world), the people who'll be listening, and listening now, will know that it is proved *by every act to be Jesus Christ*, the same yesterday, today, and for ever. He has done the very same things that He did: healed the sick, knew the thoughts of the mind, showed forth things that would come to pass, and every time perfectly through all these years. I'm fifty-four years old, and have seen visions since I was about eighteen months old: and not just one time, but every time, it's been the truth. Now, that has to be God. And then, my thinking that, "Why are the people so blind, that they can't see that?"

And constantly, when I talk to our women about bobbing their hair (and the ministers criticising me for it), and about their wearing immoral clothes, these shorts, and lying about like that and carrying on in that evil way, and about

our men, the way they were behaving, smoking, and taking sociable drinks, and everything, and then still calling themselves Christians, and taking Communion at the table because they belonged to an organisation; oh, they just simply thought I had blasphemed God. And did the women get better? They got worse across the nation.

Then I, being a nervous (I say this kind of quietly) and maybe neurotic type of person that I am, and knowing that I was insufficient at the beginning for the job, as many have complained that wanted to, it was hard. But I thought, "God, why didn't You call somebody that could have done it? And I'm sorry, but I failed. The people just won't listen to me. And I failed somewhere to do what I should have done, because they won't listen."

My mother (who has just passed on into Glory, about a little over a year ago), her father was a hunter. And I think, I inherited all that came out from him in that way, because I love the woods. And I thought, "If this people that call themselves Christians don't want to listen to the Message that I'm preaching, then let them alone. I'll just stop it altogether, and I'll go up into the mountains. And I know a friend where I can go." Many of you, here, remember my predicting (right from this platform here) the time, about six months before it happened, how that I would go to a place, and there would be an animal that looked like a deer with pointed horn; and how they would be forty-two inches, and how there'd be a seven-foot silver-tip grizzly. You have got it on tapes and everything. You remember the time; all of you. Well, it's lying in my room up there now, to show that it's the truth.

Now, I mention things like that, because it was just before the going of my mother, and He was wanting to quieten me for the great shock, since He knew He was about to take her.

Now, I met a man who was a Christian, and he's got a great country right under Alaska. And I had decided in my mind, that since I had left here and gone west, I would take my wife and trap her into something. I'd get her up there; I'd become a guide. And then, if the LORD wanted me to do something, I'd let my hair grow and my whiskers. There's only about two or three Indians that live back in the country there. And I'd just be a guide, and then I'd help Bud. And if the LORD wanted me to do anything, then I'd say, "All right, LORD." He'd give me a vision. I'd slip on out.

I'd say to the people, I've never regarded myself as a prophet. Everybody knows this. But people have said, "Brother Branham, the LORD called you to be His prophet." Well, I've never regarded myself as that, but I was beginning to get to the time when I was about ready to do it: to think, "Well, maybe I am. If I am, I'll live back in the wilderness. And if I live back in the wilderness, then I'll be His prophet." See? "And then if He wants to send me somewhere, good. And while He's not using me, I'll surely catch some fine fish and do some things." Of course, that was kind of a selfish attitude (see?), because I wanted to do that. Now, it isn't just exactly the thing to do. And now, I had made up my mind to do that.

And now, just before the *Seven Church Ages* was preached, as they're drawn there - There's many, today, that were here during that time and know how the LORD did bless that, on the wall back there, reflecting it - How many are here now, who were there, then, when He just came that day?

Then I remember a Brother Jackson. He's usually with us. Brother Junior Jackson, the Methodist. He was a Methodist minister. Yes, here he is sitting over here now. Now, he came to me with a dream, and then some more brethren came with similar dreams. Now, the LORD's been real good to me and I take you to record this morning. Have I ever told you a wrong interpretation of a dream? No, sir! Because I will not speak it till I see it over again and know what the LORD says about it, then I'll tell you. And then he said I was having a service down in his church, and that somehow or another he was really nervous that night. And he ran out of the church and came around the other way and met me in the car (the people passing by) and said, "I want to tell you something."

And he told me that he dreamed a dream, that up here, somewhere like in Indiana, there was a long, great grassy hill, and the water had washed all the soil off the top. And it had become rock like a bald top on the mountain. And then in this rock there was funny writing. And he said I was standing there with all the brethren from the church here, interpreting this writing. And then when it came to the time that I got all of it interpreted, then I somehow or another, if I understand the dream right, got hold of something like a crowbar or prybar, or something, and just cut the top of that mountain out and lifted it up. And on the inside of it was white rock, something of the order of granite or something of that kind; some white rock that wasn't written on. And I said, to the brethren, "Stay here and look in on this." While they were all looking I slipped out from among them and started going west. And Brother Jackson said that he saw me going over one hill, and then another hill, getting smaller and smaller, going west. You remember that?

Well the interpretation of that, of course, was given here at the church before it came to pass: that the time is now, I believe, for the full revelation of the age of Luther, Wesley, and John Smith, Alexander Campbell, and different ones that preached on the Bible. And we got into the Bible and showed that there would be a seventh angel's Message. And at the sounding of the seventh angel's Message, all the mysteries of God would be made known. Then came seven mysterious thunders.

And now, if it is that end age that we're living in, where we've come through justification, sanctification, baptism in the Holy Spirit, and had signs, wonders, and all different things, and the gifts have returned to the church, such as divine healing, prophecy, speaking with tongues, and interpretations - And though it's been misrepresented terrifically, yet, that doesn't take away that there's a good one, a true one, a really genuine gift of speaking in tongues that's always supposed to be in the Church.

We have a lot of impersonations. We have people again that try to act like Christians, but their lives don't compare, so there's something wrong. Jesus said, "By their fruits you'll know them." See? That's how you know a Christian, by how he lives. So never jump any higher than you live. But it's a devil making a scarecrow to keep the real, genuine believers away from the true thing. But God help us to separate and be able to discern between right and wrong. And the Word will always straighten that out.

Now, we find that in this dream I told you the interpretation on the rock (and the Rock is Christ) that was in the brother's dream. And that's the Bible. And for all these years, the Bible's been interpreted till we've absolutely given It the ecclesiastical interpretation throughout. And the last gift was to be added in the Laodicean Age, which is the seventh angel's time to preach (in the Laodicean Age). At that time, there would be a lot of things that had been misconstrued down through the ages.

Thus Luther preached justification; but he let it run wild, because he didn't live long enough. Then they organised the church. Luther never organised it. It was after Luther. And then Wesley came forth. And after Wesley they got the Wesleyan Church. And then after that came John Smith, the Baptist; and then Alexander Campbell, and so forth. But the men (the reformers) didn't live long enough to get it all together. And so there's a lot of loose ends left, as it were. For instance, there was water baptism that John Smith brought back; the water baptism by immersion, but using the titles. And many of those things that were left loose. And then when we come down to the end, the last Message is supposed to straighten that all up; to bring these things to one Faith, one LORD, one Baptism. See?

And now, after the Bible had been interpreted completely, then you notice, it opened up the top of the pyramid-like Rock. (Not pyramid teaching, now; not that, because the men who teach the pyramid doctrine, I suppose they know what they're talking about. I know nothing about it.) But, however, it is in the shape of a pyramid. But the cap on the pyramid was never put on. Now, I've been in Cairo and in Egypt, and the cap never did come, because it was a cornerstone, it was a headstone. In the Church It was the Cornerstone. In the full Church, It was the Headstone. So It never did come. It was rejected. Christ! And I will come. And I believe that when It's coming, that the Church will shape up into a place, from justification under Luther, sanctification under Wesley, and the Pentecostal Message, that will bring the Church to such a minority. And a ministry will be among those people, till it'll be exactly the same ministry that Jesus Christ did. That'll bring Jesus and catch the whole thing away.

Each honest and true Lutheran, Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, and whoever's born with the Spirit of God, will be caught away with Jesus Christ when He comes. I believe that. I differ with some of our Pentecostal brethren, who believe that the remnant of the church is those who will be caught away in the last age. I differ there, because how could God - (we don't say, "How could He?" He can do what He wishes to) - Who promised Luther - (and under justification, that's all they knew. See?) - to take the Church? And He - I believe by the grace of God and by the Scriptures - supports it. Because He didn't come in the first watch, and they went to sleep; and the second watch; and on down. In the seventh watch, He came. And that's the seventh church age. That's the seventh angel's Message. See? And when He came all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. Presbyterians, Lutherans, Baptists, whoever is born of the Spirit of God, shall go in that rapture. I believe that the Bride will be called out during that time. I believe there will be some in the last days who won't have to taste death, but will be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye.

Now - But insomuch as you noticed, in Brother Jackson's dream, that there was no writing on this Rock on the inside, that's what I went west for. Now, it's happened, and I told you, someday I would tell you what it meant. I went west for it. And I told you the vision which the people, both those listening to the tape and those present this morning, will know in taking Sirs, Is *This the Time*? And any of you tape brethren who don't have that message, and want to follow this, take Sirs, Is *This the Time*? Before, weeks and months before it happened here, I saw the vision of being north of Tucson (that would be east of Flagstaff, north of Tucson) and picking burrs off my trouser legs and that a blast would go off that would actually appear to shake the country. How many of you remember that? A blast that would shake the country.

Well, it so happens that at least one man is present this morning, who was standing there when it happened. It actually shook the rocks off of the mountain. And now, we find out that during that time I saw seven Angels in the form of a pyramid that swept down and picked me up. And I was brought east to open the *Seven Seals* for God. If Jesus tarries, until my great-grandchildren, little Paul's children, that will still be the Eternal Truth of the living God! Now, that was to find out that which was sealed inside this mountain. That wasn't written. It had to be interpreted. And when I came back, the first Angel on the first night opened the Seal contrary to anything we ever heard in our life. And all the seven came out the same way. You know that. You were here present when it happened (many of you).

And now, I didn't know it at that time - but Brother Fred Sothmann, I know he's here, and I'm pretty sure that Brother Norman is here. I had to go to Houston about getting that little boy saved from the electric chair. And then I went back and I went hunting up there (in Arizona) with the brethren. And that morning, I was standing there picking cockleburrs or what they call "goatheads" there, burrs off my trouser leg. And the blast did just exactly the way it was said. Is that right, Brother Fred? And I must have jumped well off from the ground. And just above me were the angels of the LORD that sent the Message back, for me to come here to break these Seals. Why here? Why at the Tabernacle? Why didn't I do it there? Because I'd made a promise to my church and to God, that any new message would come from this Tabernacle, recorded from here. And He was helping me to keep my word, to stay back here to do it. And then, immediately, I went back again.

And now, I didn't know at the time, that they were taking pictures of that. Scientists were, as the angels lowered themselves from Heaven to bring the Message. And you remember, I said the one on the right side of the constellation had, as it were, his chest back, and his wings? You remember my saying that, all of you? And how that I watched Him? He was very distinctive from the others. And I didn't know they were taking a picture of it, because immediately I hurried east. But going back home to Tucson, there it was all through the papers, and it had been seen almost nation-wide, or plumb into Mexico, and all the Western States. And I think the *Courier* over here - It was the Associated Press. How many saw a mysterious cloud in the sky? You see the hands! **And now**, the *Life Magazine* picked it up. And I have the article in here this morning. In the *Life Magazine* there. Now, here it is, the same time I

was there. See the pyramid of the Cloud? I was standing just below this. And there, do you see the distinctive angel on the right-hand side? See the pointed wing of it? It is just exactly what was said. And here it's within sight of Mexico and different places from where they took the picture. Now, this scientist here is trying to get all the information about the picture that he can and about the people who have the picture. He's studying it.

Now, he says here that it would be impossible for it to be a cloud, because moisture doesn't go over about, I'd say, six or eight miles high (something like that). When we go overseas we usually fly at 19,000 feet. We're above the storms then. But this cloud, according to this article here by this scientist, is twenty-six miles high. It would be miles and miles above the moisture. And he said he checked the area. And now, how many remember that I told you, it sounded like breaking the sound barrier by a plane? Remember? But there was no plane in the district. The book says so here. They checked it. There were no planes up there. And besides, it couldn't - That fog behind a plane is nothing but broken-up air, moisture. Because it is sucked through this unit as a jet. As it's pulling itself, it breaks into moisture in the air. It can never be avoided as long as there's a jet, because it's got to. That's what it is propelled on. And it's moisture shooting out from it.

But here it is, miles above where there could be moisture, and no planes in the district. And it couldn't be moisture up there, which hung up there that day. It's thirty miles across it, and twenty-six miles high. You see? Just the same as with that picture there, when I told you the Angel of the LORD looked like a Pillar of Fire, years ago, before It was ever taken. God made science recognise that it's Truth. And here, concerning the prophecy that was given, God has made science testify that it's the Truth. Now, where do we stand? I want to keep this, for I may speak to a friend of mine that's present this morning to write those *Seven Seals*. He might want to use this for it. And so, you that have a copy of it, or if you get one, hold it for reference. See?

Now, he's wanting to find out, but what good would it do to go and tell him that? He'd laugh at it. He would just merely laugh. So we don't cast our pearls like that. But *we* know, the *Church* knows, and God knows, that it's the Truth.

And then I was praying on this subject, wondering what would happen to me. And you know where I was? North of Tucson, east of Flagstaff, just exactly, positionally, where I told you, months before it happened, I'd be standing. And exactly, according to the papers here and this magazine, and our own testimony, it's exactly where it took place. God is perfect and cannot lie. And it will come to pass.

You remember on the tape *Sirs, Is This the Time?* I quoted over it, "Remember, something's about to take place - something major!" And now, it's made the whole nation testify to it. Every newspaper in the Associated Press, and one of our leading magazines, and everything else testified about it, and it's not all over yet. But what a privileged people we are (a privileged people that are Christian) to know that, in this dark hour, when, there's no hope according to science, an atomic bomb waiting for us, and no hope for our organisations. In their getting together, they're consolidating with the mark of the beast. And when all of our hopes that way are gone - in our economy, in our Christian fellowship amongst the organisations - it's heading up into Catholicism, which will be a mark of the beast in the confederation of churches.

But to those who love God and are looking for reality, the very God Who made the promise in the Bible spreads it before our face and makes the church, and the people, and science, and magazines and everything recognise that He's still God, and can tell the time. What a time!

Then in Sabino Canyon that morning, praying and wondering what would happen, holding my hands out to God on top of that mountain, that Sword dropped into my hand: With a pearl handle, and its guard over it, and a long blade about three foot long, and glistening like pot metal or like chrome, razor sharp; and I didn't know what it was. And I said, "I'm afraid of these things."

And just then a Voice spoke that shook the canyon. It said, "This is the Sword of the LORD." And the Sword of the LORD is the Word of the LORD. For the Word of God is sharper than a two-edged sword.

Then, coming back from that, during that time there was a gallant little brother here in the church. And he was a soldier and got blown all to pieces, almost, in the army, and laid out for dead. And he said the medics didn't think he'd live and thought he wasn't even worth troubling with, he was so far gone - the main nerves in his leg broken, and his little arm almost blown completely off, one leg off, and everything. But God saw fit to grant grace; saved him and healed him one day.

He is Brother Roy Roberson, who was present when that picture was taken there at Houston. How his wife was told by a vision, what she had been doing in the day, and how she had a trouble, and that it would be healed. And that brought him to believe. But he had been a military man with a kind of a manner (I hope he forgives me for saying this) more on the rough, precise side; giving orders in the army. As a commander of men, he'd had to "sass out;" and order, "Do it!" See? And he believed all. But steadily coming around with the church and seeing the supernatural, he said, "I believe that, but that's for somebody else."

One night the LORD woke him up (one morning). We were sitting, he and I, looked like in Jerusalem, at the LORD'S Communion Table, and I was talking. He couldn't understand it. And Brother Roy (sitting present, looking at me right now) saw it. And he called me up out in Arizona, or sent me a letter and I called him back. He said, "You were sitting there, Brother Branham, and I saw that big Pillar of Light come in and get you, and take you away from the LORD's table; and you went westward." Because he was sitting on the east side watching me go west, and this Light came in and took me out.

He said it was one morning, like a vision. He got up in the bed, about 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning (something like that), and saw this happen. And he said he screamed, seemingly for days, "Brother Bill, come back!" And Roy and I have been real brothers. We live together, and hunt together, and we're just brothers. And he screamed for me, till he

was hoarse in his throat, "Come back. Bring him back. Bring him back," crying. He said, here came that Pillar of Fire coming back, or a Cloud came back, and He sat me at the head of the table, and I had been changed. It was a mystery to Brother Roy, my being changed to look different. (I place this up here for something I want to remember) - "being changed" when I give him the interpretation of it.

That was just before I came back for the *Seven Seals*. When I came back for the *Seven Seals*, one morning he got hold of Billy, and he wanted to talk to me. And I was busy, under prayer for the *Seven Seals*. And then he told me it had happened again, and repeated it again. And Brother Roy, if I get this wrong, you call my attention. And he said, he got up again in the morning, I reckon, early again in the morning, and there he looked in the room: and he saw this big Light, or a Cloud, upon a mountain. He asked me, not long ago, "Was there something about a cloud being on a mountain?" And I said, "In the Bible."

And I said, "Yes, when Peter, James, and John were taken up, and the cloud overshadowed the LORD Jesus. And God spoke, and said, This is My beloved Son \_" I preached on that here, not long ago, a little message the tape brethren might understand, *Hear Ye Him*. I suppose, maybe you have it on tape? I'm sure.

And he said that he went up the mountain. And when he did, I was standing there. And a Voice came from the Cloud (wasn't it, Brother Roy?) and said something of this order: "**This is My servant. And I've called him to be a prophet to the age, to lead the people just as Moses did. And he's been given the authority. He can speak into existence.**" Something like that, as Moses did; like speaking forth the flies. And we know about the squirrels and so forth, and things that have already taken place. Little Hattie Wright back here, I suppose you know what's taken place at her house. **And He told him that I had done what Moses had done.**

He told me that coming down after a trip. And I had made up my mind that I was going to go up to Bud's, because he's in a bad shape up there as a hunter.

Before leaving here, I might drop this in. And we'll hurry. I dreamed a funny dream, an odd dream. And I hope if my brother-in-law ever gets hold of this, it doesn't hurt his feelings. And I hope I don't hurt my wife, who's sitting present now. But she knows it. Many months ago, about October or November, I dreamed that I was roaming out in the dark, and, well, I had no place to go, and nobody cared for me. And I had become a tramp, just a tramp. And I was cold, and I looked in the distance and I saw fire. And when I got over there, it was a city dump. And they had ditches, and the fire was in these ditches. And between the ditches was room where tramps would sleep to keep warm, keep from freezing between these fires on a cold winter night. And I was cold. And I walked up to this fire to get warm. And it was full of tramps lying. I didn't see any of them, but they all seemingly had stalls, or places where their sleeping places were. And I saw my brother-in-law, Fletcher Broy.

And Fletcher, how I remembered him. He's a good kid. But this might be a lesson to the young children. I remember a few years ago a handsome young man, James Fletcher Broy; and he got with the wrong crowd, and he took his first drink. I remember him calling me behind the curtains in my house. And his daddy, who has gone on to Glory years ago, was out there plucking a guitar:

On a hill far away  
stood an old rugged cross...

And Fletcher called me back and said, "Brother Bill, pray for me. Listen - that piece my daddy's playing, and I've been drinking today."

And I said, "Fletcher," (him about an eighteen-year-old boy) "Don't take that route." But he never listened. He went on and he became a complete alcoholic. And his wife left him, his children, and he's just at this hour - And God knows I love him.

I went to pray for him, just a tramp. I went to pray for him here not long ago. He'd got hurt, while I was here with the *Seven Seals*. And I said, "Fletch, I've got a couple suits up there I'd like to give you."

He said, "Don't do it, Brother Bill."

And I knew he had no clothes. And I said, "Why don't you take the clothes?"

He said, "uh-uh." And he looked up at me, "See, you know what I'd do with them. Pawn them and get drunk."

And I said, "I'll give you a little money, Fletch."

He said, "No, don't do it, Brother Bill. I don't want you to do it." He's a real guy at heart, but he's become an alcoholic and a tramp. And his wife has taken the wrong road. And oh, just everything's happened to the poor fellow.

And I woke up. Before I woke up, Fletch said to me in the dream, "Billy, I'll find you a place, Brother Bill. You fed my children when they were hungry. You were a daddy to them. Now I'll find you a place here to keep warm." And we went walking by the tramps' places and finally came to a place. He said, "I'll sit down here."

And I said, "I'll walk up here and see if I can find a place."

And I walked up, and looked out into the dark, cold night. And I thought, "Think of it! One time, God Almighty let me lead His Church. One time, He let me preach His Gospel and see souls saved. Men and women come from around the world to speak with me for a few minutes. And here I am now, a tramp, and nobody wants me. And I'm cold. And what must I do?" Then I woke up.

I told my wife. I said, "Maybe it means that Fletch is in need." So we hurried up to see if we could find him. And his brother found him. He was staying out here with the Weidners, out there where they trade horses and things, sleeping in a corner of a barn or something. I went on. I thought, "Well, we'll just have to let it go."

So, I came back down, now, from Canada with Fred and them the other day. And I had my mind made up, "If these people didn't want to hear my Message, all right, they didn't have to." I had preached now for about thirty-five years.

And the last fifteen to eighteen years I've done nothing but just wait for the LORD. I've tried to live so close to Him and not say a word till He told me first, in everything.

People say, "Now if Brother Branham tells you he's coming, remember, look out for a meeting, because he's coming in the Name of the LORD. He won't do anything till the LORD tells him." That's right, I waited till He told me. I didn't move till He told me. And then He got so, till the last few months, He didn't tell me anything about places to go to.

Then I came down from Canada and Brother Roy told me his dream as he and I and Brother Banks rode along together, just before we separated.

And then, the next day we got out at Brother Fred's, and his boy, Lynn, wasn't at home, so he couldn't come on with us. So he and his wife had to wait. He picked up his wife there at Elrose, Saskatchewan.

And Billy and I came on in Brother Fred's truck. That night, we travelled most of the night, and the next day. And then, the next morning, we had left Helena, Montana, and were coming on towards the border.

And I can stay up till about 9 o'clock and I get sleepy. I got to sleep. And Billy, he wants to sleep till about 10 o'clock the next day, when the daylight comes up. So it makes it pretty good for us to travel.

So I got up at about 4 o'clock and got started driving. And Billy was sleeping. We went into a place, and I was thinking in my mind, "You know what? One of these days, I can get the wife up there. And I won't tell her what I'm going to do. But I'd get up there, and then I'm going to tell her, 'I love this place so well, there's no need for us to go anywhere else. Let's just stay here.'" And that's back from civilisation, eleven hundred miles from anywhere, (see?) out in the wilderness. I thought, "Won't that be fine? I won't have to get a haircut, and I won't have to dress up. And I'll just be a regular mountaineer." What I always wanted to be. And I said, "I've got some guns, that some people gave me. And I'll be a guide such as you never heard of. I'll just love it. And then, if the LORD tells me to go down and tell somebody something, I'll run out and tell them and come back again. And I'll help Bud, and we'll really have a real place here." I was thinking that.

We went into a restaurant to eat (a little place in the mountains) just about 7 o'clock. It was getting a little late, so I woke Billy up. We had to get some gasoline, and went into this little restaurant. And while there, a man came across the street, maybe a tiny bit older than I was, but he looked like a man to me. He had on a pair of overalls, an overall jacket, riding boots, a black hat, whiskers down on his face (snow white), and hair hanging out from under back of his hat. I thought, he looked like a man, not someone soft, lazy, with a cigar in his mouth about that long, sitting with a pair of shorts on, around some patio or swimming pool, like some pot-bellied Easterner (excuse that expression!). But, however, the guy looked like a man to me; hard, rough. Looked as though he lived where God made man to live. And I was admiring him.

He came into the restaurant and ordered some pancakes. There were about fifteen or twenty people. He had to sneeze. You know how some people (Brother Branham imitates stifling a sneeze Ed.) Pardon me! But he let out a great big, healthy wood sneeze: KER-CHOO-EE!!! There it looked like the wind was blasting. And when he did, nobody dared to say anything. No, sir! I said, "Billy, there's a man after my own heart."

He said, "Aw, Daddy, you don't want to be like-"

"That's me in the future. See?" I said, "That's me."

And I sat there a little bit, and Billy looked up at me and kept on eating his pancakes. And I was finishing mine. In a few minutes, somebody, in a booth right around in front of us that I couldn't see around, a man, got up that looked exactly my profile, about seventy-five years old, a little fellow, his clothes tied on him, ragged. And the companion that got up with him was Fletcher Broy, exactly! Gray hair hanging in his face. And Billy looked around and said, "Daddy, that looks like you and Fletcher." You can imagine how I felt! And the little fellow who looked like me wobbled up. They had been standing over a campfire with smoke all over them, faces dirty. I think for their breakfast together the man must have paid twenty cents; maybe a cup of coffee or something. And my heart thumped within me. And I watched. And Billy said, "What's the matter with you?"

I said, "Nothing." And I watched that. And they went around and went out.

He said, "Daddy, what's the matter?"

I said, "Nothing." And he got in the car.

He said, "Do you mind driving again?"

I said, "No."

He said, "I'm still sleepy."

So he went to sleep, and I went speeding down the road about fifty-five miles an hour in the truck, over the mountains, coming on towards the border, on the way home to Arizona; but I was coming now into Utah. And as I got there, just coming down from the mountains about twenty miles out of the city - you've heard it as I told you, about the squirrels and all these things - something, somebody got to talking to me; a voice, just the same as you hear mine. I know it sounds neurotic. But, as I've just got through expressing, have I ever told you anything but what was right? And a Voice got to talking. I was talking to Him.

It said, "Carry out your plans and you'll be like that."

I said, "LORD, I don't want to be like that."

He said, "Your wife will go too. She won't live up there in those hills like that. And you'll become a tramp just as the dream showed you you would."

I said, "I don't want to be that, I don't want to have to live like that. I want to do something different. But I was told that You'd called me to be a prophet, and I want to live in the wilderness like the prophet." But I was using my own excuse so that I could hunt. (My own good.)

**And He said, "But they were the prophets of the Old Testament. You've been called to be there in a much higher office than that." He said, "You have more gifts besides that. You were called to pray for the sick and to preach the Gospel.** And in the apostolic form, you know of greater things, many great gifts." He said, "Why do you wait for Me to move you every time you move? Where is your reward?" (Then I had sinned.) And then said He, "Do you remember? I told you yesterday. Do you remember what Brother Roberson told you in his dream or vision? That you had done like Moses. You forgot the feeling for your people. You forgot the call that I called you to."

I let the sick lie. I wanted the LORD to tell me where to go and not to. That's wrong. I had built myself a complex because the people didn't hear my Message. And God forbid that I should try to compare the life of now with Moses; but it's exactly what Moses did. The people wouldn't listen to him when he came to deliver them, so he just left them alone. And he went into the wilderness. But God turned him around. And he'd long forgotten the suffering people.

And then, I said, "LORD, how could I (that's right!) with no education but a grammar-school education, be able? And the people would stand in rows and everywhere to hear the simple Gospel." It's more. It's greater now that it was under the Old Covenant. He ascended on high and gave gifts unto men. See? Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and for ever. Then I was talking and I heard It talking to me. And It left me.

And I said, "Billy!" And he was sound asleep. I said, "Billy, was that you?" And he didn't even wake up.

And I thought, "LORD God... (I slowed my car down) "... what does this mean?"

And I said, "Billy! Billy!"

He said, "What do you want?"

And I said, "Were you talking to me?"

"No, why?"

And I said, "I want to tell you something. I dreamed a dream not long ago. You remember seeing that guy that looked like me and **Fletch**? Ask mother when you get back to Tucson, I told her this dream. And Billy, there's something happening. It's going on now. Something was talking to me and I thought It was you."

He looked at me in a kind of strange way and waited a little bit. We were driving on, so, in a few minutes, he went back to sleep again. And I was driving along thinking about it. What just could that mean? Driving along right in the road and, all at once, here It came, talking again.

And He said "Return! Did not I tell you in the beginning to do the work of an evangelist? When I called you down on the river, did not I say, 'As John the Baptist was sent forth to forerun the first coming...' Wasn't John more than a prophet?" Jesus said so Himself. "What did you go out to see, a prophet? Yes, and more than a prophet."

Then it all began to come to me. I began to wonder. Then He reminded me again of the people. How, doing what Moses did, how could Moses reach the people in the wilderness? So, how can I reach the people in the wilderness? Exactly the same thing. Then it came to Second Timothy 4. Remember when we dedicated the church that morning, thirty years ago (some of you old-timers), when He showed me those trees and I planted them on both sides? Do you remember that? D'you remember the vision? It's all written in books and on tapes and everything, It was years ago, when I saw these, and I never crossed up the oneness and the trinity. I stood between them and planted these trees, and they were the only two trees that had fruit. And all the other trees grew up about thirty feet and stopped. But these went plumb into Heaven. They were broken off from the same branch. See. One on one side and one on the other, and I broke them. You remember the vision? See? It's written in books and it's in my life story and so on. And they went plumb up into Heaven like that, quickly. And He said, "Hold out your hands for the fruit." And then I found the same fruit in the cross when I ran down there. And He said, "Do the work of an evangelist. Make full proof of your ministry. The time will come when they'll not endure sound doctrine. Don't quit them then, keep going." That all came into my mind.

And then I remember, this Marilyn Monroe, the girl that I saw die about a week before she died: and how that they said she committed suicide, when she didn't. I told them about it beforehand, what would happen, and it did; as with the boxers up there, one was going to kill the other one. I mistook the girl. It's another girl there. Her cousin is Danny Henry - what is her name? Jane Russel - her cousin is a Baptist boy.

And I was preaching in Los Angeles at the Businessmen's Breakfast. And something there was just laying it down on those organisations; and there sat the head man of the Assemblies, and many of the great dignitaries had gathered in there. And when I had got through speaking, I started to leave the platform, because the message was to be sent out across the nation on radio, and I had to change back. During this change, when the man cut off the radio, later, to send that message out, and came back to announce the station, I was at Clifton's where we had the breakfast. And as I was walking from the upper platform to the lower, a fine handsome-looking young fellow, about thirty years old, ran forth and threw his arms around me, He said, "I'm Danny Henry." And I didn't know that that was his brother doing the televising, after the Christian Business Men. (And it's Jane Russell - the movie star - her cousin. Her mother's a Pentecostal preacher.)

And then, when he started running to me, he threw his arms around me, and said, "God bless you, Brother Branham." He said, "I hope this doesn't sound sacrilegious, but to my way of seeing it, that message could be the 23rd chapter of Revelation." And when he said that, he started speaking in tongues, a boy who never even heard of such a thing, a Baptist by denomination. And immediately he turned white; and he looked at me and he didn't know what to do. There are men sitting here who were there. Were you there, Fred? How many were there at that time? Yes, there are three here, who were there at that time. And he didn't know what to say.

And there was a great, big French woman sitting down here. She stood up and said, "Why, that doesn't need any interpretation. That was pure French."

The boy said, "I don't know one word of French." And she had written down what he said.

And then there was a man sitting in the corner. He said, "That's correct. I've got written down what he said. It's French." A long way back, a blond-headed, handsome-looking fellow, standing up against the wall, came forward and compared notes. He was the interpreter for the UN for French. And this man over here was Victor LaDeaux, of the Arne Vick church out there, and he wrote it down. And I've got the interpretation of it.

Listen to this, if I can read it:

I, Victor LaDeaux, am a full-blooded Frenchman, a born-again Christian, filled with the Holy Spirit. My address is 809 North King Road, Los Angeles 46. I attend the Bethel Temple, Pastor Arne Vick, pastor.

A true translation that I proclaim, of prophecy said over Brother Branham, given by Danny Henry in French, February the 11th, 1961, at the Full Gospel Businessmen's Breakfast. (A true translation of the prophecy.)

Now here's what It said:

*Because thou hast chosen the narrow path, the harder way, thou hast walked in your own choosing.* (Now, I can see that. Moses had to make his choice too. See?)

*Thou hast picked the precise and correct way - (correct decision) - and it is MY WAY, (underlined "MY WAY," the Holy Spirit speaking back).*

*Because of this momentous decision, a huge portion of Heaven awaits thee.*

*What a glorious decision - (now, listen close) - What a glorious decision thou hast made! This in itself is that which will make come to pass, the tremendous victory in the love divine.*

You notice 'it's a noun before the adjective. See? The French! Now the UN interpreter interpreted that, and the boy knows not one word. Never heard of such a thing as speaking in tongues. He was a Baptist that just happened to drop in there and heard that music, and said he would come and stand up there and listen to me preach.

Now, "in the love divine" - Divine Love. How can that be Divine Love if it isn't the Holy Spirit? The *Holy Spirit is* "Divine Love."

And as Billy and I started on down the road, Billy went to sleep again. And It said, "I'll give you an everlasting sign."

And I said, "LORD, what -?" I waited a little bit, and nothing happened. I said, "What is the everlasting sign, LORD?" And I waited a few minutes. I looked over to see Billy. He was asleep.

And He said, "I'll give you an everlasting sign" again. He said "Look westward from where you are."

And I turned my head like *this* in the truck to look (slowed down, you know). And oh, my, the Spirit of the LORD! I felt as if I could scream and cry. And I looked, and I just saw a mountain with white caps on it. I said, "I don't know. I see no everlasting sign about that."

He said, "Your name is written all over it."

Oh, I thought, "What is that?" And I got really weak and I started stopping.

And Billy woke up and said, "What's the matter with you?" And I put my hands like *this*; perspiration dropping off my hands.

I said, "Billy, something's happening. At once I know where I've done wrong. I know that I've failed God." And it seemed that I could hear that song being sung and see thousands of mixed people, lame, halt, blind and withered. I heard a choir, a voice of some great person, a renowned voice singing:

Unclean! Unclean! the evil spirits drove him  
(You know the song.)

Then Jesus came and set the captive free.

I could see the sick lines lying everywhere, and I had to stop. Billy didn't know that was taking place, and I looked up.

I stopped and looked up at the mountain and I saw those seven hills. And then I heard, "Do you want to see something?" There were seven peaks on top of a mountain, one mountain, that ran for several miles - the last mountain before you go into the other country, no more mountains after that. And it was running from the east to the west, as the mountain was set. And it was snowcapped on top.

The first two were small peaks, and then a large peak, and then another small peak, and then a larger peak, and then a small peak, and then a great, large, long, snow-capped mountain. And I said, "LORD, I do not understand what that means."

He said, "How many peaks are there?"

I said, "There are seven."

"How many letters are there in your name?" B-r-a-n-h-a-m- M-a-r-r-i-o-n B-r-a-n-h-a-m.

And there were three outstanding peaks. He said, "Those three peaks are the first, second, and third pull. The first one was the first part of your ministry, a small hill; then your **first pull**, pretty high." You know, the sign in the hand. Then there's a little interval in there, the time then I was taken off from being too tired. Many of you remember it. And then comes the discernment, the **second pull**. Now, I've had another interval, about a few years here of just seemingly little peaks. I see back, as though my ministry wasn't yet. And then comes the **third one**.

Three is a number of completion. See? The third one. The next peak was five, the number of grace. And the next peak was seven, a number of perfection, the end. "Six days shalt thou labour, the seventh is the Sabbath" - the end of the week, the end of time. See? And I stopped and I showed it to Billy. And I looked at them.

And He said, "Let that stand. If there's ever a doubt in your mind, remember this place, come back here."

And Billy punched me on the shoulder and said, "Daddy, look eastward!" And how it ever happened, I don't know; but there on the east side of the road was that burning dump. Miles and miles from any kind of a city, an old rubbish-heap dump lay burning there, on the left-hand side of the road.

I am returning to the field. Amen! Old or young, live or die, I'll obey God until death shall set me free. I have failed the LORD, not willingly. Whether I succeed, I've tried. Let me insert this. See? (Some more tape left?) Let me insert this: I've wanted, I've wanted to see Jesus Christ manifested without one flaw. And let the brethren who hear this tape and this church remember, from this day, that the reason you haven't had any flaws, and the reason that all these years you can't say one thing was ever said or done, except it happened. I challenge anybody to bring any of the thousands of things said on the platform, and the discernment, and the prediction of what would happen, and prove otherwise than that it's happened exactly to the letter! Now, if the church believes that, say "Amen." (Congregation resounds back, "AMEN" - Ed.) There's not a person in the world can show a single one. But be it known to the church here and to the church hereafter: If God pushes a man through a pipe and he doesn't move at all until God tells him, there's no faith connected with it. It's God pushing you to something. And it's built up the ministry to a place where there's nobody who can say one word against it. But from henceforth, let me first speak to you in the Name of the LORD, before you listen, because I must go out by faith. I must do it by faith, whether I think it's right or wrong, or what I choose I do to the best of my choosing and then go and do it. The reason it hasn't been wrong is because I've waited till He told me to go and do it. I've waited for Him, so that it wasn't me, it was He!

But you see, even the great Saint Paul got into straits one time. And many times God let His servants do things that were mistakes, in order to prove these things. Now, we know that human beings can make mistakes, but God can make no mistake. But now, if I get into the field of preaching and am going the way I do, then I have to set up meetings ahead and get things lined up. And perhaps this is that great time coming, that we have been looking for. And surely, this in itself is a tremendous thing that will bring to pass, and make come to pass, the tremendous victory in the Love Divine (and that's the noun before adjective). Then it's Divine Love which is God. See? And it takes the Love of God to dash out there to the front line and stand in the gap for the people.

And these "Ricki's" and "Ricketta's" that are - (so glib the words, that I've called them, "Ricki" and "Ricketta") - God gave me to understand I shouldn't do that, because many of them are still His children. They can't help it because they act so very differently. Some of these old cold formal churches that have got them (that spirit upon them), and they're as much in prison as Israel was in prison, just as much as when Moses went down to deliver them from slavery. Human beings that loved Jesus Christ would serve Him, if they only knew what to serve Him with. And they're in bondage under denominationalism that tells them, "Don't you do *this*," and "Don't you do *that*."

But the call of God must come. "Whoever wants to march towards the Promised Land, let him march!" We're on our road to the Promised Land. Amen. Let them come marching. We're on our road to meet Christ at the end-time. And I wanted to bring this to you so that you would see, and to show you the mistakes that a man can make, yet being sincere.

Moses lost the feeling for his people, because they wouldn't listen to him. And Brother Roy, you see your dream? And now, I cannot get with a ministry like that, until I feel different in my heart about it, no matter if God did tell me. But that is that change that Brother Roy - (it just came to me). Something's got to change me, because if I go out there feeling in my heart the way I do now - (I still feel that they ought to have heard the Message, they ought to have done) - I don't have the feeling for the people that I should have. Until I can get that feeling, there's no need for me to go because I'd be a hypocrite.

And all these years I've tried to serve Him with a true heart, and I won't go out there being a hypocrite. I've got to feel that, that it isn't "Ricki" and "Ricketta," and it isn't "this lot" - it's God's children that are in bondage, and I must go to them. And until I can feel that way, I'll just have to loaf around - preach some conventions and things, but wait.

I've got a little song. I can't sing. I'll just have to quote it to you. (Brother Neville, look how it's mapped out.) I haven't got it spelled right. It isn't written correctly. I don't know whether I can even read it or not. It's to the tune of the *Battle Hymn of, the Republic*.

Glory! glory, hallelujah!

(You've heard it.)

Glory! glory, hallelujah!

(How many - Of course we've all heard that.)

The circuit rider preacher  
went riding through the land,  
With a rifle on his shoulder  
and a Bible in his hand;  
He told the prairie people  
of a blessed Promised Land,  
As he went riding, singing along.

Leaning, leaning,  
Leaning on the everlasting arm.  
Leaning, leaning,  
Leaning on the everlasting arm.

He preached the coming judgement  
of fire and brimstone;  
And a glorious, endless Heaven  
of the justified alone.  
As he rode across the mountains  
you could hear him sing this song.  
As he went riding on.

There is power, power,  
Wonder-working power,  
In the blood of the Lamb;  
There is power, power,  
Oh, wonder-working power,  
In the precious blood of the Lamb.

The old circuit preacher. You remember him? See?

Now his rifle's old and rusty  
and is hanging on the wall;  
His Bible's very worn and dusty  
and it's seldom touched at all (that's right);  
But the Message that It bring us  
will meet us on that day,  
For God's Truth's still marching on.

All:

Glory! glory, hallelujah!  
Glory! glory, hallelujah!  
Glory! glory, hallelujah!  
His Truth is marching on.

I'm going to learn that. I stood this morning when I was writing that down, put my hand on the old rifle hanging on the wall. I know it won't be long.

The rifle's old and rusty  
as it's hanging on the wall (that's right),  
And the Bible's worn and dusty  
and It's seldom touched at all.  
But His Message from this Bible  
at the judgement one day;  
And His Truth keeps marching on.

God's Truth is this Bible. On! - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.

The old circuit preacher with his rifle across his back, his Bible in his hand, rode across the prairie, and up over the mountain, and down into the ditches and everywhere, preaching of a coming Millennium, of a coming fiery judgement for the unjust; and preaching a Kingdom of God for the just. It's true. The old Winchester's rusting away. And the Bible they've got some sex book instead of It. But God's Truth still marches on. He makes Himself just as real today, as true today, as He ever was.

God's Truth keeps marching on.

Glory! glory, hallelujah!  
Glory! glory, hallelujah!  
Glory! glory, hallelujah!  
His Truth is marching on.

Why? Somebody'll take It. For Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and for ever. Let's sing it again. Now, we're mixed up here, Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, everything else. While we sing that last chorus, let's shake hands with somebody around us, and then we'll be dismissed.

And now, remember, you that have to go to your own church tonight. Greet your pastor for me. And then pray for me, each one of you. And then again, I want you to remember, if you have no place to go, and if you'd have anything for us - (Brother Branham spoke to Brother Neville - Ed.) After Brother Neville's message tonight, after he has his message, then I want to make a tape called *The Red Flashing Light of His Coming*. You see? Tonight. The LORD bless you, now. And next Sunday, the LORD willing, I may be down again to make another tape, because I have to be in Arkansas this next week.

All right, now, let's sing again and shake hands now.

Glory! glory, hallelujah!

Glory! glory, hallelujah!

(LORD Jesus, -) (Brother Branham prays as the congregation sings - Ed.)

Praise be to God! Now, let us bow our heads just a moment. You're just in time, Brother Ruddell. Walk up here just a minute. This is Brother Ruddell, another one of our associate brethren, just interdenominational. And I have heard the gallant stand that Brother Ruddell takes for the Gospel. And so I say this, Brother Ruddell, that all along the road, God has not promised a flowery bed of ease, but He has promised a battle. Yes, but He has promised victory. That's the thing.

I remember when I first took this stand, even my own mother and father wanted to turn me from the house. See? But oh, my! How I baptised them in the Name of the LORD Jesus. The only hope I ever have today is because of the stand. I'm so glad that the Message of the Bible from the old circuit preacher down to this time - though people have taken It and trimmed It around, and they've made denominations and put creeds and everything in It -that that Truth still marches on. Right? It still marches on.

God bless you each one: and we hope to see you again really soon. Till then, will you do this favour for me now, both here and on the tapes also, you brethren? Pray that God will place into my heart that something which I lost out there in that complex. It's so easy to build a complex. I had an interview the other day with my Brother Way, who's sitting here present. He's a good man, but he built himself around a complex, another kind of a complex. He did the same thing. Brother Way, you can so easily do it. It's that. You just get a little something in your mind and keep thinking that way. Go back and check it with the Scripture and see if it's right or not, then go on from there. Yes. Don't lose the feeling for the people. See? You must remember they're not made out of sawdust. They're flesh and blood, human beings, and have souls. Pray for me, all of you, if you will. God bless you, now.

We're going to bow our heads, and ask Brother Ruddell if he'll - (A man speaks from the congregation - Ed.) All right, Brother. (A man in congregation speaks to Brother Branham - Ed.) Praise be to God! This is a minister. Somebody might not know. And he was one of the group (I didn't have time to say it this morning), that was in one of those dreams, speaking of my going the other way. See, going west, going out west on this last time. Brother J. T. Parnell.

Now, there might be strangers that wonder about-people having dreams, about dreamers. No, we don't go for all kinds of dreams, but we believe that the Bible said, "And it shall come to pass in the last days that I will pour out My Spirit upon the people; and they shall prophesy, and shall see visions, and dream dreams." And as long as that's between the covers of the Bible, it's my duty to believe it and to preach it. And when people tell dreams, if the LORD doesn't give the interpretation, we let it go. When anyone speaks with tongues, it must be something to the church and must happen, too. If it doesn't, it would be an evil spirit. It must come to pass, because interpretation of tongues is prophecy. We know that's right. So, we try here to live the Bible just the way it's taught. We take nothing away from It and add nothing to It, but just live It the way It is. The LORD be blessed. That helps me, Brother J. T., to believe that God didn't tell me to go out there and compromise with sin, but just go out and just keep on doing.

Let us pray now, Brother - (A woman in congregation cries out - Ed.) - Someone's fainted. Just a minute, sit still everybody.

I

(After a short pause, Brother Branham is heard praying from the congregation - Ed.) Heavenly Father, let Thy mercy be, come to heal Brother Way. In the Name of Jesus Christ, may he be made another man. We give You thanks, LORD, for giving him strength into the world.

So help me, his heart's started beating again. It's over. (Back at the microphone - Ed.) As I stand here on this altar where funerals have been preached - where I stand here, over hundreds of people have prayed through to Christ. I reached down (his eyes were set, his pulse was gone) and no more than called the Name of Jesus Christ, and his pulse started coming. As a minister of the cross, I say that in the Name of Jesus Christ. Isn't He wonderful? A heart attack! See? I'm so thankful it happened here, just now, instead of waiting till we got away. See the grace of God? The LORD be blessed. Let us just bow our heads.

Heavenly Father, we thank You now, for Your goodness and Your mercy. You're ever in our midst. Give me, LORD, Oil in my lamp. Give me the Rod of the LORD, to bring deliverance to those who are needy, and judgement to those who are rejecting it. Grant it, Father. We thank You for all Your goodness, in the Name of Jesus Christ.