

Divine Communication Principle #1

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Shall we pray. Heavenly Father we thank You for Your Presence. We praise You Lord. You made it manifest in these last days that, as the prophet said, *"You Yourself came down as in the time of the garden of Eden, because there was no one else to come but You."* Who was worthy in that particular sense. And it is true that You only could do what needs to be done. So, we thank You, Lord, that you are here doing and consummating the plan of the ages which we believe we are a part; and we appreciate it so much.

We ask You to help us in our studies tonight. May they be simple and easy to understand, something that we can stand upon, base our lives upon, Lord, knowing that we are standing upon the solid rock of revelation. This is the hour of arrival; this is the time of going out of here. We have to be sometime, we believe it is this time. And we believe we are part of that people.

So we commend ourselves to you tonight, Lord, our only hope and faith is You in this hour. We praise You that we have this hope, Lord. It is not some other direction, not some other turn, but is built upon the person, built upon You Yourself. And we praise You for what You are doing. So we therefore, as we have already said, we commend ourselves to Your goodness and greatness, the wisdom You have given us. In Jesus name we pray. Amen. You may be seated.

1. Now, there are many ways I could go tonight. We are not taking a series at this particular point. There are questions to be answered, but I am going to bring something to your attention, something that is not new, something you don't know. We are going to deal with the principles of truth. And the first one we want to deal with is the principle of Divine Communication.

Now, we are going over this perhaps as a way just to bring it in a complete message by itself. Not that it hasn't been touched, but you can take this then as basic as far as I know from what we gathered over the many years. Now, before any Scripture is read, it's to be hoped that we will come to understand some of the rules, or identifying characteristics that help us to know that it is indeed the Word of God which we are hearing. Not just purported to be, but actually is the Word of God. As well as to know the truth itself.

2. Now, the reason I say that is because you have the Koran and that's supposed to be the Word of God, and it is no more Word of God than a--you know, an overripe pineapple that's been buried for several years. There is nothing to it. You can take the writings of Buddha, Confucius, and in America, the great Joseph Smith, the false prophet, and people will take the words of men to be true.

Now, there is an absolute way in the Bible that is given to us so that we can know is it indeed God, some God, the God, which God is really trying to bring us His Word to communicate with us; because this is the idea of communicating. And the idea of communicating is communion, so that this God is attempting to reach the people.

Now, Paul the apostle said it very truly, there are many voices in the air and you can have a thousand teachers or ten thousand and you could be wrong. So, how does a person really know? Well, we hold to the Word of God and we know that the Word came to the prophets. The Bible says, "God, who in many parts and in many ways spake in time past unto the Fathers in the prophets." Not by the prophets, but in the prophets.

Now, I know the King James version here has it 'by' and that word is true it is 'by', but if God wasn't in the prophets by what power was he speaking? Well, you know that ancient mythology (and you've got the same thing in the Catholic religion right today where they use these images and things, prostrate themselves before images hoping to have some type of communication by reason of venerating, by association this object with that which is not seen) and if there wasn't some way that God had or whoever it is that's out there, (because somebody's got to be out there) a way of communicating with the people, there could be some other form of communication even purely human and foolish which people would take to be truth.

And we're dealing now, of course, with the essentiality of truth, what is real, what is lasting, what counts. Not just somebody telling you the truth about some certain thing. But we're speaking of the essential wherein Jesus said, "I am the way the truth and the life."

4. So, we're getting into a depth here which people acknowledge. And Bro. Branham said, "*They go to church to become good people, not bad people.*" They are trying to find a way to God. They're desperately trying. And they believe their church system and their creeds and their dogmas that have been thoroughly thrashed over by those that they deem to be spiritual minded and men of repute and good men in contact with God, however vague, they are building everything upon it.

Now, see you're in the same boat. Where do you stand? Where do I stand? See? Because there is millions of people that are taking an alternative route. Alternative so called by nice people, nice preachers. And they say... well see they're trying to get there and long as you really try to get there, you'll get there. Well you'll get there but not there. See, this is the thing.

5. So, what I'm saying tonight is simple as A-B-C. We've gone over it many, many times, but for us to take the place that we are taking based upon prophets and what we believe, how God communicates and sets up this communion which goes plumb into the future, we realize that at the endtime there is going to be typing eight people make the ark. And we've got about going on six billion or seven billion people in the world. And that's a lot of people. And that's a lot of people that evidently don't know how God communicates.

So as one fellow said, if you don't stand for something you'll fall for everything or anything. Now, I read here about God speaking to the fathers by the prophets in whom God dwelt. So therefore, the living God was using these people to speak.

Now Joe Smith, he's the great Mormon prophet. He came back telling the people that he had these gold plates with these strange hieroglyphic writings on them and the angel Maroni and some other angel--I forget his name--stood there and Smith wrote down what was there. And what his religion was, was a male pig chauvinistic religion, with men having harems. Well, I can join the cotton-pickin' Mohammedans and have a harem in heaven, too, according to what they believe. So if all religion is sex, my Bible says sex is out.

6. So, all right. What we believe set forth in this Word is that these prophets set forth absolute precepts, that the absoluteness can not be questioned. As Bro. Branham said you can not judge a prophet. So, which is true because they were the judges. Now, these men must have absolute precepts, absolute Word. And those precepts have to be the truth vindicated to be so. Now, that takes a double vindication.

Now, it says, "Let every word be established in the mouths of two or three witnesses." So you got to have a very heavy vindication to know that this man really is speaking for God, the absolute precepts of God, and even go further that God is in that person that is bringing the absolute precept. In other words, there is no error in it. You can't bypass it, you can't ignore it, that this is absolutely a must. It's a definitive and it is truth, and the involvement is with God Himself who is the Creator of all things.

7. Now, if you believe in evolution, of course, you've got no problem, you just go on your way. You'll find out that there is a God. Now, this double vindication, number one, comes before the forth telling. The man absolutely must have been met by God and God vindicated Himself to the man, and the man come back to the people with absolute vindication before he even says one word.

As it says in the book Acts. "The former treatise have I written unto you, O Theophilus, of those things which Jesus both began to do and to teach." Now of course right away people will tell you that means before you open your mouth to witness you better live the life. Now that's true, but that's not that Scripture. See, it's a complete violation of the Scripture. The Scripture is saying that Jesus was thoroughly vindicated as the authoritative One speaking for God, because God was in him. And if the Father wasn't in him doing the works of vindication and speaking through him, then he was not that prophet. He wasn't a prophet period.

8. Now, don't think for one minute that Israel didn't know this. The same as I read to you in Toronto from the book written by a Catholic artist priest. And you can tell he's a very fine scholar, a very fine gentleman. And he said, "What is a miracle all about?" He said, "Is God hitting you between the eyes with a four-by-four, saying, shut up and sit down and listen?" That's exactly what a prophet's all about. Now he doesn't necessarily shut up, but if he had to tell them he'd tell them to shut up.

Oh, you think they're so polite. Elisha was so polite when he called out those bears to kill fifty-three kids, whatever they were. What were they, seventeen? Who knows? Can't remember. I don't care, twenty-four, forty-four, hundred and four. You know, you don't fool with the men that God sent on the scene and say, "Well, I can treat a man this way." Why do you think Bro. Branham spoke on respect for God's ministers? Why do you think he talked about somebody grabbing the ball and running? See, the people don't have any idea of church order. And church order is very, very, very, very important.

9. Now, notice also that these prophets are vindicated to speak the Word. Then much of the Bible, though in precept is also in prophecy, and the events that they say must come to pass, or it's the vaporings of their own imagination. And furthermore, these people are under such bondage and locked into God that they have a safety valve which is God Himself that they can not speak of themselves. So, in no way can they speak beyond themselves of themselves, but they speak beyond ,

Oh, people don't like that. And that's why we've got this great democratic movement, we are all equal. But as one fellow said, some are more equal than others. Well, you can look at a prophet, and in fact the matter is, you analyze his flesh and blood no different from yours, but he sure is not equal with you. The man has an authority which is absolutely God's own authority because he is speaking truth. Now let that sink in. Truth, the essentiality of reality defined.

10. Now, a man's never got to the truth, he blew it in the garden of Eden. He was dealing with it and doing fine, until the devil came in and changed just one word. Now maybe hundreds of years later, these events that this vindicated prophet mentioned would come to pass. This explains to you why today Israel is looking for the Messiah after what any other nation would call fruitless, stupid, religion. Ask yourself the question how come, how come they're in Palestine? How come they are looking for Messiah?

Two thousands years of scattering and literal hell they went through, pogroms, millions killed, hated, because of the name of Jesus. And Jesus is Jehovah Savior. But you mention that name to Jesus as a Gentile...?... you a false prophet, false Messiah, false Messiah, false Messiah. Of course Mohammed's a false prophet and Jesus is a false Messiah. Well, they got one thing right, Mohammed is a false prophet. But Jesus is no false Messiah. And some are beginning to realize that.

Now eventually, as these men are moved upon by God over a period of time which is predetermined by God, not the prophet, because he can not speak of his own will. Why? Because he can't do miracles by his own will. He can't vindicate himself. God's got to vindicate him.

11. See, it's like a fellow committed murder and he skipped town and somebody says, "Well I tell you it was this fellow over here did it."

Said, "I didn't kill anybody. In fact I've got three witnesses. We were all out there playing cards one night, the very minute that you say I was there killing that person, you are a liar. I've got three witnesses."

And the three witnesses say, "That's right, it's right the man was with us."

So, God has to vindicate his prophet. And the witness to the prophet is God and the witness to God is the prophet.

Now, that's axiomatic. And that's what we're looking at tonight as we base our faith on a Word that is open to us at this particular time. So eventually, after all these years there are no more precepts coming from God.

12. Now, over here in 1 Corinthians the 13th chapter, which hardly anybody understands what it says. Bro. Branham told us the truth. Well, it's the truth. He said, "*But to understand, that's a different story entirely.*" And it says here in the 9th verse of chapter 13,

(9) For we know in part, and we prophesy in part,

(10) But when that which is perfect is come, then that which in part shall be done away.

In other words, it tells you here just exactly what it says over here in the book of Hebrews [1:] concerning prophets.

(1) God, in many parts, in many ways spake in time past unto the fathers in the prophets,

(2) Hath these last days of time, (when Jesus was born, age 30, comes on the scene preaching, doing, and telling the things of God) spoken (in him.)

Now, did God not also speak in Paul? Absolutely. Now, is it possible then that God would speak in another prophet? The answer is absolutely possible. When did God say He wouldn't do it? When did God say He ever changed?

13. "Now we know in part, we prophesy in part." And you notice that there is no such thing as a rapid continuity of the Bible being fulfilled. It comes in parts. See? And parts means there's a separation. So if there's a separation and it comes in parts, then it will be fulfilled in parts, so you got to realize there's gaps, there's separations. Nonetheless, they are the precepts of God, and they absolutely must come to pass until every single thing is fulfilled. Because God is communicating with His people. And the word of communication is for the people. And it's not a story book, it's not something to please you, it's the essential truth that comes from God.

14. Now he says, "When that which is perfect is come." Now He's talking about parts. So the parts will run out, and when the parts run out, the word perfect means completed. And when it says completed, it means there's nothing more you're going to add to it. No way, shape and form.

Now the next thing is, can a God who does this, keep everything in divine order so that as the parts come they will run in continuity according to the parts and then end up in the perfect plan of Almighty God? Now, if we are going to believe that such a thing can be done, and we are here where Bro. Branham told us, "*Prophecies fail, tongues cease, knowledge vanish, these things which have been in part the final part must finally come.*" And He said, "*The final part that came was the perfect interpretation of the Word of God for this hour.*" Now when he said that, and being vindicated before he ever opened his mouth, proving he had met with God and was a prophet, he was telling you the last part has come, and is being opened before you.

15. Now, if you don't believe Bro. Branham was an absolute, hey, have a nice time. Yeah, be happy, do your best, for you ain't going anywhere. See? This business, "Millions now living will never die," is a lie from the pit of hell. I just love to have anybody here hand me eight dollars and I could count it as one million bucks. Oh they get very strangely quiet then, don't they? How come they don't get--shut their mouths on this Bible? How come when God says eight they say millions? I'd like to know. See? Well, they never going to tell ,

Now, so there finally then, there'll be no more precepts coming from God. All finished, the whole book run its course. This book here is a completed book, vindicated to be so by the prophet, because it says in Revelation you can't add and can't take. Is this the genuine Word of Almighty God? It has to be on the grounds of a prophet. We don't have to worry about it. But anyway, eventually this book written by prophets, all copied down by scribes, there would have to come a time when no more precepts would come from God. And at the endtime there would be nothing left to be fulfilled, because the Word is being fulfilled at this endtime.

But just looking at this book right here, which has been vindicated to be the Bible, the Word from Almighty God, Jehovah, the strength and light of the Jews, we now have before us, and provided a book of communication which contains all that God has to say, and He has said it.

16. Now see, here is where you are looking at consent by silence. Consent by silence is a very horrible thing, if the consent by silence is not in acquiescence to the truth on the grounds that you won't debate what is said. Now, there's been silence for a long time, almost two thousand years of anybody who could stand up as a truly vindicated prophet, found anywhere in the Word, that could speak for God according to what we read in the book of Hebrews. You simply cannot find it. So therefore the silence of God is a consent that this book here that we have is a complete and full Word of Almighty God for His people for all ages. Nothing's been given fresh.

So I say, men like Joe Smith coming on the scene, if they're not thoroughly vindicated, and he certainly wasn't vindicated, he has no reason to open his mouth. In fact he's absolutely a false prophet.

17. Now, remember at the endtime, in the book of Revelation the 3rd chapter, the Laodicean church age ends with:

(14) These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness,

This is taken from Isaiah, the God of truth. Now the Amen here means so let it be. It means it's the finishing up. And of course, Bro. Branham explained the part in there, the beginning of the creation of God which nobody else could do, God creating Himself in the form of human flesh. It was running out. And the running out would be that the last one in, the last child coming in, there would be no more. Whether first resurrection or second resurrection, it wouldn't matter, it's run out, the seed is run out. It's an end of all flesh, even as the Scripture says.

18. Now, so this book indeed is a vindicated book on the grounds that the people who spoke it and wrote it were vindicated by God to go ahead and say it, write it down; and has been in process of its own fulfillment for about six thousand years. Since now God has had His say, and it's written in a book--it's the Bible--it would seem inevitable that the only thing any person has to do is to read it. Say, "Well hey, if you really believe that book there is a hundred percent vindicated, that's a hundred percent the Word of God..." Which I can understand it is under conditions there's a living God that wants to do things that certain way--and He's got a right to do them, understand then all I got to do is read it. And that person has gained the knowledge of God, and consequently, if and when, all men have read the Bible, they have gained the knowledge and wisdom of God and thus surely God's kingdom has now potentially come to earth.

19. That's exactly what the Catholic church is doing with its creeds and dogmas. I read you the last time here the article that Bro. Moore gave me, Vernon Moore. I'd heard of it already, but not had it, how that the Roman Catholics are saying Jesus Christ is already on earth, in some particular form. And you know it right now on the grounds of the miracle, the signs and wonders the things that are going on, anybody knows that that's got to be God, whether it's the virgin Mary interceding, or she's telling Him to do it. Who knows and who gives a rip. The point is that Jesus must be here on earth.

And Bro. Branham said, "*When the denominations take the message, which the message is the Presence of Almighty God, it's all over.*" So, you can say what you want. Who'd ever thought that would have been said?

20. Now let's look at the Catholic doctrine again, and at the Protestants. They're no different. The idea is to so bring the world to a place that Christ can literally come and rule over it. Now then, if all men really believed that this is the inherent Word of Almighty God, absolutely vindicated, they go into this Scripture, they read it, they find the precepts, and they see the reality there, (don't say they got it, but let's say they got the reality, they see it there)

then they would believe that with this ability they could enter into the new world with what they have now, honoring God by His Word, then He would be duty-bound to be their God.

Now don't think that's a myth. That's absolutely the Word of God. Read the book of Deuteronomy and you'll find in there God speaking to Moses, and tell these people: Is there anybody that has the Word like you got the Word? Why, he said, "Nobody's got the Word like you've got the Word. What a great and mighty nation you are when you've got this Word. You are my people. I am your God. You've got this Word. I gave it to you. You took it."

21. You see what I'm trying to show you? There would be a progression to the Kingdom of God by His revealed Word which would bring the people into the Kingdom with God being their God. Because remember, they left Israel with the Pillar of Fire and a prophet. That's all they needed, because God could deal with those people through the prophet by the Word.

Now, the surprising and baffling thing is that in spite of the documented proof open, the truth rather, open and available to us all, there has never been a people who could actually understand it and in unison precede with that Word, in an unadulterated revelation, and thereby institute God's kingdom on earth via the Word of the kingdom. As it says in the disciple's prayer: "Thy kingdom come, by Thy will being done on earth as it is in heaven."

Now you say, "Well, I believe the kingdom of God's going come and then the will be done on earth." That's exactly true, but you notice how it goes there. "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done." Now what is the will of God? The Word of God. So if the kingdom of God has any foundation, any governmental structure, anything that it could communicate to the people, it is going to be that Word.

So therefore, the primary thing we're looking at is the Word of God. Now not just the truth of it, we're looking how it comes too, because you can take anything that's truth and run with it and then be destroyed. "Thy will be done on earth."

22. Now what does King Nebuchadnezzar say after he got converted? He said, "All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and He doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay His hand." Now what is he talking about? He's talking about the Word of Almighty God which is the will of God. Because that's the only way you'll ever know the will of God. You can't know anything else about Him, you can't see Him, you can't hear him, you can't feel Him. But there's a means of communication.

And so we look at the fact here that man would be progressing toward the kingdom of God, through the Word of Almighty God, and at such a time as there is a group of people who in unison have that complete will of Almighty God in their lives, (those people being literally, as Paul the apostle said, epistles and manifestation of that Word) they should be able to go into the kingdom. Now you see where we're at? Never have been there before. Never

have been. But there's going to be a group of people leave this earth go plumb into the kingdom of God. There won't be just the resurrected, going to be people living here.

23. Now then, there are two major reasons why mankind cannot get out of his own cosmos or government, world order, and enter into the Cosmos of God. Now remember, there's two cosmos. Now if you just think there's one cosmos, you're completely wrong, because the word cosmos does not mean just world system in the negative, it also means systems. Remember the world of the ungodly perish, then what was left? The world of the godly. So you got two worlds; you've got two cosmos. So there is a true divine kingdom order.

Now one, there are some people that in plain language are born without the ability to ever apprehend the Word of God. Now that's a killer right there because people don't want to believe it. I'm sorry for the people, but they're wrong.

24. Jesus Himself said in verse 37, John 8.

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

(38) I speak that which I've seen with my Father: you do that which you see with your father. (Now Jesus did and spoke, and these people did and spoke.

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

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

(41) You do the deeds of your father. Then they said, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.

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

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

Now, there's no place in them for the Word, and they cannot hear the Word. So therefore, if there's no place in a person for the Word, he cannot hear the Word. He will never listen to a prophet, even though the prophet's completely vindicated. You're not going to listen to him. You'll hear Joe Smith. At least he offers temptation. The Bible said, "Lead us not into temptation." Joe leads into temptation. See? Good old Smithy boy out there in Utah.

- (44) You are of your father the devil, the lusts of your father you will do. He was murderer in the beginning, abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him.

25. Now just a minute, you show me where he devil killed anybody. He uses diseases, he uses men, he uses this, but the devil himself, I don't know the devil himself kills anybody. I never find any record of it. He brings death in subtle forms and this and that, but who was the killer? Cain was the killer. So where's their genealogy? Their genealogy goes back to Cain. Now they say, I can trace my record back to Abraham. He said that doesn't mean a thing.

- (44) ...He was a murderer from the beginning, abode not in the truth, because there was no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Now, I've said before and I'll say again, the devil doesn't have one word, he just takes God's Word and perverts it. The devil doesn't have one thing that he doesn't--that he doesn't get from God. Because all things are of God. You can't deny it. But there's the perversion, see what they do, they turn from that Word.

26. Now, "When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

- (45) And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.
- (46) Which of you can convince me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do you not believe me?
- (47) He that is of God heareth God's word: you therefore hear them not, because you are not of God,

Now that's the test. Now is that test a complete blanket test, which, I believe the Word of God? No. You can go ahead and get lip service, that's true. And people can say they believe. And you notice that they said they believed? But when the showdown came, they were not believers in God and His Word, they were believers in their own way, and they put God's Word to it. Now, the kingdom of God was never meant for these people, period. And these people could in no wise ever be a part of God's kingdom. Why? Because it was a rejection of the Word, which had been vindicated. To put aside a vindicated Word is to deny God Himself.

27. Now let's get back to 2 Peter here. Now I'm just going to preach along and take my time. Notice it says in 2 Peter chapter 2.

- (1) But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable

heresies, even saying no to the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

Now, you notice what they've done here. Their heresies, which is worshipping apart from truth, brings them even to deny the Lord. Say, "No," to Him. Remember He's standing at the door and knocking at the endtime. Now, these people here according to Peter positively had the Truth from Almighty God and they turned away from it.

Now the Word, secondly, the Word of God cannot even be revealed to a person who has place for the Word of God, and desires the Word of God, unless it is in God's sovereign will to reveal the Word to him.

28. Now look what it says over here in 1 Corinthians the 2nd chapter. And Paul speaking in verse 7 says,

- (7) But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

In other words, there is something that God said that is now being revealed, that is necessary for the people at that time, which wasn't necessary before.

- (8) Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Now you could put that down and say, "Hey, they just didn't recognize it." There was nothing in them to recognize God. That's the truth of the matter. No don't try to make excuses and say, "Why hey, those poor fellows." Well, they were poor fellows. We can say that without anger, animosity. But the point of the matter is, when you read this verse, which is verse 8, you got to go back to John 8. And you don't dare take this verse by itself out of context, because what he's doing. He's speaking now concerning revelation, and you can't get it unless you're ordained to it. He's talking, Paul saying the same thing as Jesus in a different manner here.

- (9) But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, (that's human) neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

Jesus said, "If you'd known Moses you would have recognized me and loved me." Then people turn on the understanding of one God and hate it. How in the world can they say that they're friends of God when they're enemies of God, and God's trying to communicate and give them the truth, and they will not receive the truth? There's nothing in them to receive it.

Man, if you came and they're giving away, say, water, and you didn't have something to carry it in, what good's it giving you water? You got nothing to carry it in.

29. Now, notice,

(10) But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: (what's He talking about? The Word of God, those things in the Word of God.) for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

(11) For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man that's in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

See, He's telling you right there, "Hey, you when you're born, you get a spirit that's allowed of God, but not of God, and that gives your body the life. See, your soul was already there building a home commensurate for it, building the home, but it had a stillbirth,...?... never came. But now the healthy one drops down and this life comes into it. And the life that comes into it, it won't understand, because it's part of the body complex. And in the body, there's sin. That's where sin dwells; no body, there be no sin. At least this kind of body. Now, the things of God, only God knows.

(12) Now we've received, not the spirit of the world, (already got that) but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

30. Now you see, he admits to the spirit of man that can't get it, can't get it. But God's spirit guarantees that you will get it.

(13) Which things also we speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches, which the Holy Ghost teaches; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

(14) But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they're spiritually discerned.

(15) But he that is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

(16) For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Now, Paul is talking about himself. Telling you right there that he's the authenticated one. Because he said, "You might have ten thousand teachers (in 4th chapter there, but he said,) you got one Father, and I am that One."

31. Now, three. The originally revealed Word by Paul to the people, which word was broken down to the people so that the elect had a true word, truly revealed, was changed by

unscrupulous men who could make more money from bigger crowds, and have a bigger church and a greater name.

Over here in the book of 1 Cor 1:10.

- (10) Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, you all speak the same thing, (Now they could have done it, evidently, or why would He ask them?) and there be no division among you: but you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

See? Now what is He talking about? He's talking about the fact that He brought the in amiable Word, the Word which cannot be changed, that if he changed it, he would be a derelict. He was talking about the unalterable, vindicated, perfect, wisdom Word of God. And without it, you just weren't going to make it.

32. Now, reading on, He says,

- (11) For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you.

- (12) Now this I say, every one of you saith, I'm of Paul: I'm of Apollos: I'm of Cephas: I'm of Christ.

Now, you see now, there's some right there, say, "Well, hey, I want to tell you something, bless God, I'm of Christ."

You better watch that because that's what everybody's going to tell you. They say, "Oh you're of William Branham."

You bet your sweet life I'm of William Branham. Who else? "Well hallelujah, I'm of Christ." Oh, that answer makes me vomit. Mormons say the same thing. Everybody says the same thing. How, "Bless God, I'm of Christ." You guys, yeah. Who crucified Him? See?

- (13) Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

33. I never baptized in William Branham's name, anymore than anybody baptized in the name of Paul. Now, Paul is not repudiating his testimony in Galatians. Otherwise he's a two-faced jerk. You think a two-faced jerk could go through what he went through and die for it? He's not saying what people say, "I'm of Paul." He says, "You are of Paul on the grounds of the Word that I am your father in the gospel, which was given to me by God when He vindicated Himself to me, and I was vindicated before you, because that's the truth." You're not going to change it.

- (14) I thank God I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius;
- (15) Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name.
- (16) I baptized the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other.
- (17) For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ be made of none effect.

Now he tells you right there, he said, “If I were to change this Word, His death upon Calvary means nothing.” And he said, “I’ve run in vain.” So we’re getting down to something about the revealed Word.

34. Now, over here in [1 Corinthians] chapter 4, and verse 15, I’ve quoted it for you.

- (15) For though we have ten thousand instructors in Christ, (you have) yet you have not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus have I begotten you through the gospel,

In other words, he was carrying the life and the seed of the Word in Himself, which made Him an able planter of the Word to come forth in those people’s lives. And it did.

35. Also notice in the 20th chapter of Acts. I won’t take time to read it, but these are the elders that came together, in the 20th chapter. And Paul speaking of them, says, in verse 26.

- (26) (Therefore) I take you to record this day, (make a record) that I am pure from the blood of (everybody.) (The word men is just thrown in there; man, woman, child.)

Now listen how he’s pure.

- (27) For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.
- (28) Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he purchased with his own blood.

How are you going to feed them? Spiritual food in due season.

- (29) For this I know, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

And who are those grievous wolves? False prophets with signs and wonders following the Word, prophesying, speaking in tongues, because they’re doing it (do it then

way back there, do it today), and they are off the Word. Why? Because he's talking about prophets. And prophets have everything to do with the Word, because we are talking now about Word prophets. We're not talking now about a Samuel, we're talking about a Moses, and an Isaiah. Those great men who brought forth the tremendous Word like Ezekiel and Jeremiah.

Now,

- (30) Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.
- (31) Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years (like Christ) I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.
- (32) And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, even to give you an inheritance among all them that are sanctified.

Now that's what the Word of God does. Now what if you got the wrong word? Say, "Well, I'm of Christ. Hey, I was born again." Now see, it just isn't going to cut.

36. Now, we could go on reading some more, but over here in 1 Timothy, notice what it says, in the 1st chapter.

- (1) Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and the Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope;

Now this man is an apostle by the Word of God, and it's got to be vindicated before it's the truth.

- (2) Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and (the Lord Jesus Christ.)
- (3) As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, and went to Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine.

Now Paul says, "I'm laying it on the line. You are my son in the gospel, and you are going to say exactly what I say, or else your sonship would be revoked."

Now he says,

- (4) Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in the faith:

In other words, the true Word of God will answer your question, not engender problems.

- (5) Now the end of the commandment is love out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:

37. In other words, you're not a hypocrite saying, "I believe, I believe, I believe." And in your heart you've got all these reservations and you don't believe. You've subjected yourself to the same word that brought Paul to his death. No, if you want to die, the quickest and best way to die is to live the Word. Don't get your own ideas of how to die to yourself and to sin, or you'll just mess up. But if you want to really die, there's only one thing that's going to kill you, that's the sword of God. Just like he said, (the old prophet said to Mary,) "Yes," he said, "A sword shall plunge into you, too, because of this one." You're going to suffer.

Now,

- (6) (For) some have swerved aside having turned aside unto vain jangling;
- (7) Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm.

Now, you can see right here that already the first church was a complete mess like the mixed multitude that came out of Egypt.

38. In 2 Timothy , the 2nd chapter, a couple of verses there. It says,

- (1) Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.
- (2) And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

Now here is exactly how the Word of God was handed down. It was handed down by the straight, strict teaching of Paul. There were those who were able to take it, and to teach others. And remember he said, "Don't you even change one word."

39. Now, if the commandment is not to change it, then the same Holy Spirit that gave it is able to keep that Word pure as is necessary right down the line. And I don't care what anybody says about this Bible not being correct. In 2 Corinthians 11th chapter, you can tell how they veered away from the things of God. The church already at that time had another Jesus, another spirit, another word. And way down here in the same paragraph, I mean the same chapter, it says here that there are those who had perverted the church, in verse 12. He said,

- (12) What do I do, that I will do, that I may cut off occasion from them which desire occasion; that wherein they glory, they may be found even as we.

Now He's saying, "I'd like to reverse the whole matter of the trouble."

Now he said, verse 13.

- (13) For such are false apostles, (notice) deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

- (14) And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

Now how did he become an angel of light? By taking God's Word and revealing it according to his own perverted heart. Sure.

- (15) Therefore it's no great thing if his ministers be transformed as ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

That again is Matthew 12, the wolf in sheep clothing. Everybody that teaches a false doctrine is a wolf in sheep clothing. They can say what they want. Now, you just can't apply that to the apostle and to the prophet and to the teacher, you've got to apply it to the pastor and to the evangelist. There is no stopping, everyone of these people can be completely guilty and have a false five-fold ministry; which they do have.

40. Now this condition worsens, of course, until we come to 2 Timothy, the 3rd chapter, and you'll see it in here.

- (1) This also know, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

Now, it doesn't mention the perilous times until the last day. Now you can understand why they're perilous, because men have been sold a bill of goods, that they are rich, increased in goods, and don't lack a thing. So listen, don't bother looking for anything. And if anything does come, don't pay any attention. Because men, we've arrived. That's the Pentecostal church. They are the chaff, therefore no Pentecostal can be in the Rapture. Now you say what you want. My Bible says they get burnt. The Rapture says they get taken away. It says they are the chaff, and the chaff shall not stand in the judgment. And you can't have a judgment without a Judge.

41. And Bro. Branham said, "*I indict this generation.*" You say, "Well, who gave him the right?" He's vindicated by God that God was in him giving him the right. People don't want to believe that, they don't believe the Bible. You see, you've got to come to the place where you become desperately serious, live, die, sink or swim, this is it, or nothing to nothing, because there isn't anything to anything else.

Say, “Well, Bro. Vayle, I believe there could be.” What are you talking about, a shot in the arm, or some vitamins to make you feel good? Now are you prepared to die? You sold on what you got?

Maybe you’re like the fellow walked in the Pentecostal meeting in Texas one time. “How many people here should like to go to heaven?” Everybody raised their hand. He pulled out his forty-four and he says, “Who wants to go first?” Nobody raised their hand. He said, “You’re the quietest bunch of people that want to go to heaven I ever saw. And I think you’re liars.” And he walked out of the building. It’s just a joke I guess, but illustrates the truth.

Listen, you got to understand we are in a place of the ultimate. God in the prophets. Now the perilous times mentioned.

- (2) Men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
- (3) Without natural affection, trucebreakers,

42. Now, these are just some of things in the flesh, but the actual fact of the matter is they’re showing what their spirit is by coming to this place. Now, you know as well as I do that homosexuality never hit the land until the prophet came. And now today, homosexuality is already bred in the human bodies. They’ve already got their preferences already there. My God, what mess in the spirit do they have, and what mess in their bodies do they have, and do they have anything of God? The answer is no. And yet these same birds are running the government and trying to get into churches, and they will be in the churches like the great Bishop Spong, or Pong, Ping-pong. He thanks God for his homosexual gift. I’m thinking, I’m not going to say what I’m thinking either. It’s all in the Bible, what it says.

Now these people,

- (5) Have a form of godliness, but they deny the power.

43. In other words, ...?... They turn right away from the vindication of God at the endtime when the Word is restored, because that’s in the Scripture. And the Bible categorically mentions restoration comes under Elijah. So they positively deny the true authority of the Word because they cannot, they will not because there’s nothing in them to accept what is at the endtime. They can’t do it. They’ve only got a form.

Now it says:

- (6) From this sort, (these are the sorts you should turn away from) they creep (you can just see them oozing, oozing with their snail-like serpentine movements) into houses, leading captive silly women laden with sins, (that’s the truth in the physical, it’s in the type of the church) led away with divers lusts,

(7) Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

They can't, because there's nothing in there. They're just like Jannes and Jambres, the two magicians of Pharaoh that withstood Moses. Now, so do these men resist truth. Now, what was the truth they resisted? The vindication preceding the Word, because they could come behind and do certain things. But they couldn't do one thing until Moses did it first. See your vindication and what you're standing on?

44. If William Branham had not come and done these things before he spoke one word opening the Seals, and doing these things, I wouldn't have any time for him. I couldn't have in the light of the Scripture. But when he did those things, if I deny it, then I have got to be a reprobate to everything that God has in this hour, where eight people make the ark. I'm one of the billion that's destined to be ashes, atomic fodder.

Now what do they do? They resist the truth. How do they do it? By their signs and their wonders. Men of corrupt minds. No Holy Ghost, just got an ordinary spirit. Reprobate concerning the faith. They're reprobates.

(9) But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be made manifest unto all, (as was also Jannes and Jambres.)

Now, when was their folly made manifest? When Israel got taken out during the last plague which is spiritual death. So spiritual death upon the land is when we get taken out of here. And these are spiritually dead, exactly as it says in the book of Jude.

45. Now in the book of Jude it tells you what they're like. Oh, this is really a junky situation, back here in the book of Jude. What does it say here?

(16) (These people) they're murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's person in admiration because of advantage.

Yeah, playing footsy with each other. Didn't matter what God said. The condition worsens and worsens, as we read over here in Timothy. And of course, in the final church age, they enter the utter delusion with Christ outside the church. They're wretched and miserable, naked and blind, and they think they're rich and well off, and they don't need a thing.

Now remember, this two thousand years of regression consummated in idolatry. Now, we're into idolatry right today now. And notice, it is not the repudiation of God and His kingdom and His worship, but it's Christianity perverted by the lack of Holy Spirit revelation. That's why the Catholic church didn't even want the Bible around them. And they got so brazen they say, "We wrote the Bible." Ha, they wrote the Bible, my foot. They never wrote any Bible, they wrote their own stuff.

46. Okay, let's take a look at this then. We're going back here to Matthew, the 13th chapter. It's just a parable, but it's the truth because when he gets through with the illustration which is a parable he tells them what it means. So therefore, it's no longer a parable.

- (24) Another parable put he forth, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:
- (25) While men slept his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.
- (26) But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.
- (27) The servants of the householder came and said, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?
- (28) And he said, An enemy hath done this. And the servants said, Wilt thou that we go and gather them up?
- (29) But he said, Nay; while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.
- (30) Let them both grow together until the harvest: in time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Now remember, John the Baptist told of that. And he said Jesus was going to do it. "The fan is in his hand, thoroughly purges his floor, gather wheat in the garner, burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

Now let's compare this over here to Matthew 24, and 36.

- (32) Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh:
- (33) Likewise, when ye see all these things, know that it is near, even at the door.
- (34) Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.
- (35) Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.
- (36) But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

(37) But as (it were in) the days of Noe, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Now watch that one carefully.

(38) For as in the days that were before the flood eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noe entered the ark.

Now listen, you can see right here there's a period of time. The days of Noah, parallel with the Son of man, His coming, His actual Presence, His Parousia.

(39) And knew not until the flood came, and took them away; so also the coming of the Son of man shall be.

(40) Then two in the field; one taken, one left.

“Two” and so on right on down the line. And verse 43.

(43) But know this if the goodman of the house had known what watch the thief would come, (in what hour he's going to come) he would have watched, and would have not suffered his house to be broken up.

(44) (So) Therefore be ye also ready: for such an hour as you think not...

And that absolutely is the separation by the days of Noah and the days of the Son of man. Because the days of Noah are going to be so taken up with carnality, buying and selling, and doing this and the other thing, they won't even... And they're so rich and increased in goods, say, “Hey, we don't need a thing, bigger congregation, got more money. Hey, who needs anything, all we need to do is show a little more Christ-like Spirit and get some more food to Africa, more food to India and over here and over there, and do some nice thing. Hey, we got to do these things. No, we will bring the kingdom on earth, we're the great ones, we're going to get our churches together.”

48. Everything is going, going, going, going, going, and they don't know the Son of man is right here with his ministry. They don't know anything about it. They'll only know when it's too late. And when it's too late, the flood hits, someone's going to say, “Hey, what about that half-baked idiot that was born in Kentucky, lived up there in Jeffersonville, Indiana, could it be that he wasn't a half-baked idiot, he was really right? Well, don't tell me they'll turn to somebody else, because the rest of the birds are going to be sitting there.

I want to tell you something, when nobody's eating chicken, except you know one fellah who did eat chicken, you begin to think about the guy that had the chicken. You didn't have any. Or you're completely nuts, one of the two. And even an idiot needs food.

49. What about Rev 18:1-5? Look at that two thousand years later. Coming right down the pike.

- (1) And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.
- (2) And he cried mightily with a strong voice, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

And remember Babylon is a city that is sitting upon seven mountains. And you can not get a Catholic theologian but what admits, and it has to be Rome. Now don't try to call it Moscow, and don't try to call it Cincinnati, it won't work.

- (3) For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

Now, she's Babylon, because Babylon was the head of gold. And everything goes in cycles. So therefore the glory of Babylon which is gold comes back and they control the gold. They've got it. This is Rome. And remember, Rome is in idolatry and the idolatry is Babylonish religion, queen of the heavens and the whole bit. Started way back under Nimrod, where they built the tower. Not to reach the heavens, they must have known better than that, for they would build it way up on top of the highest mountain they could get. "Unto the heavens," means as a devotion unto it. Understand it was eleven acres of concrete, and in there were all the signs of the zodiac. And this was an obelisk pointing to it. They said, "Now we've got a universal religion." The Bible in the stars. But they had a wrong interpretation, so they gave their own. What they originally said was correct. Now you got the same thing. You got the Babylonish religion.

Now notice, "The kings of the earth committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies." Now at this particular time they're buying and eating and selling. Just keeps on going. Don't worry about the commerce. Worry about your spirit.

- (4) And I heard a voice say, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and ye receive not of her plagues.

So that's the condition. Very bad condition.

50. Now, when Rev 18:4 comes to pass, which is, "Come out of her my people," we have Rev 22: 11-15.

- (11) He that's unjust, let him be unjust still: (Why? Because she's back in Babylon.) Filthy, filthy; righteous, righteous; (come on out) holy, holy.

(12) Behold, I come quickly; my reward's with me, give every man according as his work shall be.

(13) I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

Now, you're right at the endtime there.

(14) Blessed are they (who wash their robes,) that they may have the right to the tree of life. (Notice, you get the right to it, in other words, it's yours. Something's happened, you can have it. And nobody else can have it.) and they may enter in through the gates of the city.

(15) For without are dogs, and sorcerers, whoremongers, murderers, idolaters, whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. (Well, that's this bunch up here. Unjust, filthy, unholy, down here. And notice) whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

Now, how in the world can you have the love of a lie, and make lie, until first of all the truth is there, and the love for the truth is available? You can't do it. You go right to 2 Thessalonians. See when you hit that one.

51. Okay, now. It is no longer now Jn 3:16. "God so loved the world, he gave his only begotten Son," and so on. And they are going to quote that and quote that. But what are you going to do now when you face Rev 22:10?

(10) And he said...Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

What has been sealed up has been unsealed. And the question comes: Who unsealed it? Only one person can seal it. That's the One that gave it. So what are you going to do? You've got to have it.

Now, it is no longer now then Jn 3:16, even though Jn 3:16 will never perish and never, never, ever cease. Because this is something that was done. But you cannot claim Jn 3:16 in the light of Rev 22:10 that is followed by verse 11, because there's a separation.

52. Now listen to me. There's a separation in Matthew 24. There's a separation in Luke 17. What is doing the separating? It's obvious. The book opened--the Seven Seal book of mystery, under which the Seventh Seal brings forth seven thunders. As Bro. Branham said, "*The Bride now has everything to put her into a Rapture.*"

Speaking also Hebrew 11: "They without us can not be made perfect." And remember, perfection comes in the 13th chapter of the book of 1 Corinthians when the parts are all done away with, because there aren't any more parts, the Word of God is completed,

the revelation now takes you right up to the fact of the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ which is preceded by the days of the Son of man, the revival breath of God, the return of the unadulterated pure Word of God. The Bride is taken away, the tribulation sets in, and after the Wedding Supper the Bride comes back.

Now that's the way it is. But, unfortunately the people don't want it. So what is the message of the hour? The message of the hour is the sealed book is open. And it has caused a division of who will go to the Tree of Life, which is what Adam wanted in order to not die.

53. Now lets hold your finger there if you want, and we run back to the book of Romans, and the 8th chapter, which is a fantastic chapter. We read in verse 10.

(10) And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

Now, that's speaking to the whole church, but there's a time coming when the body won't die. Can't die. And you've been baptized with the Holy Ghost. What makes the difference? The difference is God's allotted Word at the right time, the right chronology, so that Word can take effect. Now what Word takes effect? To get you to the Tree of Life to live forever, even though you're in this condition. It's the opening of the book. It can't be anything else. It just tells you right there, plain as the nose on your face: Book sealed, book opened. When it gets open there's a division. And one will go, and the other won't. You see?

So, they have the right to the Tree of Life. Now notice, that they may have the right to the Tree of Life. See, it is granted to them. "May I go to the Tree of Life?" "Yes, you may go to the Tree of Life." Why? Because you got the right to go to the Tree of Life. Adam could not go to the Tree of Life, neither could anybody else go. Had to die.

54. Now, the body no longer is under that particular curse. Now what did Bro. Branham say? He said in Easter Seal, "*It is no longer we who live but Christ.*" Now, that doesn't mean here that every single one is going to be just like Jesus Christ and perfect. That's too late. Well you done flunked your test already because you came into the world speaking lies. Jesus never came into the world born in sin speaking lies. So that lets Him--He's out of the picture. You're in the picture. It's a dirty picture. So, now you're going to be suddenly sinless, perfect and all? That's not the answer. The answer is Christ is living in His church and His Word. And so now it's not your life, it is Christ's life. There's a big difference in the whole picture how you put it. See?

Now, before moving on, having seen the Bride in Rev 18:4, which means she's got to come out of her, we see Matthew 24: is concerning God's admonition for the hour. Now there's a big admonition at the hour here, and this is brought out by the disciples in...

55. How many minutes have we got? About three? We can quit here. We won't go into Matt 24. I'll try to review a bit tomorrow and finish up my first seven pages, no eleven pages, I've got five done. But we'll move into this then tomorrow, and we'll begin to look at

these very things that we're seeing here that absolutely vindicate our faith. Now you can't put faith in God, you never seen Him. No way. You can't feel Him, you can't hear Him, you can't touch Him. You think you feel Him, but that's a lot of hogwash. Can't do it. You're putting your faith in God by what? God communicating, an absolute vindicated Word. And you say, "Yes, that's God." Now when you stand with that, that's the only way you can stand. There's no other way.

So we get this far, we get a little further tomorrow. Let's bow our heads in prayer.

Heavenly Father we want to thank You for Your kind help in the study of Your Word. Seeing Lord how your Word comes, seeing how it affects some and won't affect others, making a great difference. Because that's what it is. How can anybody really believe it's the Word, Your Word, unless You backed it the way You said you'd back it, when we know it's Your Word.

So we pray Father, that as we get not too much older, we get stronger in the grace which has been given to us at this hour. Which is the prophet Elijah, Lord, we believe, the endtime prophet. A prophet going to the Gentiles, as Jonah went to Nineveh, sign of the resurrection. Absolutely the truth, making it Eph 1:17, making the ministry the days of the Son of man, the days of Noah, before Abraham was ever on the scene, showing Lord, we're right at that time when the elected will be separated.

We don't understand all these things, time elements and those things, Lord. We would--we'd get all confused if we just let confusion come in (we don't need to). We know Lord, that you dealt through prophets. We have seen it in our own day, which is the most marvelous thing that could ever happen to anybody, to be in an hour of such commercialism, such a time we're living in, such a time of degradation. Everything the church ever stood for is just absolutely like a tumbling weed, just dead, dry, sticky, tumbling around, causing problems. Just a mess. But You did it in our day.

So Father, we're grateful, and we know we're not grateful enough. We see and we don't see enough. We hear and we don't hear enough. We believe and we don't believe enough. Where we recognize all those things Lord, that we're in an imperfect state at this time. But there is a perfect faith. And we know that this is it, the best we know anything. And where would we go? We believe this is it, live, die, sink, or swim. What can we do?

So here we are, Lord, and I believe we're just exactly where You want us--right at the very spot, right at the very hour. And the way we see things coming to pass, we're so grateful that we see them and can relate them to the Word, showing Your marvelous power and glory.

Just like the prophet said, communist is nothing, communism isn't anything. They got rid of Stalin's statue a long time ago, and now Lenin's statues are falling down around the place, and I suppose pretty soon they'll burn his carcass, which would certainly be a good idea. I don't know what they're going do, but the prophet said it would come to nothing and

here it is. Whatever they do in the future, existing and then hit Rome and us with a bomb, that's going to be their business.

But now, Lord, if they're out of the way then, and he said to fear the church, it looks like we could be getting ready for a slam and some persecution come down. God help us to be so sober on how the Word comes that we know positively it is the Word. And by Your grace spiritually revealed to stand upon the solid rock of revelation, building our lives there, that though the winds of life and the storms come, no matter what happens, we stand, because it's got a rock foundation of revelation of Jesus Christ.

Lord, it's so simple that it becomes difficult. That we should simply stand on that? But it was like Paul said, "I know in whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I've committed to Him against that day." No matter what happens, happening to us, persecution, nakedness, perils, storms, slaughter, famine, not a thing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Help us to see that and to believe it as never before, Lord, because we know that as things tighten up...

(Tape ends)