### Notes used in the Message

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### 18-0513am - Being Born Again Pt.13 (Called Us To Glour And Virtue) - Samuel Dale

#### I PETER 1:18-23

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**18** <sup>+</sup> Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

**19** <sup>+</sup> But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

» 20 <sup>+</sup> Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

» **21** <sup>+</sup> Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

» **22** <sup>+</sup> Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

» **23** <sup>+</sup> Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

#### **EPHESIANS 4:8-16**

**8** <sup>+</sup> Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

**9 +** (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

\* 10 + He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

I1 + And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

**12** <sup>+</sup> For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

**13** <sup>+</sup> Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

\* 14 + That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

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

» **16** <sup>+</sup> From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

#### II PETER 1:1-5

\* **1** <sup>+</sup> **¶** Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

Solution
 Brace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,
 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness,

through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

\* 4 + Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

» **5** <sup>+</sup> ¶ And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

#### 1) 56-0120 FELLOWSHIP.WITH.GOD.THROUGH.RECONCILIATION\_ STURGIS.MI FRIDAY\_

« E-39 <sup>+</sup> I think today, that great men has swept this nation back and forth, Jack Shulers, Billy Grahams, many others has went over, and over, and over, and over through the nation, and go right back the same year, and find the same group that he preached to just as far deluded in sin as they ever was. Because man can't save you, when man can only make an altar call, but it's your individual--or personal faith and trust in God to plunge beneath the Blood, and to be filled with His Spirit, and by become a partakers of the Divine, not a partaker of the church, a partaker of the Divine. The Divine nature changing your own vile nature into a nature that loves God, who believes every Word that He said is the truth, and accepting it as your own personal gift from God.

# 2) 58-1221E THE.UNITY.OF.ONE.GOD.IN.THE.ONE.CHURCH\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-16 N-8 SUNDAY\_

**« 97** <sup>+</sup> There is so many people today who says that the Holy Spirit is not real today. While tens of thousands of them, and millions, are saying it's not so, there's that many enjoying the blessings of It. Mostly are poor people, people who's been dejected and rejected by the world, people who's been throwed out of churches because that they believed God to be God; but they have been filled with His Spirit. They are one in purpose; they're one in heart. Who are those people? Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterian, Catholic, Jehovah Witness, orthodox Jew, all together, they become one. Not one to a creed, not one to a denomination, that's the working of the devil through intellectual conceptions, but the working of the Holy Spirit, the Kingdom of God in you.

And God sets on the throne of your heart in His control room, controlling your emotions, and controlling your powers, controlling your conceptions, and making you one with Him in fellowship and in love. And God fills you with love. He fills you with power. He fills you with the Spirit. He fills you with His own Divine Nature, and He changes your carnal nature into His Nature. Then, in this, you become a new creation in Christ.

#### 3) 65-0219 THIS.DAY.THIS.SCRIPTURE.IS.FULFILLED\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-3 N-8 FRIDAY\_

**\* 56** <sup>+</sup> How He could stand there and say, "This day this Scripture is fulfilled right before your eyes!" How outstanding, how so plainly, and yet those people misunderstood. Why? Is because they took the interpretation of some order of priests that they were listening to.

## 57 And history always repeats itself. And Scripture has a compound meaning to It, and a compound revelation.

**58** For instance, like it says in the Bible, that, "Out of Egypt I have called my son," referring to Jesus. Run the margin on that, and you find out, also referred to Jacob, same Scripture. Jesus was His greater Son. Jacob was His son that He called out of Egypt, which the Scofield reference and all other references give to it, because that's the Scripture it was referring to. So it had a--a double answer; it had a answer to Jacob called out, and to Jesus called out.

**59** And so is it today! Is because that we're in such a turmoil as we are, and people fail to see the Truth of God, is because there is too many man-made interpretations of God's Word. God don't need nobody to interpret His Word. He is His Own interpreter.

#### 4) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY\_

\* 36 <sup>+</sup> Now let that soak real deep now. Not preaching this morning; we just teaching this lesson.
"Divine nature." Let me read that 4th verse again now, so you won't miss it. "Whereby we are given..."
Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these (these promises) we might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

37 See, "the world," we've escaped that now. He's addressing this to the Church. That's why we're here this morning, is to find out what is the way, what is God's requirement. There's not a person in here, that loves God, but wants to--wants to become more like Christ. Now it's laid out here. Every Christian! I'm an old veteran. Look at Brother and Sister Kidd here, they're probably the oldest in the building. But if I'd ask them, "What is your heart's desire?" It'd be, "Closer to God." When you learn of Christ, there's something about Him that's so loving, you just try to get right into Him.

**38** + Excuse this expression. I told my wife, here not long ago, she... both getting old, and I said to her, I said, "Do you love me like you used to?" She said, "I certainly do."

**39** And I said, "You know, I love you so much till I would like to take you and pull you inside of me, so we could just be, really, be one, more."

40 Now, that, multiply that by a hundred million, and then you'll find out how that the believer, who falls in love with Christ, wants to get into Him, because it's a love. And here He's going to show us how that, through these promises, we might be partakers of Christ's Divine nature. These, mortal body, how that we can be partakers.

5) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY\_

« 45 That's the way it is with Christ. See? We've got to be so in love with Him, till when + we ask for something, and He doesn't give it to us, that doesn't shake us a bit. See? See? Why? And the only way you can do that, is to become partakers of His Divine nature, then you'll understand the reason He can't give it to you. "Partakers of His Divine nature."

46 And look here, "Having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." Escaped it! See who it's to? It's to the Church, them who are in Christ, has been exalted above these things. Not he exalted himself, but Christ brought him up.

#### 6) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY\_

« 59 Now, these people are--are... Peter is saying, here, how that we must be partakers of + His Divine nature. Now, each one of us are trying to grow into the stature of God.

**60** Now, after we get through with the Seven Seals, then, at that time of the sounding of the Seventh Seal, or the loosening... Course, we know what a seal is, is to loose the ministry, to loose Seven Seals. And we'll see that right on the chart. Is loosing a Message, something that's sealed up.

#### 7) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY

Now in the... Now, "tabernacle," is, course, a place where we go to rest, now, get freshness, **« 68** + and so forth, like resting from sleep, or so forth. Now, Hebrews 10, and the 5th verse, Paul brings it in. Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice... (That's Christ.)... Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

#### What is the Tabernacle now? A Body, God tabernacling in a Body. 69

70 God once, up high, when He come down on the mountain, even if a--a bullock or a cow touched the mountain, he must be killed. God is holy.

Last evening, when those Angels covered Their faces. Holy Seraphims with holy faces, don't even know 71 what sin means, and They have to cover Their face, in the Presence of God; cover Their feet, in humility.

Now, holy God could not condone sin, so nothing could touch the mountain where God was. 72

73 Then God was made flesh and dwelt among us, in the form of Jesus Christ, His Son, His creation. Then that Son gave His life, and the Blood cell of God was broken, that the Life might come out of the Blood, to us. 74 Through that Blood we are cleansed. And now our blood, our life, which came by living through sexual desire, brought our life in the world. The Blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us, changes our nature, by sending upon us the Holy Spirit; then we become into the Divine nature of God, then we become a dwelling place for God. Jesus said, "At that day you'll know that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me; I in you, and you in Me." See?

#### 8) 55-0227A THE.POSITION.OF.A.BELIEVER.IN.CHRIST\_ PHOENIX.AZ SUNDAY\_

<sup>†</sup> Look at it, bruised, wounded, tore, opened up His side with a Roman spear in order « E-33 that by the Holy Spirit we could be baptized into His body, partakers of His Divine nature. You get it? Then you become a partaker, after coming into His body, a partaker of His Divine nature: Christ's **nature in you.** How can you cheat, steal, lie, backslide, proselyte, everything else with the Divine nature of Christ in you? It's impossible. Let that soak just a few minutes, 'cause it's right...?... If you be a partaker in Christ, then you become a new creature; old things have passed away, and all things have become new. All of our warrings, and fussings, and stewings, and arguings, and tempers, and all these things pass away. You see it?

What is the fruit of the Spirit? We've planted it on church membership, upon shouting, upon demonstrations of our works. But the fruit of the Spirit is first love, love Who? Then is when you love those who are unlovable. That's the Spirit of Christ. Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, goodness, meekness, gentleness, patience, there's the fruit of the Spirit. So no matter what church you belong to, what you have done...

#### 9) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY

Last Sunday night, I preached on, "The Key." And the key is faith. The faith holds the key, « 61 + and the key is the Scripture. And Christ is the Door. See? So faith takes the little hinges of the Scripture and unlocks the glories and good of God, out to His people. See? So, it's, faith holds the key that unlocks Christ to the people; unlocks it, reveals it.

So, today, we're going to try to take that same key, to unlock the way to become a virtuous 62 Christian in the stature of God, that, and be a living Tabernacle for the living God to dwell in.

#### 10) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY\_

\* 75 <sup>+</sup> Know how that God is in His Church. The Church is now supposed to be taking the place of Christ, carrying on His ministry. "He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also. Yet a little while, and the world seeth Me no more; yet you shall see Me, for I will be with you, even in you, to the end of the world." See? There it is, carrying on His work.

**76** + Now, God, or the Bible said here, that. Stephen spoke of Solomon building a temple, "And the Most High don't dwell in temples made with hands. 'For Heaven is My Throne, and earth is My footstool. And where is the place of My rest?' 'But a Body has Thou prepared Me.'" Amen. There you are.

77 "A Body has Thou prepared Me." **God dwells in the stature of a man, reflecting Himself into that Being. Perfect worship! God in us,** being His Tabernacle, God manifesting. Oh, how we could stay on that till you would almost suffocate in here, from heat. Notice, that, God has always, at all time, reflected Himself in man.

11) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY\_

**85** <sup>+</sup> We notice here, He said, "First we have faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, goodness or godliness, and brotherly love." All right. Brotherly kindness, and then add love. Let me read this, all, over again, so you be sure to get it now. Now we going to start at the 5th verse.

And besides this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity, which is love.

... if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**86** Now Peter is outlining something here for us, that how to get there.

\* 87 <sup>+</sup> Now I want to say this, that, there are some people who have a portion of this virtue, knowledge, wisdom, patience, and so forth, that don't even profess to be Christian. Now we just... we're teaching Sunday school. And that's true. There's some people have a portion of this, that don't even pretend to be Christian. But that doesn't... That won't do it. It's like a black bird trying to put peacock feathers in his wings, to make him a peacock. He only disgraces himself. Be better to stay a black bird. See? When he tries to exercise these things without being a Christian, he's just simply all out of place.

**88 It's like a sycamore tree trying to manufacture apples.** It couldn't do it, see, although it's a tree. But it can't manufacture apples.

**89 It's like a mule trying to manufacture wool,** trying to be a sheep when he's a--he's a mule. You see, he can't manufacture wool. He can't do it. Wool is a gift to a sheep, not to a mule. He might try to act like a sheep, but he's still a mule. See? So, he say, "Well, I can eat like a sheep. I can do this like a sheep." And no matter what you can do, you've got to be a sheep in order to have wool.

#### 11) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY\_

**92** <sup>+</sup> Or, a vulture trying to eat with a dove, a vulture trying--a vulture trying to be a dove. Could you imagine a buzzard out there, say, "You know, I'm a dove," and put a few feathers in him, say, "See, I look like..." See? He'd just be all out of shape. That's a--a man who professing to be something when he's not. See, you can't do it.

**93** You can't say, "Now look, I'm supposed to have virtue, so I'll have virtue. I'm supposed to live godliness, so I'll just have it." Why, you're only trying to place feathers. Though they're in your reach, but you can't put the feathers in the wrong bird. See? It just won't work. And it only shows what a hypocrite that bird is. See? Could you imagine an old buzzard trying to have couple of dove feathers, say, "Looky here, see, I'm a dove"? See? Why, we all know he's a buzzard. See? See? That's all. We can tell that he's a buzzard.

« 94 <sup>†</sup> Well, now that's the way it is, trying to--to manufacture Christianity. You can't do it. The first thing you've got to do, is be born again. You've got to be changed. See? And when you're changed, you become a new creation. Now you're getting right, now. See? Now you don't have to worry about the feathers, it'll take care of itself, when--when you are born again. Yes, sir.

**95** Like I've always said. You take a--a hog, scrub him up and put a tuxsailor suit on him, or tuxedo suit, rather, on him, and turn him out there; he go right to a mud hole and wallow. Cause, you see, it wouldn't do any good. He's a hog. That's his nature. Wallowing is his nature. **You've got to change his nature, and (he)** the rest of it will take care of itself.

#### « 96 <sup>†</sup> Now notice. You must be born again, that is, changed. There's got to be a change.

**97** You say, "Well, Brother Branham, I know this certain woman over here, why, she never did do anything wrong. She's a good woman. Or, this such-and-such a man, he's a good man. He never does anything. You know he doesn't harm anybody." That doesn't mean one thing. He might make a good neighbor, **but he isn't a Christian until he's born again.** 

**98** Jesus said, "Except a man be born again," Saint John 3, that, "he can't even see the Kingdom." Now, that means, see, it means to "understand."

**99** You look at anything, say, "I just don't see it." You mean you don't understand it.

\* 100 <sup>+</sup> A man can't understand why people shout. A man can't understand why a human being's language would change and he'd speak in tongue. The natural man can't see how a glory of God would come over a man's eyes, and he'd see vision and tell man of certain things, and what to do; tell them things that's fixing to happen, and fix things to come to pass, like the Lord did for us here last night, even. See? See? The--the natural mind tries to figure out. "Well, what did he do? Or, what kind of a hoax is he using? What gimmick has he got?" To see a man speaking in tongues, they'd say... and somebody interpret and tell just exactly to a certain member of the Body what they've done, and what they should not do. See? See? They think it's some kind of a hoax. "There's something fixed up between them."

101 They can't understand it until that man is born again. Then when he's born again, then he's in line of fellowship, because he is a new creation. That old suspicious, doubting character he was, is dead. Now, he's a new creation. So, you see, he don't have to add anything to his, now, because it'll automatically be added.

« 102 <sup>†</sup> Notice, you must be born again. And when you're born again, you can't be born again without having faith. That's right. So, you see, on my chart here, I got the very foundation, faith is the foundation of all of it. "For without faith it's impossible to please God. He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him." See? He must be. And when you're a skeptic of the Bible, when you're skeptic of the Word being right, you just might as well stay back until first you believe it.

103 What is sin? Unbelief. There's only two elements that controls the human being. That's either doubt or faith, one or the other. You're possessed of one that dominates your life. Just depends on how much faith you have, how high you can rise.

\* 104 <sup>†</sup> But, first, it's got to be faith. Let me stay on that foundation for a while. Now, faith is what you must believe. Faith is what... "Faith is the substance of things hoped for." It's, you already have it when you have faith, because it's revealed in faith. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for," Hebrews 11, see, "the evidence." What is it? What kind of an evidence? A holy evidence.
105 Therefore, when you say, "Brother Branham, I believe that God is a Healer." Well, if you believe that, and then accept Him as your Healer, and not lying, but actually believing that by His stripes you are healed, there's nothing going to turn you from it. It's a settled thing. Now you might have hope, just keep dodging to this and dodging to that. But when you got faith, you know it, because it is the evidence. You've already got it. I was...

12) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY\_ « 116 <sup>+</sup> Omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient, infinite, that's God. So, when they make a phone call and say, "Pray!" That contact! And your faith brings God. It's the thing that brings the prayer and God, together, on the scene. Prayer! Faith changes from here to here. It brings it together.

**117** "Speak the Word. All I want You to do is say the Word, and everything is all right." See, He didn't have to be there. "Just say the Word." Why? God is omnipresent. He's all-powerful. He's just as powerful beneath the world as He is on top the world, or on either side. He's God. "And the only thing You have to do is just speak the Word," he said.

118 And, now, faith does the rest of it. Faith does the rest. So you must have faith for a foundation. All Christianity, all you are, all you'll ever be, is based upon faith in the Word. That's the reason I believe the Word. See?

13) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY\_ « 131 <sup>+</sup> First, you must be born again. And then when you're born again, you have faith; you believe the Word. Until you're born again, you'll argue against It. If you're just religiously inclined, and--and you got a--a--a little human knowledge that you should do right, you'll never be able to agree upon the Word of God. You'll never do it. You've got to be born again. And, born again, it produces faith. All right. Then, after you get faith, this right here, f-a-i-t-h, faith, then you're just in position of growing.

\* 132 <sup>†</sup> Now, a lot of people go up to the altar, and pray, and say, "Lord, forgive me." And a great experience of sanctification come upon them, and things. Then you have a great time, get up to the altar, shouting. You go back, say, "Bless God, I got it." No, you just started to a place where you can grow. You ain't done nothing yet. See? The only thing you done is just laid the foundation. 133 Now you're going to build a house, and you pour the foundation, say, "Boy, I got her." See? You got the foundation to build your house on. Now you got to build a house.

134 Now there's where the thing comes in, this morning, we're going to talk about now. All right. A house, this foundation is first. What is the foundation of Christianity? Faith in the Word of God. That's your foundation. Then you begin to grow. Then you start, you begin to add to this foundation.

14) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY\_ « 309 † After you done come from here, to here, to here, to here, to here, to here, now you're coming into the full stature now of a son of God. But you got to have this, plus all this, and you can't even start until you get this.

310 Now remember the black bird with peacock feathers. Don't forget him. See? Don't try to add it till you're actually born again. Cause, you, it won't work, and you--you can't make it work. It'll come to this, or this here, it'll crumble somewhere.

311 But when you get down here, a genuine born-again dove, then you don't add nothing. It adds to you, see, comes on up, all right, coming into perfection now. All right.

15) 62-1014M THE.STATURE.OF.A.PERFECT.MAN\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-18 SUNDAY\_ « 138 <sup>+</sup> And that's what we're supposed to do, reflect the Son of God. And now we're supposed to do His work. He said, "He that believeth on Me..." Saint John 14:7, "He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also." You're beginning to reflect the works of Christ. 139 But so many of us try to do the works of Christ before the reflection of Christ is in us. Now

there's the trouble. We find those things happening. You know it. I know it. We see these, stumbles along the road. We find the scrap heap of ministers, of Christians, piled along the road, is because they didn't go into it right.

And that's why I'm here this morning, is to try to teach this little church, and myself, how that we can become the dwelling place of the living God. How many like to be that? [Congregation says, "Amen."--Ed.] The dwelling place of the living God!

« 141 <sup>†</sup> Now here is what we do. What's the first thing? Have faith, and be born again. That's laying the foundation.

142 Then, after we lay the foundation, secondly you add to your foundation. "Add to your faith," Peter said here. Add to your... First you have faith, then you add virtue to your faith. This is the next column. First, pour your foundation, faith. Then, to your faith, add virtue.

143 Now, right there knocks a lot of us down. Yes, sir. Yes. "Add virtue to your faith." That doesn't just mean living a virgin life, you know, like the woman or a man, and so forth. That doesn't have nothing to do with that.

\* 144 <sup>†</sup> The Bible said, we read over here in the Book of Luke, where It said, "Virtue went out of Him." That right? [Congregation says, "Amen."--Ed.] If we're going to be like Him, we must have virtue, then. We must have it, to be like Him. Is the first song that I ever loved, in--in the hymns, one of the greatest, was, To Be Like Jesus. Well, if I'm going to be like Jesus, I've got to have virtue, and a pass that it can pass forward from me to the people. Because, "Virtue went out of Him to the people." Virtue! And before you can let it out, you've got to have it first. You haven't got it, it won't come out. There's nothing for it to come out of.

145 What if someone tried to draw virtue out of us, and the check would return "insufficient funds"? See? No, no, none there to draw from, check bounced. Somebody looking at you as a Christian, and tomorrow see you out here carrying on like a sinner, not much virtue can be drawed from that. See? Right.

« 146 <sup>†</sup> Virtue must be in us. And until we get virtue... Then when we get true virtue, we can add it to our faith. That's the next foundation wall. Now, first you must have faith. Faith alone won't do it. You've got... Peter said, "Then add virtue to your faith." You must have virtue, in order to add it to your faith.

147 Now, then, it might be, the reason you don't have it, because many churches of today teach you don't have to have it, or the days of it is passed. "They don't have to have it. Only thing you have to do is just join church. Yeah, days is passed."

148 Virtue, anyone knows what the word virtue means, see, and we must have it. If virtue went from Him, to heal the woman that was sick, He's expecting the same virtue in His Church, because He was our example. And if He had virtue to give to the people, He expects us to have virtue to give to the people. And what is virtue? Virtue is strength, power.

**149** Some of them don't even believe in power of God. They say, "That--that--that's passed. Only thing you have to do is just put your name on the book, and be sprinkled, or poured, or baptized, or whatevermore. And that's all you have to do."

« 150 <sup>†</sup> But Peter said here, "Add virtue." Now, Peter is talking about building the House of God, see, the Temple of God, fixing it to a place. And after you have virtue, you must have... After you have faith, you must have virtue with it. That's right. Have virtue for the whole world.

**151** I preached a sermon about twenty years ago, I guess, on Rev. Mr. Lily. Lily, the pastor. Took it from the text to where Jesus said, "Consider the lily, how they neither toil or spin. Yet I say to you, Solomon in all of his glory is not arrayed like one."

152 Look at the lily. It comes from way down in the muck. And every minute of the day it has to be drawing from the earth. See? And what does it do with this virtue that it draws? It gives it out. It makes a beautiful sight for the admirer. It opens up itself for honey, for the bee to come and get his part. Don't complain. It's just got it, to give out. What if the bee come in there; insufficient funds, no honey? That little bee would scratch his head and say, "What kind of a lily is that?"