

## Fifth Seal – Part 4

Believer's Position – 83-0313am

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<sup>1</sup> It's good to see each one of you out this morning. If you'd like, let's just remain standing and we'll our Scripture. We have—don't forget, we have a new book. Don't forget also, to the brothers, that the ministers' meeting will be this coming Saturday here at the church and probably meet about at three o'clock. Just invite each one and tell them all that they're invited to the meeting. It'll be here, at the church this time, the regular ministers' meeting.

<sup>2</sup> Let's just [indiscernible—0:01:20] in Revelation 6. All of us know the Scripture. Let's just read Ephesians 1:1-14 for our Scripture reading this morning. But keep in mind, now, we're still on the fifth seal. This will be message No. 4 on the fifth seal but I want you to see something this morning from these Scriptures so let's read Ephesians 1. And then you remember to read Revelation 6:9-11 sometime when you have time. And just keep in mind what we're trying to speak on.

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: that in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

<sup>3</sup> We'll just re-read Verse 3:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

<sup>4</sup> Father, we ask You this morning that You'd come now and just speak to us. Grant us understanding because that's what we need of Your Word. Set Your people free, Lord. Bring in those You want to hear the Word. Cleanse us from all

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- unrighteousness. And may our hearts be set on You, Lord, this morning, knowing that there's many things on our minds, many things that trouble us. But yet, knowing that we believe in a God that we serve and that who will come and do what it we ask Him to do. Father, just guide us as we speak to Your people, the purchased of Your blood. In Jesus' name, we ask it. Amen.
- <sup>5</sup> You may be seated. It's good to see you all over here this morning. Pray one for another. Remember the announcements. I hope that, last Sunday, that you got a little better understanding of what we were trying to bring out and trying to see. We spoke on the Word, but I want you to catch something today there's a believer's position. And if you want to put a subtitle to that—it's because we've been making all of this the Fifth Seal. We're trying to lay a foundation and the Lord willing, the next message will be the last one of this type bringing it to try to lay a foundation, just look at this seal.
- <sup>6</sup> And then maybe we'll go in and speak on how the seal is Israel and showing the souls under the altar as being the Jews has been saved all down through there and all. But just trying to be led on what to speak on to where that we can catch what we're trying to get to. I hope that you—or I wish you'd go back, if you missed last Sunday's services, go back and get the tape and listen to it again. I listened to—we did one of them back over this week, a little, and I want to listen to it again because, the Lord willing, I might speak along this line in the ministers' meeting on the seals.
- <sup>7</sup> But I hope you understood what we have drawn out and how that we had it, how that the combat beast were placed, and how that the Word coming down that the combat beast was that spirit of the age, of the time. See, that combat beast, as it rode out, that was God's spirit working among the people, making the Word alive that was in each age. And as I brought out last week, I said—now, if we ain't careful, we'll make ourselves an addition to the Bible because the Bible's been written down for about 2000 and here we are, claiming to be the Word made manifest, you know, in this day.
- <sup>8</sup> We're claiming that all the Word is to come in this end time and the Bride of Christ is to take all that Word and we're to be all of the Word made manifest just for a moment and then we'll go out of here. Well, as I said, I hope we don't make ourselves an addition to the Bible. Because if we make ourselves an addition to the Bible—we read last week from Revelations 22 that if we make ourselves an addition, then we'll wind up in the tribulation because we get the plagues. See, if you add to the Book, he'll add the plagues that's written in the Book.
- <sup>9</sup> So we'll wind up in the tribulation and that's where that the church world's going because they add to the Book. They won't take it just for what it says. They've got to try to interpret it or figure it out or something. They come up with man's ideas and, as the Bible said, teach for doctrine the commandments of man. And,

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- see, in doing that, then the people are going to the tribulation. That's where they're headed because they won't accept the freedom that's in the Word.
- <sup>10</sup> But, now, I hope you understood what I was just saying on this order too that we are the alive Word. Now, we can look back at the church down there in Ephesus. We can look back at the Book of Acts and we can talk about how God was working among the people there and how that it was an alive church, you know, and, oh, God was really moving among us. And then if we ain't careful, we'll look at our own selves and we'll say, "Well, here we are." Or "I guess we're just nothing. We ain't got nothing and..." That's the basis of what most of the people of the Message are saying. They're saying, "We're in such a bad shape. We just ain't got nothing and there ain't nothing going on among us," and everything.
- <sup>11</sup> Well, I don't believe that. I believe God is working among us. I believe He is doing what He said He would do. You say, "Yes, but if we was that, we'd be doing this..." "Go back in the Bible and check. How many was there at the church of Ephesus? How many was at the Bible at the church of Ephesus we're talking about? It says there were about twelve men. Well, then, if there was about twelve there, how many people in the world knew the church of Ephesus even existed?
- <sup>12</sup> And if we wrote up how long was it—writing there to church of Ephesus, how long would Paul be in his writings? You could probably look under your headlinings and see how long it would be in the years or whatever. If we wrote a book about what has happened here at this church in the past some twelve or fourteen years, it wouldn't look like a whole lot, we think, but there's been a lot of healing went on; there's been a lot of salvation; there's been a lot of deliverance; there's been a lot of things went on here.
- <sup>13</sup> But, see, we look at it and then we start—that little thing starts working and that's the very first step of organized religion: is to look around and see it and say, "Well, there just ain't nothing going on and we're just all in bad shape." Well, now, I don't believe we're in bad shape. I know we're in bad shape, yes, but not what they're talking about. See, we're all in bad shape. That's right. But not what everybody's talking about, calling it such a bad shape, because God is with us.
- <sup>14</sup> But what I want you to see this morning now is the believer's position. And that position in the Body of Christ, you've got to believe what you are. You've got to believe it. Now, watch what the prophet said. This is way ahead of us, but I wanted just to read it. This is the last book we just got. I read it this week and I just marked this part. It's on Page 4. When you get the book, read it. It'd be Paragraph 23.

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We should realize that in us has been given, we who believe Jesus Christ has been born of his Spirit and filled with that quickening power, that power that's in you, by laying on hands onto others, like the disciples did, and down through the age, it absolutely healed the sick, raised the dead; it showed visions, prophecies, and the very same Spirit that lived amongst the early apostles is living in the church today, working the very same thing.

15 Now, listen to him.

And as quick as we can recognize that...

16 Now, that's what I want us to see today; that it is the believer's position. But we've got to recognize it. As quick as we can recognize that, see, no matter how much it's working, you've got to recognize that and believe that. It won't do one bit of good until you believe it. Now, it wouldn't do you one bit of good. You can set sick this morning and you can say, "By His stripes I'm healed." But if that's not brought down in your heart and you really truly believe it, then it will do you no good.

17 You can say, "I'm saved because the Lord has set me free; he's revealed it to me." That will do you no good until you go to what the Scriptures says with it and follow on with the Lord. It's just a confession that you're making with your own lips. But when it's brought down into the heart and then it comes back out, see, then it's something made alive. That's what I was talking about as the alive Word.

18 But Bro. Branham says, "Until you believe it—it wouldn't do one bit of good until you believe it." Now, if you don't get nothing else this morning out of the message, then you keep in mind one thing: Unless you recognize who you are and what you are in this hour, and where you're standing, it won't do you one bit of good.

19 All right. Now, you've got to believe it then. Accept what He says. We'll get down and read it a while where Jesus believed who He was because the Word said what He was. All right. Now, if you can't catch by last Sunday's message—if you didn't catch that we are the alive Word, go back and listen again to the message. And if we're the alive Word that the seals reveal that we are, then can't we have confidence in what the Word says we are? Now, we'll get down in a little while and see what our trouble is about some of the things. Our trouble is us; not the Lord. Our trouble is us and Bro. Branham says, "The moment you believe it, it'll work."

20 But now, listen. "But the moment you believe it, your troubles are ended," he said. The moment you believe, your troubles are over. But where's our trouble then? It's in believing. We just can't accept what the Word says. We've been

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- taught so long by Catholicism, Romanism and things, like the Baptist. “Well, there’s nothing good, no, not one and I just can’t help but sin a little bit. And I’ve got to drink a little, and smoke a little, and run around a little, but the Lord knows my heart.” That’s the trouble. If the Lord didn’t know his heart, he wouldn’t be in trouble.
- 21 But we can say—there’s a man at work this deacon of a Baptist church in Atlanta. Told me from his own lips, he said, “There ain’t nothing I...” He said, “I have so much trouble,” said, “I run after women, this, that and the other.” I said, “Well, there ain’t no need of me condemning you.” I said, “It’s a shame, you being a deacon, being like you are. You ought to live above that.” But I said, “No need of me telling you you’re wrong because you’ve done told me you’re wrong.”
- 22 But, see, he goes to church every Sunday and all like that; sings, lead singing, deacon in the church, big pillar in the church and all. But he just can’t help but run after women. Well, now. Where would he ever find his place in the Bible? Where would he ever see his place for a rapture—and everybody talks about a rapture, you know? “We’re going. We’re going.”
- 23 But in last week’s message, I hope you caught that we are the alive Word. The Bride of Christ is the Word made alive for this very hour that we’re living in. We’re not living back in the Book of Acts. We’re not living at the church of Ephesus, or Smyrna or Pergamos. We’re living down in here in the end time that’s supposed to end all things.
- 24 Well, then about the time that I came in the Message, along in the late ’60s, it’s amazing how that Satan can steal from people what they had then. You that have been around the Message know what was back there and how that the Lord was working among the people and there were things going on. And they’re saying then, “Well, there ain’t nothing going on.” But there was some things going on.
- 25 The Lord was working among the people and they were happy, and they were singing, and they were shouting, and praising God. Now, where’s that? “Well, there just ain’t nothing going on.” Well, speak for yourself. Somebody hear this tape or you go—you think I’m talking about somebody, just go tell them I said it then, you know. I mean that’s just plain as I can put it. I’ll just go tell them myself. That’s your statement; that ain’t mine. See, because we’ve got to believe who we are. And we’ll never get out of here just setting around and saying, “Well...”
- 26 Wouldn’t it have been something for Joshua would’ve said, “All right now. Get yourself clean and ready.” Said, “We’re going over in three days.” “Well, let’s go get everything going. I guess we’re going to the Promised Land.” Now, you think it ever went? Joshua said, “Get your house in order. Clean it up. Get everything ready because in three days we’re crossing over.”

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- <sup>27</sup> The wrong time—the worst time that could ever be picked in the whole year to cross over Jordan was when it was in its highest peak and overflowed, running out its bank and it's running everywhere. That was the time Joshua—what did he say? “Well, now. We'll wait around a couple of months and then the river will go down, we'll walk across.” They could've done that. But when the river was overflowing its banks, he said, “Get ready. We're going over in three days.”
- <sup>28</sup> Now, what if some big captain walked out there and told these people and said, “Joshua says we're going over so... I don't believe we can make it.” What happened to the Hebrew—to the spies that went in and look at the land and come back and says, “We can't take it?” They did not go in. Is that true? Is that what the Bible teaches saying 12 spies—check your Bible. And when they come back, Joshua and Caleb was the only two that stood with the Word and said, “We can take the land and go in.” The other 10 said, “We can't go.” They didn't go, did they?
- <sup>29</sup> What I want you to see today is we make a confession of something. We make a statement of something. We all believe that we're here in the end of time. We all believe that the world is coming to an end and it's just any minute, or any time, or whatever. But yet, where is the believer standing there with the Word saying, “Even though, come Lord Jesus,” like John said; when you can see all of it falling around us and saying, “Well, let's just go on in then”?
- <sup>30</sup> Even the disciples go on in then. Even the disciples thought they was borned again. Jesus said, “Will you go back also with the rest of them?” Peter said, “Where can we go? Thou has the words of eternal life. Where can we go?” They can make that statement and they're not even borned again. Well, surely then, we ought to be able to take the Word and just stand on it and say, “Well, all right now. We're going through.”
- <sup>31</sup> But our trouble is in our lives. See, how can we go through when we can't even live daily? Now, how can the church go through when they can't even exist daily? Then our problem is us. It's our lives. We expect the Lord, now—in other words, we expect God to come on the scene when we're sick; our children are sick; our little kids or something gets sick. And we fall on our knees and we say, “Lord, I don't understand. I believe Your Word and my little child is sick and I want you to heal that child, Lord. Why won't You heal that child?” You know what it'd probably be? Sometimes it would be a surprise if God answers and heals some of them, I guess.
- <sup>32</sup> But we expect to live like the devil all the time, and then we want God to come on the scene just because we called Him. Just because we call Him down, we expect Him to come and do for us.

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- <sup>33</sup> Now, I ain't talking about nobody outside this building this morning. So don't think I'm talking about Brother So-and-so or Sister So-and-so. I'm talking to me and you this morning, okay? What everybody else outside this building's doing, that's their business. I can't talk to them this morning. If they were here, I'd be saying the same thing to them as I am to me and you. I'm talking about me and you.
- <sup>34</sup> Our trouble is that we don't believe the Word and take what the Word says to it contrary to all things. We say, "Yeah, but they was a great church there, you know, the Ephesus church. Oh, that was a great church." You want to go back there and get killed for your belief? They were. But this age is the most evil, deceiving of all ages that when man does what they think is right in their own eyes and they don't care what the Word says.
- <sup>35</sup> Now, where would a man like—I was referring to there a while ago a deacon of a Baptist church. Where would he have stood in the church at Ephesus? Somebody would've called him out and that'd have been it, wouldn't it? Where would he have stood? But, see, we've done it in our own self. It's my fault just as much as anybody or what's wrong with this church here. It's more my faulty, really. And I stood right here this morning and rededicated my life to the Lord and I changed for the things, the way that I've been. Because I've let this church go down, and down, and down, and down. And it's my fault. And I take the responsibility of it because it's my fault.
- <sup>36</sup> I've let it just taper down instead of holding a straight line and walking straight. I try to live—and you know it, you that around me. I'm not perfect and I'm no way that you can talk about it. But I try to live what I believe seven days a week. Bad enough like it is, but I try to live what I believe seven days a week. I don't try to be any different at work than I am here. I don't try to be any different with my family or preach to my family or build my family up, you know, and tear down all your families. I preach to everyone of us.
- <sup>37</sup> But our problem, church, is not believing. Bro. Branham said, "There," he said, "The very minute you believe it, then God will do something." It will happen. Where's our trouble then? In us. It's right here in us, isn't it? Because what else could we want? The Lord has showed us over all of these years and been gracious to us to give us a message that we haven't had to change 4000 times. We haven't had to try to prophet up with some kind of a something. We've just been going right on the same way with the same goal in mind that it was when we started; the same desire.
- <sup>38</sup> Well, then, when you start talking like that, just like I was saying there last Sunday, I said I haven't changed—or a couple of Sundays—that I haven't changed what I believed or what I've taught. Well, an old man said, "Well, you're just building yourself up, ain't you?" No, I'm just telling the truth. I'm

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- building the Lord up because when I tell you the truth, it's the truth and the Lord tells the truth. The Lord has blessed us over the years and kept us to place that you don't see just every little—
- <sup>39</sup> My telephone don't ring whenever Tom, Dick and Harry call and we want them to come to and preach for us. They might come one time. There was a lot of them been here one time. But my phone don't ring with them wanting to come back. Well, that might be a disgrace in one way, but it might be a blessing in another one. They know, at least, nobody tells them what to preach when they come to this pulpit. But when they go to my house and set down, me and he is going to talk if he's preached something to you that's not right. Then I'll come back here and straighten it up.
- <sup>40</sup> Well, see, then in that, we've come to a place that people don't want to be around us. Just trying our best to stay with the message and just be what we are. They don't want to be around us. They'd rather be somewhere else, you know? I dare say, in this small of a congregation, that the offering's the preacher's gift are more compared, you know, that's come to and preach is more compared than what they get in these other big groups. I believe that because I know what to give. And I know pretty well what the other churches has to give, you know, and things like that. But they just don't want to be around.
- <sup>41</sup> Well, now, listen. If we can be that way—now, think with me now. If we can be that way, then surely we can take the Word and stand on it and believe what we are. If we stood with the Word all these years that long, until we've become a pillar to where that pillar can't knock you backwards and forwards and up and down and all around, then surely we can believe who we are. That, to me, was what I was trying to get to last week, was to get me and you to believe that we are, right now, living the Word. If there was a Bible written about us, what would it be written about? We take pride, and glory and honor and it's due to be that way and really think greater.
- <sup>42</sup> The men of the Bible that, like Daniel, that in the time that when there was so much trouble and persecution going on, and killings and all like that of Daniel back there in the Old Testament, that Daniel still wouldn't fall down and worship that image of the king, and he'd go pray and everything and stand right there on the Word that the Lord has showed him. It is not written in the Bible, anywhere there, that in Daniel's life—now, I may be wrong about it. If I am, you can correct me. But I don't remember reading the Book of Daniel that it's ever recorded that Daniel prayed for one person and is healed.
- <sup>43</sup> But yet, we pride in saying, "What a great man Daniel was! That in the time of the worst trouble of all, he could stand true with the Holy Ghost." Well, what would be written about me and you then if it could be written now, that in a time when all things are just falling apart on every hand, that there's a little handful of



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- people that would gather together, and set, and try to believe somebody speaking to them that says, “We are the Word.”
- 44 What would the Book of Acts be written behind this church? Everybody says, “Oh, there will be a Book of Acts written by...” What they're wanting to see there'll be? There'll be so many hundred healed in every services; so many this, that and the other. Put them in our place a while and let's see how they work. Now, that's not tearing down anybody back there. I'm putting the emphasis on something for the truth for me and you to look at.
- 45 Put that church of Ephesus down here today and let's see what it would do. God knows what I'm doing with that. He knows I'm not tearing down the church at Ephesus. They were the springboard. They were the foundation; the very thing that hold us up. But put them down here where the trouble's at now.
- 46 You and I were chosen for this time. Paul couldn't come down here and take our place. It takes a special-bred people to come this time and hour that we're living; that they can stand on the Word and say, “Whether God hears us or not. Whether God save us or not, we still believe the Word.” It takes a special people to be able to do that; that you wouldn't give in. Look at all the churches across the land. Some of you younger ones don't know them, but we can name a lot of them that's given the doctrines of man and got caught by things like that.
- 47 What I'm wanting us to see—I don't believe in shouting you to a place where you can believe who you are. I believe in talking about the Word enough to where that you could believe who you are. That way you can stand on it. You can play the piano a little fast and you can get everybody to shouting, “Glory! Hallelujah!” And they say, “Oh, we have the Word.” Well, now, I may have a funny way of preaching. I may preach hard and strong and maybe beat on us some time to try to get us to believe with us, telling us hard like I'm talking right now. But, to me, that's the only way the church will ever come to the place that they can see who they are.
- 48 What if I told you a great bed of roses—come to the Lord—now, you younger ones, wouldn't it have been something when somebody just started the church here and all, for me just to get up and preach the message to you, “Now, when the Lord saves you, you're going to be set so free until the world won't bother you and you're not going to have no troubles, without sorrows no nothing; everything's going to be wonderful. You're just so lifted up in the Lord.”
- 49 And then the next week, the devil slapped you down about three times. Had you rather me tell you the truth? Had you rather me just tell it like it is that we're going to have troubles. That's what it's here for. But there's a believer's position there. And if we don't see that, see, then we can't see the Word in its rightful place.

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- 50 But now, think, church. I mean if we have to, let's just take this morning's message and just—it came to me last night, up in the night, maybe this is the way it needs to be done. My wife and I were up until about 11:30 last night, talking about all of us and everything else. I'm not talking about an individual person; I'm talking about what I'm talking about just now.
- 51 Then let's just think about it. But let's get it in the right channel to think about it. Surely, the early church went to a persecution of troubles and trials. But this is the most evil age that has ever been. There's never been an age this evil. There's never been a time this horrible, when there's so much out there to offer you.
- 52 And now, listen. There's churches all across the land out there today that's preaching divine healing and seeing the sick just instantly healed. There's places like that all over the world. You'd say, "Well, why ain't the Lord just coming in, instantly healing some of us?" I told you, you start with what's wrong which is us. Bro. Branham said, "The minute you believe it but," said, "If you don't recognize it, it won't work."
- 53 All right, now. You can't have confidence in the Word—the Word says, "If our hearts condemn us not, then we can have confidence." All right. If we've got condemnation in our heart, then we can't have confidence with God. We can't go to God with a clear, honest heart—you say, "Oh, I just take mine right straight to the Lord." You can't do it with condemnation in your heart. We can't go to the Lord that way. A human being's not built that way.
- 54 The only way you can approach God—even the heathen knew that. The heathen knows better than to try to approach God that way. He tries to appease God first. Is that true? How does a heathen go before God? He tries first to appease Him. He offers Him something. He tries to get Him on his side where he can talk to Him. Then he pours out his petition, you know, to Him.
- 55 Well, now, we're not supposed to have sacrifices that we offer to appease God. We're not trying to appease God. The blood of Jesus Christ appeased it at Calvary. We're supposed to go by faith, believing God. But then, when we have sin in our life, then we can't come that way. We have things in our lives that don't line up, we can't expect God to hear us. I mean how do we expect Him to?
- 56 He can't come on a scene to what we believe because we're the problem standing in between, not Him. We go all week and we spend our time doing everything in the world but thinking about God and then we wind up on the weekend (I'm talking about myself too with the rest of you) then we wind up on the weekend saying, "Lord, come and bless us."
- 57 Well, now, the seals reveal that there is an alive Word. And if there's an alive Word, then God has to be among His people. See, the ages that done—the seals

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- are done broke back there to John—I'm just looking down at something here on a note. Page 33 and 34, Christ the Mystery of God Revealed. Read it.
- <sup>58</sup> The seals have done been broke to John on the Isle of Patmos and the ages had come down. Watch where the prophet brings that the seals are broke, the ages had come down. Then each age was a Word made alive. Well, then go back to Luther's age. We need a persecution. We need God to pour on a persecution onto this church.
- <sup>59</sup> We think we have troubles and we think we have heartaches and try—we need a physical persecution. Then you'd see who is who. We need somebody standing and coming in this church with a gun in their hand and saying, "Now, let's see whether you're a Christian or not." That way you'd find out who's who. But if you can't live now and exist, don't worry about the day that happens. You won't exist then. You won't be around. You'd find some excuse for going somewhere else, doing something else. You won't be around the church then.
- <sup>60</sup> Well, what I want you to see: there is a believer's position. And the first place in that believer's position is just to be a born again Christian. If you're a born again Christian, then there is a Word in you; an alive Word in you; God living in us. Then, if God is living in me—now, just think. If God is living in me, then why am I going to go out and do like the people's doing and saying that God's living in them? Now, there's something wrong somewhere. We've missed the boat. That's what sin means; to miss the mark.
- <sup>61</sup> But just think now. There was an allotted Word for each age to be lived. I was looking at Feast of the Trumpets this week. Read Page 10 of it; go into it when you go home; of the Feast of the Trumpets. There's a Word to be lived by me and you. Now, our trouble is—our trouble is us. We don't believe what the Word says; we believe what our conscience, and memories, and things like that tells us. We don't believe what the Word says.
- <sup>62</sup> The Word tells us that we are the Word. The Word coming all the way down—now, there's another message coming behind this and, the Lord willing, I started looking at it a little this morning, that something's going to be proved. This church has got to come to the place that she can stand on the Word and take what the Word says irregardless.
- <sup>63</sup> How would you like to have been Bro. Branham? Everybody thinks, "Oh, it's so great. Look at the things that happened in Bro. Branham's life and all." What about the end of his ministry? That when he started, that he had millions and millions of followers. But when he died, he had just a handful of places he could go to preach the Message. It's always been downhill.

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- <sup>64</sup> I'm not talking about that we're supposed to be that way. I'm not talking about, "Well, we're just all in bad shape and we'll just keep on being in worser shape." I'm happy where I'm at because the Lord had showed me that that is what's going on that things are falling apart all around us. It's supposed to do that. But then can you believe who you are and stand on that? Just stand right there and say, "I don't care what comes or goes. I believe who the Word says I am."
- <sup>65</sup> See, we're looking for the end time. Everybody's always read the great things out of Bro. Branham's message and looked for the great end time that would come. And they've done exactly what the people of the Bible back there done because everybody always tried to figure out when the Bible said that the high places would be made low and the low places would be high and all this would be.
- <sup>66</sup> And what was it? John the Baptist, standing there on the River Jordan, in mud up to his knees, preaching the Gospel, was a fulfillment of all of them Scriptures. But yet, they could see all of these great things that was supposed to be that when John come—why he'd have so much power, there'd be a hill out there and he just do like that with his hand and they could be a big old valley over here, and they'd just fill that valley up, just that hill just pass over it.
- <sup>67</sup> And there stood a man preaching. They had it all figured out, how the Lord Jesus was supposed to come and all this great things that were supposed to happen. And here, one day, came a little man born down there that was, from what they claimed all of his life, was illegitimate. He walked in the world, and had a handful of followers, and was crucified for just stating what He believed.
- <sup>68</sup> And when all that was done, that's the fulfillment of what the Bible spoke of. But yet, we think it's supposed to end down here in the end, and we've got so much imagination in our mind, so many things build up and songs that they've sung—I remember one, years ago, that this song about this group of hippies that wouldn't let the law take them. And they all just stood there with their guns and died. And they wrote a song about going down in the blades of glory or something like that. And everybody thinks, "Boy, we're going out here with the blades of glory! Boy, this is going to be so great."
- <sup>69</sup> But the real little church is going to be so small until the world will never know she's even gone. It'll be over with and she'll be gone and the people won't even know it. What would happen this morning if this little group of people right here became missing this morning? Do you think that'd stop the world? Do you think they'd call the whole—all the newspapers in the land and write about the rapture had already come to the church?
- <sup>70</sup> You might find it over by Page 15 in the newspaper somewhere or the B section underneath all the great headlines of sports or something, a little bitty two-inch thing in there. Said, "Well, there was some people up at Lula become missing.

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We don't know what happen to them.” I doubt that he'd write that. What are we looking for? What are we trying to find? What's on our mind? What are we trying to find? What do we think this all is going to be like when we're promised it's going to get worse and worse until the rapture comes? By every type, every shadow, everything in the Bible is going to be that way.

- 71 Well, then, you look out here and you see God working, it looks like among all these denominational systems, and healing the sick and everything else in the world coming and going. What are we going to do—[edited]
- 72 Now, think. What are we going to do? What's the church going to do? What's the world going to do? It'll be over with and they won't even know anything about it. Done be gone, you won't know anything about it. But yet, we're looking and we've got our minds set, and our imaginations of all of these great things. And God can come to and have it over with by the end of the day. And we've missed it. It all could be over with.
- 73 The biggest portion of the Old Testament was fulfilled in the last hours of Jesus hanging on the cross. But yet, in our imaginations and things, we've build it to a place that we've got it so big and so great until nobody can attain unto it.
- 74 I'll tell you this much. There is a believer's position. If you, in your heart, will just accept it, and believe who you are, and stand on it—stand on what the Word says you are. “Well, I don't know what I am. I just don't know about it.” Well, stand on what the Word says you are. “Well, I might be telling something that ain't right.”
- 75 Well, I'd rather be telling something that ain't right than be standing there saying I ain't nothing. Is that true? I'd rather be telling something that ain't right. God could come to that because I can speak it and say that I am this by the Word, and the Word says I'm this, and I can say that. And then God can come on the scene to that. But what if I say, “Well, I ain't that.” Now, where can God come to that? If He'd come to that, He'd just come to nothing, wouldn't He?

...And the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and we're by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

- 76 Now, look what the apostle's trying to tell us. The apostle Paul's trying to tell us that that's where we're at, you know—I mean that's what we were. We were sinners. But, now, watch what he goes on to say:

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins...

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77 Now, listen. Even when we were dead in sins, He loved us.

...hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

78 Now, where was Paul at when He was talking about heavenly places? Now, he was standing right there, talking to them. But where was he at in the spiritual realm? In the spiritual realm, where was Paul at? Look back at Chapter 1 and Verse 20:

Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places.

79 Now, where's Jesus at? Setting on the Father's right hand. Where's your Christian at today? Now, we talk about the seals. We say, "Well, the seals, the old seals, they will take us out of here. John was taken up in Revelations 4:1. He saw an open door and said, "Come up." All right. When John went up, that represented the rapture of the church. Now, is that true? That's what it represented—was the Rapture of the church.

80 Now, think about it. We talk about the seals and we're going to have to be taken up. We're going to have to be taken up out of the carnal mind of man—now, not physically taken up because John wasn't necessarily physically taken up into heaven. He went there by revelation.

81 Well, all right now. Before you and I can see what we're supposed to see, we're going to have to be taken up out of our carnality. All right. The new birth, then, puts the believer—takes him out of the carnality, and puts him at the right hand because that's what we want to say, Jesus, He's up at the Father's right hand.

82 All right. Then that's where we're at. Spiritually speaking, this morning, we're resurrected and seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. We might be down here in an old building and run-down, and listening to somebody holler and scream but spiritually speaking, when you're born again, you're resurrected and seated in heavenly places.

83 But the thing about it is, can you believe that? Can you believe that when you're set free from sin, that sin can't have no more dominion over you? It don't mean you can't sin, but sin cannot take you down. Can you believe that? See, if you can't believe that, there's no need talking about the seals, no need to wonder what the seals can do.

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- 84 If you can't believe that you are a Christian this morning and that you're resurrected and seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, then the altar's open. You better get to that place where you can believe that because God can only reveal to those that are born again. Outside of that, it won't work. The carnal mind can't understand.
- 85 That's why it sounds so rough when we're preaching, and talking, and things that's going on. It sounds like that you're beating on people, or trying to make them certain things or quit doing certain things. No, it's trying to get a man to Christ because if we're in Christ, we're resurrected, sitting in heavenly places this morning. And that's the believer's position there.
- 86 See, we've got a thing in mind that's seeing the believer's position. And it looked like it's way out yonder somewhere and can't attain unto it. If me and you just get down to being what we are, you might find out we're positioned a little better than what you think we are.
- 87 See, we think, "believer's position." When you say "believer's position," you know what everybody seems to think about? "Well, Bro. Branham, boy, he had this and he had that." And, "Boy, we're going to have this and we're going to have that." When Bro. Branham, talking on adoption, said God come down hide himself in an old wash woman going about her daily duties doing the wash or a man, with his lunch under his arm, going to work.
- 88 See, what man that looks at has always been foolish to God. It's always been that way. But yet, when God looks down then what? When he looks at what man's doing, it's foolish to Him. But man looks at what God's doing, it's foolish to him, ain't it? See, we think, and we've been told, we've been built up to where that, oh, we're supposed to be all this great thing. It's supposed to be Christ. And that is the greatest thing that's ever been.
- 89 The greatest thing that have ever been written up, until the time, was John the Baptist, standing on the—down there on the River Jordan, preaching the Gospel. But what if you have had to look at it? What if you had been back there? What would you have said? What if we'd have been standing there? What would we have said? "Oh, an old fanatic." "Oh, a mixed-up, crazy man."
- 90 And then you see somebody over on the end time, trying to tell a group of people that we're supposed to be God made manifest in human flesh. And we'll never do that unless we believe it. "Well, we're going to have to wait a certain time before we can believe it." No, I'm not talking about believing it, now. I'm talking about right now, believing it, and accepting it. That's the believer's position.
- 91 Bro. Branham said—we'll get to it and then we'll have to time tonight. He said there's a place there that the believer comes to. He said that when you come to

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- that position, he said the rapture will come. And he evidently must've caught somebody's thought because in the simplicity of Christ is a mystery of God revealed; and seeing it, somebody must have said something. He said, "Oh, yes it will; when the church sees who she is."
- <sup>92</sup> All right, now. If you go back and listen to last week's message that we drew out here—where are we? What are we? We're the Word made flesh. Can you accept that? I'm talking about just in a new birth now. If we can accept that, then surely you can go upward in Christ. Are you borned again this morning? If you ain't, then the altar's open for that because that is the only thing that's ever going to put you to a place you can understand anything. The natural mind receiveth not the things of God because they're spiritually discerned.
- <sup>93</sup> But just think about that now. We want to be earthly minded and understand heavenly things. John was taken up, in Revelations 4:1, to see things that would come. All right. Then we're going to have to be taken up; out of our carnality into Jesus Christ and sit in heavenly place or we'll never know what's going on. And that's the believer's position. But you'll never do it until you believe it. You'll never be healed. I'll just quit on that because there's something wrong this morning. Maybe it's in me. I'm not—I've never been one to blame nobody; nothing but myself. But maybe the point got across too.
- <sup>94</sup> You say, "I want the Lord to heal me." We've been taught, and taught, and taught, and taught that you've got to believe you're healed before you can be healed. You say, "I want the Lord to save me." We've taught, we've taught, we've read, we've done everything in the Book, we've preached on it; you've got to believe you're saved before you can be saved. There's just some people that cannot believe. You say, "Yes, but it's so hard to believe."
- <sup>95</sup> What's so hard to believe? Do you believe that God exists? Do you believe there is a God? Man would be a fool to not, wouldn't he? You can look out there in the world to see it. A little rose is taken up, coming out of the ground. What causes that thing to grow? What caused it to go in the ground in the fall of the year and die and freeze?
- <sup>96</sup> But yet at the spring of the year, here it starts coming out back up. What causes that? There's got to be God. There's got to be a force somewhere that causes that. What causes the sap to go down into the ground before the first frost ever hit in the fall of the year? Take a bucket of water and set it on a stump and let's see go in the ground. Before the frost ever hit, the leaves start falling of the trees, don't it? Why? Sap's going into the ground. Something causes that.
- <sup>97</sup> And as Bro. Branham said in this last book we just got, he said over—somewhere overseas where he went, he said that it had a big earthquake and the birds were returning and the cattle back. Said they have stone fences, you know, built over



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- there, didn't have wooden fences like we do. They have stone fences. And the cattle would get around and stand in the shade of those fences in the day to knock off the hot sun. And the birds built their nests in there and lived in those rocks. But there was fixing to be an earthquake and all the birds and the cattle went out in the middle of the fields, stood out there in the middle of the field. What caused that?
- <sup>98</sup> Something caused those birds to leave their home or they would have been killed. Something caused those cattle to get away from the fences or they would have been killed. Well, surely, as Bro. Branham said, if He can do that, then surely He can lead a son and daughter.
- <sup>99</sup> But I want us to see, church. Maybe it's a hard way of trying to see it. Maybe it's just my way of preaching that you can't see it that way that it needs to be seen. But you've got to believe who you are. You've got to accept who you are and believe who you are. Stand on who you are; and it don't matter what anybody says, or who says it, or what's going and coming. Stand on that Word, and believe it and accept it.
- <sup>100</sup> If you need salvation, stand on what the Word says, not what some preacher, some idea you've got in your mind. A certain lady left here one time and went to another church because in her mind had been embedded that there was a church across the river over here that was baptizing people and they was going to heaven. And that preacher's mind—word embedded in that woman's mind. And she left this church and went to that church, had been going there ever since because she believed that those people were being baptized and going to heaven. And she wanted to go to heaven and that's what I told her. I told her—I said, that's what's wrong with you. She said, "Yes."
- <sup>101</sup> But, listen. If that can do that with just man's word, then, surely, reading this Bible and studying the prophet's message can show us that we are going to heaven. Surely, it can show us where we are in our lives. Surely, we can see that we're the Bride of Jesus Christ and that He's coming back after a church that will stand with the Word. What have we read to you? That God would prove His church. Now, to prove the church, if He's going to prove something, what do you do with it? You put it through persecution.
- <sup>102</sup> Now, we're not going to the tribulation. I ain't talking about that. But there's things waiting for us that's going to prove who we are. We've already went through things to prove who we are. We've went through enough right here, in this church, to destroy 90 percent of the churches in this Message. But yet we're still here. Why? Because He approved who we are but we have to stand on the Word.

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- <sup>103</sup> Just accept what the Word says you are. The Word says I'm a Christian. Then accept that. The Bible says you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, thou shalt be saved. All right. Believe that. That's not Baptist. That's the Bible being quoted. That's not Baptist doctrine. That's the Bible being quoted. Stand on that and believe it. Accept who you are today. Then you'll see that we just keep going from there all the way to the rapture.
- <sup>104</sup> But surely we can see now that the Word is being revealed to us. Well, then where are we? Just take the Word. Stand there. I don't care what happens. Just stand right there with the Word and call for it and the Lord will come on the scene. If He don't, He's a liar. God would be a liar if He didn't come to His Word. But now, He also can't come unless we believe. He can't come to it unless we believe it. See, we're the ones holding it all, not Him 'cause He's wanting to fulfill His Word.
- <sup>105</sup> Joyce, would you come?
- <sup>106</sup> Let's just not try to go in to notes and things. Just think on it. And you just—maybe it's—if this is just a message that didn't mean anything to you, just forgive me. But you also think about what's said. We've got to believe who we are. We've got to stand on what the Word says we are. What else are we going to stand on? “Yes, but, Bro. Dale, if we was the Word, things would be going this way.”
- <sup>107</sup> As I told my wife the other night, I said, “If there was a whole lot going around and everything, I'd doubt that—that would be the trouble right there.” If there's a great, big church filled up here and all these things, you know, going on, then I might kind of doubt myself. But when I stand on the Word, God's promised me He'll come and honor it. And that I believe.
- <sup>108</sup> I've seen Him honor His Word. I've seen Him back it up right here, in this church, time after time. And I'm not discouraged about that; I'm encouraged. And what I see in the Word, I'm greatly encouraged. I see some people are accepting who they are, and standing on it, and believing it; and you've got to. If you don't, God can't help you. He can't do anything for you. But if we just accept it, He can. Let's stand together.
- <sup>109</sup> Father, we know that we're promised that the Word won't return void. And that if we just read it, and just comment upon Your Word, then it will not return void. Let the church see their position. Let us all see who we are, Lord, and then just stand on that Word. And then we'll just be the Word made manifest. Help us all. Grant us understanding, Lord. Grant us forgiveness of our sins. Heal the sicknesses among us, Lord. All kind of things that people are sick of, take it away from us, Father. Most of all, give us the dedicatedness in our heart to Thee. And help us to walk after Thee and to be guided in Your loving grace. We've come a

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long way in the journey. Lord, we know that You're leading us and guiding us. But may we see that. And maybe this morning's message, Lord, helps us to see that You're with us regardless because we believe Your Word. Guide us now. Help the people. In Jesus' name.

<sup>110</sup> Let's just sing a hymn. 221. "Pass Me Not O, Gentle Savior." Or make it 219. It'll be a little hard to sing that. Let's just sing Number 219. If anyone has a need, the altar's open. Just...

<sup>111</sup> [Bro. Dale sings "He Will Save You Now" with the congregation.]

<sup>112</sup> Lord Jesus, we thank You for the day and the time. We pray, Lord, that you just go with each one of us to our separate ways. Be with Your people. Bless Your people, Lord, because You promised You would. We believe that. Guide us now as we separate. Bring us back together in love and grace this afternoon, Lord. Forgive our sins. Lift us all up in Your Spirit that we may all see who we are; that we are the Word made manifest for this hour that we're living; and that our names are engraved there in that Word; and that we can see ourselves. Father, just guide us. Teach us and keep us. Bless us now as we dismiss. And may, Lord, You, be the One that would have pre-eminence in each heart and life. In Jesus' name.

<sup>113</sup> You're dismissed.

<sup>114</sup> Don't forget we have a new book.

*[End of audio]*