

# Jesus Christ The Same Yesterday, Today, And Forever

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**William Marrion Branham**

*"... in the days of the voice ..." Rev. 10:7*

# Introduction

The remarkable ministry of William Branham was the response of the Holy Spirit to the prophecies of the Scriptures in Malachi 4:5,6, Luke 17:30, and Revelations 10:7, and many other Bible prophecies. This worldwide ministry has been a continuation of the working of God by His Spirit at this End time. It is in the Scriptures that it is spoken that it would be necessary for a ministry to arise to prepare a people for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

We pray that the printed Word will become written in your heart as you prayerfully read this message.

While every effort has been made to provide an accurate unabridged transcription and/or translation, the English audio files are the best representation of the sermons spoken by William Branham.

Audio and transcribed versions of over 1,100 sermons preached by William Branham are available for free downloading and printing in many languages.

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# Jesus Christ The Same Yesterday, Today, And Forever

1 Thank you, sir. It's very nice to be here tonight. I have waited for this time with a great anticipation. We come to your fair city about six months ago, right after Christmas, and we've been sojourning here with you. And one day while out with Brother Tony Stromei, I ... we fell on the idea that it would be nice to get better acquainted before we had to leave. And we thought it would be nice to have a little campaign down here to get the ... we all get together and have some fellowship around the Word of God.

2 And many of these brethren I haven't met. And I visited some of their churches and found such a wonderful welcome. And I think it's a grand thing that we can all meet together for these few nights now, to fellowship around the Word of God. We are trusting that it will be a great success to the glory of God and the upbuilding of the cause that Jesus died for; that is that He might have a Church without spot or wrinkle when He returns.

Now, we don't represent any certain organization. We just come as an interdenominational to gather together with every Christian, that we might have this fellowship together.

3 And we are going to pray for the sick people. And many times when you mention praying for the sick, then they say, "a Divine healer." No. I don't believe there is but one, and that's Christ. But sometimes they pin that on you as Divine healer. But ... because you pray for the sick. But I do not believe that praying for the sick would make you any more of a Divine healer than it would make you a Divine saviour to pray for the lost. So we know that we would not be a Divine saviour or Divine healer.

4 We believe that all these great benefits, that we enjoy today in this Christian economy we have, was all purchased at Calvary by the Son of God, Jesus Christ. We believe that "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we were healed." It's all a past tense. It's something God has done for us at Calvary. And as Christians we have the right to enjoy these blessings that He has purchased for us.

5 So, therefore, no man could save another. If it would've been so, Jesus would not had to die. But when Jesus died at Calvary, He settled the sin question forever; and every man, every creature on earth, when He died, was saved at that very minute. Every.... The price was paid completely. It was so met that God identified that it was true.

Now, the only thing we have to do to receive this is to accept it—to

believe it and accept it. But no matter how much that He died for our salvation, we must ourselves accept it as our own personal experience, our own desire. We must want to be saved and believe that upon the basis of His shed Blood that we are saved after we have met the requirements of the Bible.

6 I believe in the Bible being the full revelation of Jesus Christ. Now I do believe that God can do things that's not written in the Bible, because He's God. But as long as we can find it in the Bible as a promise, then we know it's true because the Word is true always. And so we believe Him to keep His promise.

I believe that He's almighty. I believe He's infinite. Being infinite He knew all things. He knows all things. A million years before there was a world He knew we'd sit right here tonight. If it isn't, He isn't infinite. And if He's ... and if He isn't infinite, then He isn't God. So we believe that the Word, this Bible, is the Word of God. And therefore that you can hang your soul upon any phase of it.

That's the only way you can have faith, is to believe you got.... Faith has to have an anchoring place somewhere, and it must anchor on a place. And nothing could be more solid than the Word of God, because the Word is God. That's what the Bible said, teaches. Therefore, when God says anything in here, a believer can punctuate it with an "Amen"—anything that He says.

7 Now because Him being infinite, omnipotent, omnipresent, He cannot be one without the other; and to be God He has to be all of it. Now therefore, as being finite—like we are—this year we can work on something and we think we got it perfect. Next year, or maybe tomorrow, we have to change our mind—it's different. We found something better, because we're finite. But He's infinite. So when He says a Word, it's forever that way, it can never be improved, it can never be taken back.

If God was called on the scene, in any case, and the way God acted on that scene the first time, He must forever act the same way when He's called on the scene again. Because if He'd act different than He did the first time, then there's something wrong. See, He.... It could not be perfect, see. Therefore He acted wrong when He acted the first time, if He acts second time different than He did the first.

8 Therefore, when God made a remedy for man to be saved in the garden of Eden.... They've tried to improve His remedy through six thousand years and can never touch it. He made it upon the basis of the shed blood of an innocent victim, and He's never changed it. We've tried to educate people to Christ. We've tried to denominate them to Christ. We've tried all kinds of systems, but they've all failed. There's only one

forever, and He's alive and here with us tonight. And we are following His commandments to laying our hand on one another.

104 Satan, turn them loose. Come out of them in the name of Jesus Christ. Let this audience of people go for the glory of God. Turn them loose Satan. We adjure thee by the Presence of Jesus Christ, the living One, the resurrected Son of God, leave them go, and come out of them, for the glory of God, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Every person present that feels that Jesus Christ has kept His Word, that He's come in our midst, that He's here because He promised to be here.... He's here and identified Himself. He's the same Lord Jesus that walked in Galilee. And you believe that He keeps all of His Word; and because somebody, a believer, identified himself with you by laying his hands upon you to identify himself with the Word of God, that you are now healed and you resent Satan holding you any longer. Your faith goes loose to believe that God is here to keep His Word. Stand on your feet and accept your healing. All that believe it, rise up to your feet. Blessed be the name of the Lord. Raise up your hands and praise Him. Now you are healed in the name of Jesus Christ.

place that man can meet on a common ground of worship, and that is under the shed Blood of Jesus Christ. It's been that way from the beginning, 'cause He cannot change it. It's always the Blood—the Blood.

9 And today when we think that we're different from the other fellow and so forth, it just does not work. We must still accept that basis of the shed Blood. And, therefore, when God was called on the scene to heal a man, He healed a man upon the basis of his faith. And when He's called on the scene again, He'll heal the next man the same way, or He acted wrong. If God ever did heal a man because he believed, and then the next man calls with the same kind of faith, God's obligated to do the same thing to the next man. If not, He's respecter of persons and acted wrong in the first place. So you see, back to the Word. I believe it with all my heart.

10 Now, we are expecting God to do great things for us. And we want, when we leave, to see a blessing left in this city. And I know you'll be a blessing to me, "for wherever two or three are gathered in His Name, He promised to be there." Now if that isn't so, then we're all lost and the Bible's wrong. That makes Jesus Christ here now. If that isn't so, then what are we preaching? What are we believing, see? He's here. "Wherever two or three are assembled in My Name, I'm in the midst of them." Now we must act then, and believe; and believe that He is here, and act like He's here. And remember, He watches us after we leave here also.

11 And we're trusting that every unsaved person will be saved during this campaign. We're trusting that there will not be an empty seat in every one of these churches here that's represented, from this time on. And I trust that there'll be an old-fashioned God-sent revival break out through Tucson here that'll just send thousands of souls into the kingdom of God. I believe that's the will of God. That's His desire tonight.

And there's no one person can do it by themselves. It takes us all together to pull together, to pray together, to stand together in unity in the Spirit, and pray for this. Brethren's been telling me that the churches has had prayer meetings prior to this meeting. And I'm so thankful for that. It'll ... when you gather together to pray like that, it changes the whole atmosphere when we pray.

12 Now we will not try to keep you long, and ... each evening, because I know you must get out and go to your work. So we'll try each night to let you out early so that you can return the next night. And this is just a little visit, as we've come together. And we're just got the four nights, I believe. I think that's right—Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (all right), four nights. And then we end here in this same auditorium for a Businessmen's Breakfast Saturday morning, which the public is invited.

Now I'm not a stranger, I don't feel like a stranger among you. I'm

your brother. And so I hope that you feel the same way about me. And now before we approach the Word, let's approach the Author of the Word while we bow our heads just a moment for prayer.

13 Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who raised Him up from the dead and has kept Him alive all these years.... And He's alive forevermore reigning in our hearts tonight, taking control to lead us and guide us. May we all be surrendered to His Divine will, that He might lead us in the way that He would have us go.

We want to thank You, Father, for this marvelous opportunity to present Jesus Christ in the way of the great mighty Healer, the great Saviour of man, the Satisfier to every longing heart, health to the sick, salvation to the lost, coming King to the saints. O God, inspire us all tonight.

14 I thank You for these men, these shepherds of the flocks of this city, these minister brethren, who has their little outposts all along the city—where they're feeling constantly for the Spirit of God to come in on the waves of the Holy Spirit, move into their midst and tell them what they must do, how they must lead the sheep. And tonight, it seemingly, Lord, as a Message swept down through those waves, that all agreed that we must come together in this service. Now come, Lord Jesus.

We thank You for the Ramada Inn and for its open arms to receive the Gospel, and let us come here to worship in this air-conditioned building. Father God, we pray that there will not be a lost person go out of this building without being saved. Grant it, Lord. May the ... if the staff of this building in this great Ramada is not saved, we pray, God, that You'll save them.

15 Heal the sickness around here. May it come to pass that people will walk in this auditorium and weep under the power of the Holy Spirit. Grant it, Lord. We long for these things. And we believe it's your Divine will to reveal it to us now, and to show us Your presence, that You're here and ever alive, and with us forevermore.

Bless us as we put forth our feeble efforts. May the Holy Spirit come in. And may we not think our own thoughts, but may we have our minds open to the great unction of His presence that we might know His mind, to fulfill which was written in the Scripture, "Let the mind that was in Christ be in you."

Bless us, our Father. And when we leave the service tonight may we say as we go to our homes, "Did not our hearts burn within us as He talked to us along the way?", as it did one day long ago, of the first witness of the resurrection, as Cleopas and his friend was returning back from the city. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

believes that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever? ["Amen."] You believe He's here? ["Amen."—Ed.] Now, let me give you another Scripture. Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; he that believeth not shall be damned. These signs shall follow them that believe." Is that right? "In my name they shall cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; if they would take up serpents or drink deadly things, it would not harm them. If they lay their hands upon the sick, they shall recover." How many knows that's true? ["Amen."]

What was his last words that fell from His lips as He was taken up: "If they lay their hands on the sick they shall recover." Is that right? ["Amen."] Do you believe it? ["Amen."] How many believers are in here? Let's see. All right. Now, if you want to see the miracle of God, believe that this what I'm telling you, and you see manifested, is Jesus Christ; and then lay your hands over on one another. Just put your hands over on one another. No matter what's wrong, just lay your hands on somebody next to you. Now see, it just isn't me; it's you. "These signs [didn't say it just will follow William Branham, it said] will follow them that believe. If they lay their hands on the sick...."

102 Now are you satisfied Jesus is alive and among us? Say, ["Amen."] Why, He that made the promise is here. Now you pray for the person that you got your hands on, see. You pray for them, see. Don't pray for yourself; you pray for them because they're praying for you, see. Now you know He's here. He made the promise. And if He'll stand out here before the people and confirm it and prove it, that it's true, then you believe it with all your heart. Now I'm going to pray for all of you. And while you pray for one another, let's believe now with all of our hearts.

103 Our heavenly Father, we are indeed, our hearts are thrilled. You are here tonight. There is no place too humble, no place too great, no place too far but what You'll come to your believing children. O great God of heaven, You have sent Jesus Christ in the form of the Holy Spirit, which is here now, and identifying Himself the same yesterday, today, and forever, and the children are believing it. I've given them Your Word. You have confirmed Your Word.

Now, there's many sick here. And they're thrilled, they're happy, they have their hands ... these believers, these believing children, have their hands upon their sick brother or sister. They are believing. They are praying for he or she. And God, You made the Promise; it's Your work. Now as your servant, I bring this service to this place that we as believers come to challenge the devil—that he's bluffed us around as much as he's going to. We believe that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and

happens in the late of the afternoon when you get tired and wore out. Everything seems to go strange to you. You're suffering also with arthritis. [Sister says, "Yes."—Ed.] If that's so, wave your hand. ["That's right, too."] And I notice that when you're trying to get out of the bed you go real slow when you get up of a morning—kind of hard for you at that time, that's true.

Something strange. I see a man, a young man appear in here. It's your son, and he's suffering from a mental condition. And the mental condition was caused by domestic trouble. That's "THUS SAITH THE LORD." That's true, isn't it? Do you believe now? [The sister says, "Yes."—Ed.] Then go find it the way you believe. God be with you. Have faith and believe it'll be all right. Do you believe with all your heart? [Congregation says, "Amen."—Ed.] Sure. He knows all about you.

99 How do you do, sir? [The brother says, "God bless you."—Ed.] We're strangers to each other, I suppose. ["Yes, sir."] The Lord Jesus knows both of us. ["Yes."] We are two men met here for the first time in life. But there's someone here ... don't ... shaking.... That's just weakness, you see. I spoke for an hour or more and it didn't hurt me. But just one vision, that does it, See? See?. How many feel you understand that? [Congregation says, "Amen."]

Daniel saw one vision, was troubled at his head for many days. Jesus preached all night and everything, but one little woman touched His garment and He said, "I perceive that virtue has gone from Me." Is that right? ["Amen."] That's strength. And it would do that to the Son of God, what would it do to me, a sinner, see? It does something to you. Frankly, the whole audience now is just becoming like a blur, see.

100 I don't know you, but God does know you. But if He will reveal to me what's in your heart, then.... He, Jesus, perceived their very thoughts. He knows your heart. And if He can reveal to you your desires, would you believe you would receive it? [The brother says, "Amen."—Ed.] How many out there would believe you would receive it? [Congregation says, "Amen."—Ed.] That ought to settle it, if you believe it.

Something on your arm shows that you have a high blood pressure. That's right. But it's got a cause, and the cause is from a goiter growth. That's right. Do you believe me to be His prophet, or His servant, rather? [The brother says, "Yes, sir. I do."—Ed.] Do you believe He knows you? ["Amen."] You're wanting to be healed for a good cause. You want to be a missionary. Your post'll be in Central America. That right? Mr. Ogum, you believe with all yourself now.... Believe with all your heart. Go and receive your healing. Jesus Christ will make you well.

101 Do you believe? [Congregation says, "Amen."— Ed] How many

16 Many people kind of take Scriptures that the evangelist would read from. And I wish tonight just to take a few verses of Scripture and try to explain them in my humble way, that you might see Jesus Christ. I want you to turn with me now to the book of St. John, the 12th chapter and the 20th verse, if you'd like to follow me as we read. St. John 20, or St. John 12:20 and 21:

*And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast:*

*The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus.*

Then in the book of Hebrews the 13th chapter and the 8th verse:

*Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and for ever.*

I wish to make this as a text, "Jesus Christ the Same Yesterday, Today, and Forever."

17 I was attending a church Sunday night, here in the city, one of your fine churches. And here I've tried to visit as many as I could since we've been in the city, and found great fellowship and welcome with the Assemblies of God, the Baptists, and the Anderson Church of God, and many more that I visit.

And on this church, at the back of the pulpit, had the scripture, like a Bible, written: "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever."

That's kind of been a theme with me in the campaigns, that I would use that, because I believe the entire Book is the revelation of Jesus Christ, and He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. And then for ...

18 I'd like to build for my context, "Sirs, we would see Jesus."

I believe tonight, that every man and woman in here would freely feel that these Greeks expressed the feelings of us all. For they had heard about Jesus, and now they wanted to see Him. I believe that there's no man that can hear the wonderful story of Jesus Christ but what he longs in his heart to get to see Him. That's the believers' desire, is to see Him. And I don't care whether He's short, tall, or what He is; I love Him, and I want to see Him. And the one who saved me and has done for me what He's done, I long to see Him.

19 Now there's no doubt that these Greeks were proselytes to the Jewish religion, because we see it was the feast of the Passover, where the paschal lamb was killed. And these Greeks being among them.... Now the Greeks were of a very high talented people. They were leading the world in art, and highly educated in science, and they were great people. And they were scholars—they read many books. And something they had ...

must have got a hold of ... something in the human heart, longing to find something that quenches that great thirst that comes in a human heart.

20 Did you ever think why a man would do wrong? It's because he's trying to satisfy a thirst that God put in his heart to thirst after Him. And then he tries to satisfy it with the things of the world. And it'll never be satisfied until it's quenched by God Himself, till He can come in and satisfy that great longing and thirst in the human heart. There's just so much of a man that won't fill up. Nothing else can take its place until God takes His right position in the human heart.

21 And these Greeks had heard, and no doubt had been reading the Old Testament. And they had heard about the coming Messiah and what He should be when He arrived. And they had longed to see what God would be when He would be manifested in the flesh; what a man would look like that would be filled to the capacity until the fullness of the Godhead would be in Him. What would He be? And they'd heard about Jesus that claimed to be this person, the Messiah—

22 that the Jews for thousands of years had looked for this coming one, where God Himself would be made human in the form of His Son in order to bleed and die; for there was no man could die for the other because we were all guilty together.

One man could not save the other, and there had to be a Man who was worthy. In the old laws of the ministers, those of the Kinsman Redeemer, it had to be.... God had to become Kinfolks to us. And He crossed His tent and came down from being God, the great Jehovah, and was made flesh in the form of His Son; that God might be manifested, and be worthy, and Kinfolks to us; that He might die to take away our sins to save His own creation.

Oh, the story's so great. There's no way to approach it, to know the real ... how you could express it. There's not ... it isn't on the human tongue that could express what love that is—that God would come down, the Creator, to save His own creation.

23 Now we find these Greeks thirsting. They'd heard. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing of the Word."—the Bible says so. Hebrews said, "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing of the Word of God." Now they'd heard that there was to be a Messiah. So then they come to see. They come to see this person that was to be that messiah, who was believed among the people was that Messiah.

Now that's the same position that we sit tonight. We have heard about God. We've been taught about God. Through the years we've had churches—great churches, great men, great evangelists. But I believe

same yesterday, today, and forever. That poor little woman sitting there, see, her faith....

96 There was a woman one time went through a crowd of people, and she touched His garment, for she said within herself, "I believe that the man is truthful. I believe He's the Son of God. And if I can just touch the border of His garment, I'll be made heal ... well." How many knows the story? [Congregation says, "Amen."] Well then, if He ... the Bible says in the New Testament, the book of Hebrews, "that He is a High Priest that right now can be touched by the feeling of our infirmities." How do we know we touched Him? Because He acts the same way He did yesterday.

Now, you know the woman never touched me—she's thirty feet from me. But she touched that High Priest who we're in contact with. There you are. Each one of you can do that if you'll just believe it. Amen. You see, He's the same. Now ask the little woman. I never seen her, never knowed her. She's just a woman sitting there.

97 Excuse me. We're strangers one to another, but Jesus Christ knows both of us. You believe that He can reveal to me something that you have done, something that you're desiring? Would it make you know that ... me, just your brother, I wouldn't know that. It'd have to come from some Power. Would you believe it to be Jesus Christ? You would do it. I believe you would, 'cause you're a Christian. All right, you believe me now.

And now will the audience believe with all their heart? [Congregation says, "Amen."—Ed] You believe that the hour that we're living in, that these things are supposed to come right now? Remember, that was the last sign that Israel had before she was.... What was taken, was taken. What was left, was left. That was the last sign just before the fire fell. Is that right? We've had signs, wonders, sanctification, baptism of the Holy Ghost, speaking in tongues, Divine healing. But what was the last sign before Sodom burned? This very same you're seeing tonight, God manifesting Himself in human flesh, knowing the secret of the heart. Jesus Christ said so. "As it was in the days of Sodom so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man."

98 Say, "You're looking at the woman. You're reading her mind." I'll turn my back to her then. Don't think I ain't catching what you're thinking, 'cause I am.

All right, lady, you just come up here now, so I'll look up and not catch someone else. Now we are total strangers. But if Jesus Christ can reveal to me what your trouble is, will you believe it? If you will, raise up your hand.

I see you're extremely nervous, that's right. And especially that

Now, if he was sick and I could heal him, wouldn't I be an awful person if I didn't heal him? But I couldn't heal him, because I can't do what Christ has already done. He's already healed if he's sick. It's just something.... If Jesus was standing right here with this suit on that He gave me, He could not heal you. He'd tell you He'd already done it. He was wounded for our transgressions, with his stripes.... He'd ask you if you believe it. But He could identify Himself that He's the same yesterday, today, and forever—and that's just what He's doing, see.

93 Now, here's a man; the other was a woman. I've never seen him, met him. We're just strangers here on earth. Now, sir, if the great Holy Spirit, which you're conscious right now.... Something happened right then, didn't it? Now that Light settled right over the man. Just ask him. I want you to know this. Just a second ago a real sweet humble feeling come over you. Is that right? Raise your hand if that's right. I'm looking right at it, see. There it is. All right.

The man is a tiny bit hard hearing in his ears, but he's had a serious something happen to him. He's had an operation for a rupture. That's what you're wanting me to pray for. If that's right raise up your hand. All right.

94 Is that right? Do you believe that? [Congregation says, "Amen."—Ed.]

Now, see, you don't guess those things. They're truth. Here, he's got something on his heart. You want to believe whether it's God or not. There's something else on your heart, something you're wanting. There's somebody out here in the audience suffering too. It's your wife. That's right. She's got complications—in misery and pain right now. Isn't that right? [The sister says, "Yes."—Ed.] All right, sister, you're healed too. Both of you go home. Jesus Christ makes you well. Go on your road rejoicing. Thank God. Believe now. Have faith. Don't doubt; believe. All things are possible to them that believe. See, I cannot heal. I'm no healer. But Jesus Christ is proving Himself that He's here with you.

95 This kind of Indian, or Mexican, lady looking at me right here, suffering with high blood pressure, do you believe Jesus Christ? I don't know you, I've never seen you. Is that right? But you were sitting there, you were believing that, wasn't you? Raise up on your feet if that's so, if you suffer with high blood pressure. Jesus Christ heals you.

What happened there? You say, "Brother Branham, that's not scripture." Yes, it is. A woman touched His garment. Is that right? [Congregation says, "Amen."—Ed.] Now how many of you ministers, and you people, believe this, that the Bible says that He is now a High Priest that can be touched by the feeling of our infirmities? Is that right? [Congregation says, "Amen."] How would you know you touched Him? Because He acted the same way He did yesterday. Amen. Makes Him the

we're living in the shadow of the Coming of the Lord Jesus, when this church has come from justification under Luther, sanctification under Wesley, into the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and coming to the perfect Church without spot or wrinkle; that through that Church that God might redeem back all the Blood-washed saints, and take them home down through the age. And we're becoming more Christ-like, and more in the minority, all the time.

24 Now. We find that these men hungering, they come to see what this Man looked like. And they asked the question, "Sirs, we would see Jesus." Now they'd heard about Him, heard others speak of Him, read of Him in the Bible; but they wanted to see Him.

25 Now, to my text. The Bible said "He's the same yesterday, today, and forever." Then if these men was desirous to see Him, and God made a way that their anticipation could be satisfied.... He made a way that they could see Him, by one of his servants. Now if "He's the same yesterday, today, and forever," and we have the same sincere desire to see Him, isn't He obligated to show Himself among us?

Now that's a great big statement. But if the Bible isn't right, then where are we at? But the Bible said "He's the same." And He can't be just the same in some manner; He's got to be the same in every manner that He ever was. He says, "He's the same yesterday, today, and forever." And these Greeks wanted to see Him because faith had come by hearing, and they come and was satisfied—went away knowing that that was the Messiah.

Now, if we are desirous tonight to see this One who....

26 We go to church, whether we feel like it or not, and where we ... our church, we pay our tithings. Is it to a myth? Is it to just a building that we're paying to? Is this man who is our pastor, just an impersonator? or something there's nothing to? Is the Christian religion like Greek mythology or Roman mythology or something? it's just a myth? Or is it a reality?

Now to me, this Bible is either right or it's wrong. Every Word is true or there's none of it true, see. Now, if He made this promise, then it's not you and I obligated to this promise. It's not you and I obligated to prove this promise. He's the one's under obligation because He was the One who said it. Right. We're only quoting what He said, that "He is the same yesterday, today, and forever." And here's....

27 How many here would like to see Him? Just for ... say so, raise your hands. Say, "I'd like...." Now, there was two there, only two that wanted to see Him, and here's two or three hundred wants to see Him. Well, then,

why can't we see Him if He's the same yesterday, today, and forever? Now that's the way we want to look at it. It's either the Truth, or it isn't the Truth. And that's why I expressed it the first time: this Bible is either the Truth or it isn't the Truth. Therefore, when the Bible says, anything you can just hold on to it, for God's obligated to this Word for He was the one made the promise. If God said so, all right, it's so.

Now, it will depend on what you're looking for. You usually get what you look for. I want you to remember that. Now if you want to see God, God can be seen. If you want to hear God, God can be heard. Just as He was yesterday, so is He today. He doesn't change.

Now, reminds me of a little story—yet it's true.

28 I live in Indiana. My native home, I'm a Kentuckian by birth, and we live by the Ohio River. Enough water goes through there a day to make lettuce grow all over Arizona. Millions of gallons of water pass down that dam, and it looks like that some way we could by-pass it. We got more than we need there—it's almost a swamp—and you need the water here. But it will be some day, in that great Millennium that is to come, when sin is taken from the earth and them things will be right.

29 There was an old fisherman lived down on that river. He was a deacon in my church. His name was Wisheart, a very fine old man. And there was a certain Sunday school in our city, a fine church, a great fine internationally known denomination, a fellowship; fine pastor, and fine people. And there was a certain family in our city that went to this church. And there was a little boy in this family who got real enthused one day, after hearing so many flannel-graph readings and so forth, till he said to his mother, he said, "Mama, if God is a great God, as you say He is, could anyone see Him?"

She said, "Son, you should ask your Sunday school teacher. Mother's not able to tell you that."

So he went to the Sunday school teacher and he said, "Teacher, I would like to ask you something. You tell me about great God," said, "that's so great He opens the Red Sea for the Israelites, and He makes the sun to shine, and He whirls the earth perfectly in time in its orbit, and so forth." Said, "Could anyone see Him?"

She said, "That's too deep for me. You'll have to ask the pastor."

So he got to the pastor and he said, "Pastor, could anyone see God?" Said, "He's so great. I hear you speak of Him from the pulpit telling how great He is." Said, "Could anyone see Him?"

Said, "No son. No one could see Him," said, "because you just can't see God. That's all. We just have to believe it."

that back that it's the Truth right here before these people.

I did it before a half-a-million—God did it, rather. Let me speak it. In Bombay, India, before two hundred and fifty thousand. In South Africa at the race track, when thirty thousand blanket natives received Christ, and twenty five thousand laying in stretchers and everything got up and walked away at the same time. That was idol worshippers. What ought it to do to a borned-again group that believes God, and looking for something like that to happen? Twenty-five thousand miracles performed just at one time! That's all they wanted to see. Just as soon as it happened.... What ought it to do to us?

90 My sister, we are two people born in different parts of the world perhaps, and meeting our first time here now. And I just want to speak to you in order if He will reveal to me ... as we're all waiting to see what happens. Now it has to be Him, because I don't know you. I've never seen you; but God does know you. But now, if the congregation, who's ever seen that Light, that picture of the Angel.... Or, how many's ever seen it? All right, here it is, right here between me and the woman right now. Don't you see that? You see it too. The woman's looking at it herself.

The woman has complications. She has many things wrong with her. One of the main things that's wrong with her is a gall bladder condition. That is true. Now if that's right, raise up your hand. You believe? [Congregation says, "Amen."] that He's the same yesterday, today, and forever, isn't He? Do you believe that, brethren? [Brethren say, "Amen."—Ed.]

91 I keep feeling that coming from somebody, said, "He guessed that." I didn't guess that. See, you can't hide yourself now. The Holy Spirit's here. Watch your thinking. I'll catch it. Jesus perceived their thoughts, you see. And I ain't Jesus, but He's here with us. Here. I don't know you. If Jesus would tell me who you are, then that ought to take the question out of it for all time, wouldn't it? Mrs. Heineman, go on your road, you're healed. Jesus Christ makes you well.

Do you believe now? [Congregation says, "Amen."] You say, "That woman's name...?" Well, didn't He tell Simon what his name was? Who his father was? He's the same yesterday, today, and forever. Do you believe it? [Congregation says, "Amen."]

92 How do you do, sir? Here's a man that I have never seen in my life. I suppose we're strangers to one another. So that the people know, just raise up your hand so the people can see that we're strangers. I've never seen the man. He looks like he's ... he was healthy enough. I don't know the man. I've never seen him. God knows all about him.

somewhere in a paper or magazine, or might've seen me in a meeting. But as knowing anything about the woman, the first ... only thing I know, I probably never met her before in life. She's standing here a total stranger. Say, this happens to be something I talked of a few moments ago.

Here's a man and a woman meet for the first time, like Saint John, the 4th chapter, when our Lord Jesus Christ met the woman at the well—right on a panoramic the same way. Just the Bible portrayed again. Jesus never knew her, she never knew Jesus. She questioned Him asking her, and He asked her for a drink of water. And then when the Father revealed to Him what was her trouble, quickly she recognized that that was more than just an ordinary man.

87 Now, lady, I don't know you, don't know one thing about you. But I'm just speaking to you, in order ... you being the first person, to catch the Spirit of the Lord. And now I perceive that you are a believer. I mean a Christian believer—not a hitch-hiker—because immediately, when I turned to you, your spirit vibrates welcome. See, I know that she's a Christian. Now, she could be a hypocrite, she could be anything, she could be a deceiver standing there. How would I know? I never seen her in my life.

But now, if this repeats itself, that He knows where your trouble is, He knows what you're here for.... It might be sickness, it might be financial trouble, it might be domestic trouble. I don't know; He does. But if He will reveal to me by His Presence, and let my mind and lips and all be so carried by Him till He'll tell you what you're here for, you'll know whether it'll be the Truth or not, wouldn't you? You'd know whether it's the truth or not. How many would believe it? [Congregation says, "Amen."—Ed.]

88 Now here I am with my hands up, too. I never seen her in my life as far as I know. Never seen her in my life. We're totally strangers one to another. Now if the Holy Spirit can reveal to this woman something about her, something she's done, like that woman did at the well, then.... Or something that she ought to have done and did not do, some trouble she's had, something's on her heart, something she wants, or something like that—it has to come from some supernatural Power. How many knows that? [Congregation says, "Amen."—Ed.]

Well now, you could take the side of the Pharisees and say, "It's the devil." Or you could take the side of the believer and say, "It's God." Then it depends on you. It's up to you. Now may the Holy Spirit speak.

89 Now. (If you who are controlling these microphones, sometimes when the Anointing comes down, that ... I don't know how loud I'm talking.) You see where I have to stand now? I either have to stand with this Word.... I've declared that it's the Truth. Now I've got to depend on God declaring

30 Well, the little fellow ... it didn't suffice him. So he ... one day he was with the old brother, fisherman, on the river. And they'd went up to what's called the Six-mile Island. It's six miles (an island), from Louisville, Kentucky, to this island. They'd been fishing up there, and they'd caught a good catch of fish, and on the road down there come up a storm. And there we have many storms that ... that wet country—lightning and thunder, and great gushes of rain.

And so after.... They had to go to the shore and get behind trees. And after the storm was over, they went back in their boat and started down. It was in the evening time, or the afternoon rather, and the sun setting back over here in Tucson somewhere. It was reflecting its light in the sky, and there was a rainbow came out across the eastern horizon. And the old fisherman was paddling his boat with his oars, as, everything fresh, the rain had washed the dust off. And it's a lovely time. And only a man who's used to the oars can appreciate that rhythm of the tipping of the oars as the boat glides its way through the water. His white beard hanging down ... and he kept watching that rainbow.

31 And the little boy, enthused, looked around to see what the old gentleman was looking at, and he noticed the old fisherman, the crystal tears dropping off of his white beard. And the little boy, sitting in the bow of the boat, become so enthused till he rushed towards the stern of the boat and said to the old fisherman, "Sir, I'm going to ask you a question that my mother, nor my Sunday school teacher, nor my pastor could satisfy my longing to know something."

He said, "What is it, son?"

He said, "Can anyone see God?"

And the old fisherman, so overcome by his ... the little fellow's question, pulled the oars into the boat and threw his arms around the little boy, and the tears run down his cheeks. He said, "God bless your little heart, honey. All I've seen for the past fifty years has been God," see.

You can get so much God on the inside that you can see Him anywhere you look. But until that desire to see Him, you won't see Him. You can see Him in the sunset; you can hear Him in the call of the birds; you can watch Him everywhere; He's on every hand. But the old man had so much God inside of him, he could see God everywhere. And I think that's kind of the way we ought to look for God. We can see God anywhere we look.

32 Now, but we're back to "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever." Now, how would we know? If I said, "The Methodist people, do you believe that?"

They'd say, "Amen."

And I'd say, "Baptist, do you believe it?"

"Amen."

"Pentecostals, Church of God, and so forth, do you believe it?"

"Amen, we believe it."

And I'm glad you do. I believe it, too.

But now, what if we went around the city to find Jesus Christ, what type of a person would we look for? Now He promised to be with us tonight. Now if that isn't so, then the Word isn't so. You say, "Well, that isn't just inspired." Then to me the rest of it isn't inspired. I don't know which is, or which isn't inspired, if it all isn't the Truth. I can't pick it out. It's just all the Word of God. And now He promised that He would be right here tonight, "wherever two or three are assembled together." Do you believe that? Thank you.

33 Now. Then if He is, what type of a person would we look for if we went to look for Him? Would we try to find a man that was wearing a robe and had long hair and beard? Would that ... could that be Jesus? Just anybody could wear a robe and have long hair and beard. Any impostor could do that. There's a many man wearing a robe tonight knows no more about God than a Hottentot would know about an Egyptian knight. Right. But it isn't that we'd look for.

We won't ... some dignitary, because He wasn't.

34 What would we look for? For nail scars and prints of thorns? Any impersonator could dress himself up like that. It still wouldn't be Him. And how do we know that He had a robe on and how He dressed? We only know it ... would He look like the pictures that we see the painters paint? No. That's the psychological painting that some man had, his conception of what Christ would look like. And if we had go to by that, which one would be right? There's Hofmann, Sallman, and how many more? All different descriptions of Him. So you'd be a bit confused what He would look like.

Would He look like Hofmann's painting of Him, or Sallman's, or some of the rest of them? We don't know. If Hofmann's right, then Sallman's wrong, see. Sallman's right, then Hofmann's wrong, and see, you wouldn't know what to look for.

35 But how would we identify Him?

Well, we would identify Him the same way that He identified Himself in the beginning (right): by His works, by what He done. "If I do not the works of my Father," He said, "then don't believe me. But if I do the

83 Now. Therefore, I stand here with ministers around me, behind me; out front, Christian people; and here we stand here. And I claim that the Bible evidence of Jesus Christ is the prophetic sign. The Bible says so. And He's the same yesterday, today, and forever, and promised that if we'd believe on Him, the works that He did we would do also. Now is that true?

Now if that is the Truth, every sinner ought to find himself here at the altar, a place here, and ask forgiveness of sin. Every sick person ought to accept your healing right where you're at, because there's no virtue in me. I'm a man. Here's your pastor—is just the same as I. We're just servants of Christ. But we're here. Now, they're preachers. I'm not very much of a preacher. You know that by now. But I ... they're ministers, teachers, and so forth. I am not a minister—a preacher, rather—because I have no education and no schooling. And I have no degrees of ... and what ... no B.A.'s or D.D's. I just don't have it. And I ... but the Lord gave me a gift because I love Him. And He lets me work for Him in this way.

84 And if He will manifest Himself here, that He is here, and this very Holy Spirit that you received, proves that it is Him. Pentecost is the only thing's going to prove Christianity. You can't prove it by science. You can't prove it by nothing, but by a Pentecostal experience. You Baptists know that, and you Methodists and Presbyterians and whatever you are.

You know it takes Pentecostal experience to prove God, and that's to each individual. It doesn't prove the organization; it proves the individual. Like Jesus said to Peter when he said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of God."

He said, "Flesh and blood never revealed this to you, but my Father which is in heaven. And upon this Rock I'll build my Church; and the gates of hell can never tear It down, cannot prevail against it."

Now, where is the...? This lady?

85 Now, if Jesus Christ proves that He's alive, how many's going to accept your healing right where you're sitting? Just raise your hands. Say, "I ... if He'll do just what He did here, I know He's alive. Brother Branham, I heard you speak. I know you're just a little bald-headed preacher standing there, see, and I know there's nothing in you. But I do know, if you've told the Truth, God will certainly testify of it. He's obligated to do that."

Now I've spoke of Him; now let Him speak that I've told you the Truth. If it isn't the Truth, then it isn't the Truth. If it is the Truth, then you accept it.

86 The lady here, I never seen her. She raised her hands a few minutes ago that we were strangers to one another. She might have heard of me

have prayer cards? Why, it's just all over. You don't have to have a prayer card; you have to have faith. A prayer card's just something you hold in your hand, see. Just a card with a number on it, that's all it is. A card with a number—one, two, three, or whatever it is. And sometimes we.... Each day we give out new cards 'cause there's people come in. Then we start from one place or another.

81 How many's ever been in one of the meetings before? Let's see your hand. Oh! Well, I thought I was before a strange audience, then talk on something like that, see. Well, no. There's two-thirds in here's been in the meetings before. All right, you understand the way we do it.

Now, I do not see a person at this time that I could say that I know. I might know some of you, but there's no one that I see that I know. I can't see one person that.... I know my wife's in here somewhere, and one of my daughters, but I don't know where she's at, even. She's in here somewhere, but I don't.... And I know I that ... I heard Brother Fred Sothmann, one of our trustees from the church in Indiana, say "Amen" awhile ago but I.... Our heavenly Father knows I can't even see the man. It's kind of hard to see from here. I don't even know where he's at.

I see no one; I know none of you. But in all of this prayer line, you in the prayer line, all of you that doesn't know me, or you know that I don't know you, raise up your hands that you know. All right. Whole group of them. I don't know them; they don't know me. You don't know me; and I don't know you.

82 Now, the thing of it is now, is Jesus Christ alive? [Congregation says, "Amen." —Ed.] That's what we want to know, see. And now we can't even ... there's many things that we could say, "Yes, I feel Him in my heart." The people say something else. And they say many things. They say, "It's psychology." But we want to know, is He truly alive to scripturally identify Himself the same yesterday, today, and forever? That's what we want to know.

Now here is the Word of God, and I hold it in my hand. There's not a person that I can see outside of my son now, and Brother Tony sitting down here—Brother ... president of the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship—is the only two people that I see that I know. The little singers are sitting out there at the end. I think they're very fine. I believe this is their mother sitting right here. I'm not sure. Is that right? Am I wrong? Well, I'm wrong there. So, I don't know. I seen a lady playing. Is this her at the piano? Well, I seen a lady the other night playing up there that looked a whole lot like this lady here that I thought was the mother of the.... There she is, yes sir, that's right. Well now, you have to say they look a whole lot alike, but that's right. See, I didn't even know that lady.

works, though you don't believe, believe the works: for they are they that testify of Me. [They tell what I am.]" We'd have to find out then that.... What made Him manifested? What identified Jesus Christ in yesterday would be the same thing that would have to identify Him today.

Now we Methodists would think, "Our church identifies Him." We would think that. We Baptists would think, "Our church identified Him," and we Pentecostals (see, I'm all of them, see), that we would ... we think that ours identified Him.

36 Reminds me, I was in Little Rock, Arkansas. There might be some of my fine Arkansas friends here. They ... one night ... the Robinson Memorial Auditorium there was a beggar sat on the street, that had crutches, and he sold pencils. And he'd got healed, and the next day he was walking around with these crutches on his shoulder, testifying. And he was up in the third balcony, and he was just taking the whole floor up there. And we couldn't hardly preach because of the noise. And he was shouting and carrying on. Been all up and down the streets, in every business place, testifying; sitting on the corner. He was called out in the audience and the Lord Jesus made him well. And so he said, "I want to ask you a question, Brother Branham."

I said, "What is it, sir?"

He said, "You know...." (He was a Nazarene.) He said, "I heard you preaching and I thought you was a Nazarene." And said, "I seen so many Pentecostals around, then somebody told me you was a Pentecostal." And said, "Then I heard ... somebody said that you belonged to the Missionary Baptist Church." Said, "What about this?"

I said, "It's all true. I'm a Pentecostal Nazarene Baptist." That's just it, see. We are borned of the Spirit of God. Then we are brothers and sisters in Christ, and these brands don't mean nothing.

37 I used to herd cattle up here in ... where I worked on a ranch up in Colorado. And the Hereford Association grazes the valley there in the Troublesome River. And we got a drift fence, and ... where the herders put their cattle up. The ranger stands there counting those cattle as they go through. I've stood there many a time with my leg over the horn of the saddle watching the ranger. Now, there's all kinds of brands goes through there. Every brand on the valley goes through. The ranger wasn't noticing the brands, but he was watching for the blood tag. Now that blood tag meant that that had to be a thoroughbred Hereford or it could not graze on that ... from that valley. It could not go in without a blood tag.

And I thought, ... One day sitting there I got to shouting. And I said, "You know, that's the way it's going to be at the judgment. He ain't going

to notice what brand I got, but whether we got the Blood tag. That's the thing." When He sees the Blood we can go in, that's all. And our brands will be long forgotten at that time. That's right. And I'm so glad of that. True.

Now. What....

38 Now, if we can see how He identified Himself yesterday, then we'll know what He would be today because He would identify Himself the same today that He was yesterday. Is that true? Then He would do the works of God.

Now He wouldn't be dressed.... He wouldn't have a certain education—we have no record of Him going to school. And He wouldn't be a certain eloquent speaker, because we find that his language was so poor until the common people heard Him gladly, see. So He would be just a Man.

But what would identify Him would be the identification that the Scripture says that He would be. And that's how we would have to identify Him. And that's the way He was identified then because He wasn't any spectacular Man in a certain array of dress. He had no organization that He boasted of. He had no credentials from any certain fellowship that He could say, "I belong to the biggest," or ... see. He only had the works of God, that was proven and spoke of, that would identify Him. And that was His credentials. That was his....

"Who can condemn me of sin?" And sin is unbelief, see. "Which one of you can condemn me? If I haven't done just exactly what I was supposed to do, then you tell me where I've failed," in other words. Now that's the way it would be today, identified.

39 Now let's find out then, how He was identified in that day. Was it by a certain fellowship? Was it by a certain form of education? Was it by a certain scientific mark that He had? Or was it by a scriptural evidence that He proved Himself that He was the Son of God? "Search ye the scriptures," He said, "for they are they that testify of Me." The Scriptures is what testifies of Him. So that's what identified Him, was the Scripture. Do you believe that? [Congregation says, "Amen."-Ed.] That's what'd have to identify Him today then. Then we'd know whether we were right or not, whether it was Him. He was the same; He'd do the same.

Now, let's take, now..

40 We read from Saint John and let's just take it quietly for the next ten or fifteen minutes, and then see if He'll appear and prove He's God, see—see if He's still alive. We believe that He's not dead. That's one thing....

I'm a missionary. I've preached pretty near in every nation under the

Spanish people here. Number two. Would you hold up your hand so we can see where you're at? A number two. A gentleman back there. Would you come here, sir. Number three, number three, holding prayer card three. Would you hold your hand up? A lady. Would you come right over here, lady, if you will. Three, four? Who has prayer card four? Would you hold your hand up there? This gentleman here, right here, all right. Number five. All right, over here. Six? Who has prayer card six? Number six. Somebody say it in Spanish. Seis? Prayer card six. I hope ... see, look, at your neighbor's prayer card. Might be somebody deaf and can't hear. You see, they'd miss their turn. We want everybody to be prayed for. So now, see, if you're holding prayer card.... All right. 6? They might.... There's some left here a few moments ago, so it might've been I preached too long, or talked too long rather. I never preached ... but they might have got weary.

Six, seven? Seven, would you hold up your hand? And seven, eight, nine. That's right. Good. Nine, nine, nine. Prayer card nine? Is the little boy...? You have prayer card nine, sonny? Eight. All right. That's fine. Number eight, nine.

79 Now when you get prayer cards.... Look, don't just take them, you see, and don't come up, because you rob somebody of that place, you see. And you've got to come and get your own prayer card. See, somebody come and gets one, gives it to somebody else, and get up and go out, and then you see, somebody misses that place where somebody could've come in.

All right. There's six and nine that's out. Who can say it in Spanish right loud? [Someone says, "Nueve."—Ed.] All right. Ever what that was. All right. That's fine. All right. If that prayer card is here.... All right. Does that lady have that, six or nine? You know what...? Six? Good. All right, nine, now? Who has prayer card nine? [Someone says, "They left." — Ed.] They left. All right.

All right,

80 let's start here then, all right, start the prayer line. Now then, we're rushed a little bit, so don't be nervous now. We'll be out in about ten, fifteen minutes. But I want to ask you something. That's it, brethren, I wish you would ... just little bit of room there, if you possibly can. Thank you. [A brother says, "Brother Branham, we don't have to be out of here by ten. Take your time." —Ed.] The brother just come and told me we didn't have to be out at ten, so that's fine. Well, we don't want to weary the people.

Here's the thing. As far as I can see.... Now how many out there does not have prayer cards and yet you're sick, raise up your hand? does not

respond to the Gospel. It means that there's a sign, sound of a rushing wind in the air. It might be the thing that we prayed for here in Tucson, to see a great revival. We are here to identify ourselves as your servants, as a true witness of the Bible. And we know that, "in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God ... And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us."

And we know this Bible expresses God's thoughts to His people. And a word is a thought expressed. Lord, may the meditations that's on my heart, that You're the same yesterday, today, and forever.... May the Holy Spirit help tonight to express that Word, that it will become a living Oracle right among us, that we will see that Jesus is alive.

76 By doing so, Lord, I believe that the audience of people will receive Him. The ones that are not saved will want that wonderful Saviour to know that after two thousand years here's His promise, just as alive tonight as it was the hour He made it. And the sick will be healed, the saints will be blessed. We feel that the revival that we pray for will be on the way. Lord, this is as far as any man can go, to just say what You have said.

Now we want You to come, dear Jesus, and express to us tonight Your Presence, that we all might know that You're here. And it'll thrill our hearts, Lord, to know as we walk down the street.... It'll make all of us think, the next time we start to do anything, or think things wrong. We know that You're watching us. We know that You're here. We know it's totally impossible, Lord, for this to happen without You. So we pray that You'll grant it tonight. In Jesus' name. Amen.

77 Now, we give out prayer cards every day. And now we can't take them all at once, and we're a little late. I believe that we're supposed to close this by ten o'clock. And we'll just call a few prayer cards and pray for some of the sick people. And maybe the Holy Spirit will grant something among us.

Now I want every person to sit perfectly still. Keep your quietness, just as quiet as you can be. Hold your place, and then remember, pray.

Now, let's see, we start from just anywhere. Billy's somewhere here, if I can just see where he's at. He give out prayer cards and I don't know what he give out. Oh, he's back in the shadow, back there. A what? A, one to a hundred. All right. Let's eight or ten stand up. A number one, who has prayer card A number one? If you can't get up, why, we'll pack you. A number one? Let's see, which way ... better come this way, I guess. Or this way? All right. A number one, would you go right over there, lady, somewhere.

78 A number two? Who has two? Number two? I know it's ... there's

heavens—seven times around. And I have seen all kinds of religions, stood before witch doctors and every cult I guess there is, as far as I know. And yet, everyone of them—Buddha, Mohammed, Sikhs, Jains, whatever it might be—they all have a founder. And every founder is dead. They can mark his grave, and there he lays. There's his bones.

But Christianity, there is a empty tomb. And the good thing about it, He proves that He's alive. He's here now, see. Now that's the thing that a Christian can rest upon—that we know that all the rest of the tombs are full but this one. There's an empty tomb. "He is not here, but He is risen." And we're going to tell the brethren this good news. And He's here—same yesterday, today and forever.

41 Now we'll start out with Saint John, being that we read in St. John. And every book in the Bible will declare the same Message. It has to. If it isn't, it isn't Scriptural.

Now we find out that when He was born, here in the first chapter of Saint John (we'll start at the first chapter), when he was born.... We know His birth and how the angel Gabriel announced it; and Mary His mother; and how He was conceived by the Holy Spirit; and how at the age of thirty years old He was baptized by His cousin, or second cousin, John the Baptist. And immediately He was taken into the wilderness for temptation for forty days, then returned back in the power of the Spirit. In the power of the Holy Spirit He returned to His ministry.

42 And remember, He forbid the disciples to preach anymore, or do anything, until they went in the power of the Spirit. "Wait ye in the city of Jerusalem, until you're endued with power from on High," see. You're not to go out until it's not you, but God. The people can see the reflection of Jesus Christ in you. Then, the people will believe then, because it won't be you, it'll be Him. And all that He foreknew, He'll call. They'll see it. "My sheep know My voice."

Now we notice that ... then immediately when He entered into His ministry.... I'm going to call a few characters.

43 Now I want you to remember one thing: there's only three races of people on the earth. Oh, we have many nationalities, but there's only three, and that's from Ham, Shem, and Japheth's people. That was Jew, Gentile, and Samaritan. We find out when the Holy Spirit was given, Peter given the keys; He opened it to the Jews at Pentecost at Jerusalem, to the Samaritans, and also to the Gentiles at the house of Cornelius (Acts 10: 49). And from then it's been in the world for all the races. And he had the keys to open it to these races.

44 Now, the Gentiles were not looking for any Messiah. We were

heathens, we Anglo-Saxon. We had clubs on our backs and worshipped idols. And we wasn't looking for no Messiah; but the Jews were looking for a Messiah. And the Samaritans were looking for a Messiah (which were half Jew and Gentile).

Now we know that He only comes and identifies Himself to those who are looking for Him. And that's the way it'll be at his second coming. The world will know nothing about Him. He'll just come take His Church and be gone. And those who are not looking for Him will be left behind. He's only coming to those who are looking for Him.

45 Now He came to His own race, to the Jews. Now let's watch how He identified Himself. The first thing we find was Andrew here, and Phillip. And Andrew had heard of Jesus. And they went down because they'd been disciples of John. And as they went down.... And they had found His great works, and they went home with Him, come back the next morning fully satisfied that that was the Messiah.

Now we find out that Andrew goes and finds his brother Simon, which was later called Peter. Now, if you'll study the history of Simon Peter, he ... and Andrew, they came from a very religious home, a Pharisee. Their father was a great, staunch believer. And he had told his sons, "Now sons, there will come a... We've all looked down through the age for the coming Messiah, since the very promise in the garden of Eden. But now, before He comes there will be quite a bit of confusion because Satan is going to throw out every counterfeit that he can, see, to block the real thing."

46 He always does that. He always does that, but remember, where you see a bogus dollar, it's got to be a real dollar somewhere that it was made off of. When you see somebody playing the part of a hypocrite, just remember, there's a genuine article somewhere that he's impersonating.

So, no doubt that that would happen, but said, "Now, sons, here's what you remember. We've got to believe the Message of the Bible. And Moses, our servant, the servant of God who gave us our commandments and our laws, he said that the Lord our God would raise up a prophet among us liken unto him. And now when Messiah comes the Bible says that He will be a Prophet. And you know that we're told that we receive a prophet only after he is identified by God to be a prophet."

47 And all you Bible readers know that the Word of the Lord came to the prophets—that only. The Word came to the prophets only. And the only way that this Man would be identified.... It'd been four hundred years. Malachi would've been the last prophet. And now, he said, "This Messiah, when He comes.... There may be false messiahs raise up, there may be all kinds of things happen, but when He comes God will identify Him. He'll be a Prophet. The Bible says He'll be a Prophet. And the Bible says, 'If there

he had been Abram till just a day or two before that. And Sarah had been S-a-r-a. Now she's S-a-r-a-h, and he's A-b-r-a-h-a-m, Abraham. And notice, He called him not his first name; his given name, a day or two before. "Abraham, where is your wife, Sarah?" S-a-r-a-h, princess.

He said, "She's in the tent behind you."

Now He had His back to the tent. He said, "Abraham, I ... I'm going to visit you," according to the promise that He made. See who He was? And He said, "And Sarah your wife is going to have this baby."

73 And Sarah, in the tent behind Him (the Bible designates she was behind Him, in the tent), she laughed to herself. And the Angel said, "Why did Sarah laugh?" See, "Why did Sarah laugh?", knowing what she was doing in the tent behind. See what I mean?

And when Abraham went out, led Him out (He went on His road), Abraham said that he talked to God, Elohim. Watch. Elohim, the all-sufficient One. What was it a sign of? What did Jesus say? "As it was in the days of Lot, so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man." That was....

Somebody said to me, "Brother Branham, you don't believe that was God, do you?" The Bible said it was God, and that's all I know. He said it was God. What was it a sign of? That God, in the last days before the world is destroyed, He will appear in the Called-Out group—God identifying Himself in human flesh among His people. Here He is! The same yesterday, today, and forever.

Now it isn't a question whether He'll heal you or not; it's a question whether He's alive or not. If He's alive, He keeps His promise. If He isn't, it's just a mythical story that we've read from somewhere, and that's all there is to it. I believe that He's alive tonight among us. Do you believe that?

74 I have no clock. I don't see ... my watch is broke and I don't know what time it is. Someone tell me what time it is. Fifteen till ten. I'm fif... I'm right now forty-five minutes late. I didn't mean to do that. I'm sorry. Forgive me. Let's bow our heads just a moment. I'm asking you a question. The scriptures ... weeks from now we could be staying on that same subject. It's the identification that Jesus is here: "Sirs, we would see Jesus.", and "He's the same yesterday, today, and forever." If you could see Him move into our midst tonight, and do just the same thing right here that He did when He walked in Galilee, would you believe Him? If you would, raise your hand, say, "I would believe if I could just see Him do the same thing that He did there."

75 Our heavenly Father, it's such a lovely group of people, they're so responsive. And I ... we're so happy, ministers, Lord, to see people who

if....

70 Today He's still the same—the same God-prophet, the same Holy Spirit that's dwelling amongst the people. We have received Him in the form of the baptism; we've received Him in praying for each other; we've seen Him speak with other languages, and we've seen Him interpret it; we've seen Him do these great signs of the day. And now we're moving on into something else. We've had a lot of impersonations. We've had a lot of these things; but that doesn't take it away from the Bible Truth!

He's still the same yesterday, today, and forever. He's still Jesus Christ. He's the Son of God. He's alive forevermore. He said, "A little while and the world [that's cosmos, the world order, the ordinary denominational group], will see Me no more; yet ye shall see Me. For I [and I is a personal pronoun], I'll be with you, even in you to the end of the world, to the consummation. I'll ... I, Myself, will be in you, working My same works that I did, all the way to the consummation, the end-time," the same yesterday, today, and forever. God, help us to believe it.

71 Now I would ask you a question. If He will appear here in our midst tonight.... Now I want you to know this, that there is no such a thing as a Divine healer. No more than there is a Divine Saviour on earth today. He is here in the form of the Holy Spirit. And He's only here to confirm what He's already promised. He's here making His Word manifest. When He came the first time He proved that He was Messiah by what He was doing. It proved it was Messiah.

Now He said "as it was in the days of Noah, and in the days of Lot...." In the days of Noah the water came. In the days of Lot the fire came. What are we looking for now? Fire. Watch how He proved Himself. He came down. There was Lot, down in Sodom, the lukewarm church member, half backslidden. And there was a ... three angels that came from heaven, and came first to Abraham who represented the Called-Out group, out of that Sodom—already been called out. And two of the angels went down in Sodom and preached. Never done very much miracles—a modern Billy Graham. But he identified himself as being a servant of God. And immediately after Lot came out (the lukewarm left the city), then fire destroyed the place. But notice, what type of one stayed with Abraham? Notice.

72 Now Abraham was a hundred years old and Sarah was ninety. Twenty-five years they'd believed that promise of a coming son, holding on to it. That's where He comes—to those who's believing, holding to that promise.

And watch. The two went down; the one that stayed with Abraham identified Himself. He was sitting with His back to the tent. And remember,

be one among you who's spiritual, or a prophet, I, the Lord, will make myself known unto him, speak to him through visions [and so forth], and if what he says comes to pass, then hear him. But if it doesn't come to pass, then don't hear him.' "

48 That's just as honest and just as ... that's sense. If what he says is right, it has to be right every time. You just can't guess at it; it's got to be right. If it is right, it's got to be God. And if it isn't right, then it isn't God. That's just.... And so they knew to believe that. All Jews knew that—the true Jews.

But in that day the church had got something like it is today—kind of soft and off on creeds—and gone off on class and complications of the ... and washing pots. And Jesus said, "You've took your traditions and made the commandments of God of no effect to you."—by their traditions. That's what they had did. A lot like today, a repeat of time.

49 Now, notice this. Now when Andrew was satisfied that that was the Messiah, the Bible doesn't record just what he did. But he went and got Peter, or his name was Simon then. And he said, "Simon, I want you to come and hear this Man. The prophet down on Jordan said this man would come. And the prophet said that he saw the Spirit of God, like a dove, coming upon Him. And he knew this was the Son of God. I want you to come hear Him. There's a Light, a sign, that follows Him."

50 So I'd imagine Simon was a little reluctant about coming, but finally, when he walked up into the presence of Jesus.... Now think of it now, we're going to find out the credentials, the identification, what He was. And when (I'm still in Saint John the first chapter), and when Jesus saw Simon coming to Him, He said, "Behold, an Israelite." He spoke and knew him. He said, "Thy name is Simon. You are the son of Jonas."

That took the starch out of him. How did He know his name was Simon? And how did He know that godly old father before him that had taught him the way? He knew that must be Messiah. It was a Prophet. And immediately he fell at his feet—without education, without any experience behind it—and was so consecrated till Jesus Christ give him the keys to the Kingdom, and made him the head of the church at Jerusalem. For as soon as that ... Jesus identified Himself by saying, "Your name is Simon, and you are the son of Jonas," (which was his father), that made Jesus perfectly that Prophet. Peter believed it.

51 Now we find there was one standing there by the name of Nathanael, or Philip, I believe it was. Philip was standing by. And he saw this. So he was a staunch Israelite. And he knew where there was a brother that they'd studied together.

Now if you've ever been in Jerusalem and see where Jesus was preaching, and how far Philip had to go.... It's a day's journey around the mountain to where his friend Nathanael was, which was a Bible student. So he takes off immediately after he had found what was the Truth. He'd seen it work. He was satisfied that was Messiah. Oh, if we could only have that enthusiasm, if we could only get that same something within us when we know we have found that Pearl!

52 Around the mountain he went. No doubt that he found Nathanael. Come to his home and maybe he knocked on the door, and his wife said, "He's out in the vineyard." He probably raised olives. And he went out in the vineyard. And being a Christian gentleman, he didn't bother him while he was praying. He was on his knees praying. Maybe he was praying like this, "Lord God, Jehovah, I'm growing old, and I've looked and longed to see the Messiah. Let me see Him before I go."

53 And as soon as he said "Amen" and got up, then stood Nathanael....

Now notice, not a whole lot of carrying on—he had a commission. The thing of it is, today we got too much bypassing and doing other things. Let's get to the mark. Is He God or isn't He God? Is He the same yesterday, today and forever or isn't He the same? Is He ... is He still the Jesus? Is He raised from the dead? Has He raised? If He hasn't, then forget it. If He has, let's get our enthusiasm started! Let's get filled with His Spirit! Get to praying, and start a meeting. Do something!

Notice, he went straight to the point, "Come see who we have found—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

54 Now, I'd imagine this very orthodox man brushed off his clothing from being kneeling in the dust, said, "Wait a minute here, Philip. I've knowed you to be a sensible man. But you've perhaps went off on the deep end," you know. "Now here, we've studied the Scripture together. And we know that.... What did you say, Jesus of Nazareth? Now do you mean to tell me that Almighty God would go to such a low-down bunch as that down there at Nazareth [way worse than Tucson], and go down there and [or Jeffersonville, where I come from], way down there to that mean city and pick up something down there? Why, you know the high priest believes that He'll let the corridors down out of Heaven, walk right down in the yard, you know. And we've been taught that."

55 But you know, He don't always come the way we think He comes, see. He comes so humble. The people's got it all fixed up the way they want Him to come. And we walk over humility. And there's where you find God. Scientists today can send a man into space in an orbit; and walk over a blade of grass that he knows nothing about. Oh, you got to humble yourself to know God. You've got to get rid of your own ideas and just

verse: "He that believeth...." Not make-believeth, but "He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also." Isn't that true?

67 He said in Saint John 5:19.... He passed through the pool of Bethesda. I'm still ... that's 4th chapter of Saint John. Now I'm in the 5th chapter. In the 5th chapter of Saint John He passed through the pool of Bethesda. There laid great multitudes. It takes two thousand to make one multitude, so there's multitudes of people in this great spiritual hospital, as it were, laying at the sheeppate waiting for the moving of the water. God has always had a way of Divine healing for believers, see. And the Angel came down and troubled the water. Yeah. You know what a troubled water is, see? It's the current going one way and the wind whipping around another. It's a troubled water. And it was that Angel coming on the water, whirling it around. And the first one stepping in with faith took the virtue off the water, and got healed.

68 Jesus passed through this group of people there and He knew where a certain man was laying that had had an infirmity thirty-eight years. He probably had prostate trouble, or something. It wasn't going to kill him. It was retarded—he'd had it thirty-eight years. And He walked to him and said, "Wilt thou be made whole?"

Why didn't He say it to the lame, halt, blind, or afflicted? They was in there with water-head babies. The Bible said, "They were lame, blind, halt." This man could walk. He said, "When I'm coming down somebody steps ahead of me."

But remember, He knew this man had been there. You get it? And He said, "Take up your bed and go into your house." There was no question about that. He went on, for he knew he'd do it.

69 They found him packing his bed on the Sabbath day. He was called in.

It'd be the same thing tonight. If a man, tonight (God bless you brother, to receive it.) ... if a man tonight was healed and could prove it, that he was healed, knowing within himself that he was healed of prostate trouble, what do you think would take place tomorrow? Some of you'd be saying, "I know somebody sits on the corner. I know where there's a crippled person. I know where this is, or that is. Go heal them." See, that's that same devil.

Jesus was questioned. Listen what He said in Saint John 5:19: "Verily, verily, I say unto you [and verily means absolutely], I say unto you, the Son can do nothing in Himself, but what He sees the Father doing: that doeth the Son likewise," see. He never did nothing until first He saw the Father show Him that in a vision. That made Him the God-prophet. And

"Our fathers drank of this well, and you say you got waters that's greater than this?" She said, "And you say worship at Jerusalem, and our fathers worshipped in this mountain," and so forth. The conversation kept going on.

After awhile, when He found out just what her trouble was.... How many knows what her trouble was? Sure. He found where her trouble was. He said, "Go get your husband, and come here."

She said, "I have no husband."

Now remember, what's He doing? Identifying Himself to the Samaritans now. That's how He done it to the Jews. Now watch what this Samaritan's going to say. Said, "Go get your husband and come here."

"Why," she said, "I have no husband."

He said, "You've told the truth, saying you have no husband, because that you've had five, and the one you're living with now is not yours. And you've said the truth."

65 Now watch that woman, that Samaritan woman, her respond to that. She knowed more about God than half the people of the United States. Certainly, including ministers sometimes, see. Look at those priests standing there. When they seen that done they said, "This man's a fortune-teller. He's Beelzebub." Trying to figure out some way that He did it—some trick, some hoax, see.

But this little woman said, "Sir, I perceive that You are a Prophet." Watch. "We know that there is a Messiah coming, called Christ. And when He comes this is what He'll do."

He said, "I'm He that speaks to you."

That was enough. She knew that was.... Watch what she did. She rushed into the city and she told the men of the city, "Come, see a Man who told me the things I've done. Isn't this the mark of the very Messiah? When have we ever had it since the time? Here is the real Messiah!"

66 That's how He identified himself with the Jews. That's how He identified Himself with the Samaritans. Now, that was the end of their time.

Now the Gentiles has had two thousand years of teaching, like they had thousands of years of teaching. But if the Gentiles don't get the same thing that they got, then He's a respecter of persons. So how would we know Him today? When He stood with us, and in us, and worked through us, and proved that this Spirit, that we call the baptism of the Holy Ghost, is Jesus Christ inpersifying Himself in the form of Spirit in the human being, doing the same.... He said in Saint John the 14th chapter, the 12th

open up your heart and life to Him. Then He'll make Hissself known.

JOHN1:46

56 Well, I can hear him say, "Could there be any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Could there be anything out of that holy rollers, or whatever you want to call it? If anything is going to be done, it would be done in my denomination (and in mine, see). That's where it would come, see. Could there be anything good come from such a bunch as that?

Now I think Philip give him the best answer that any man could. He said, "Come see." Don't stay home and criticize it. Come find out for yourself. Come and see. Bring your Bible along and check it, see if it's right. That's what everybody ought to do, see. "Come see."

57 Let's break in on their conversation as they went along the shores of Galilee, coming around. I can imagine hearing him say this, "Do you remember that old.... You know we've talked the Bible together. We've sat together in heavenly places as we looked upon the Bible and know that some day.... Now Nathanael, I want to ask you something. What will Messiah be when He comes? How will we know He's Messiah?"

Why, Nathanael, being a good Bible student, said, "Why, He'll be a Prophet. Sure, the Bible said He'd be a Prophet. All right, then we'll know Him."

"Do you know that old ignorant fisherman down there that you bought that fish from that day and he didn't have enough education to sign the receipt?"

"Yeah, I remember him. Simon, yeah, son of Jonas."

"When his brother went and got him and brought him up to where He was, He stood and looked him right in the face and said, 'Your name is Simon, and you're the son of Jonas.' You know, it wouldn't surprise me, Nathanael, but what He'd say your name's Nathanael when you get there," see.

58 "Oh, I have to see." You know seeing's believing, even out of Missouri.

So we come to find out, that there ... they went on the road. And as soon as Nathanael got in the presence of Jesus Christ, what did he do? What happened when he got where Jesus was? He said, "Behold, an Israelite in whom there is no guile."

Well, that sure deflated the man. And he said, "Rabbi [which means teacher], when did you ever know me? I've never seen you in my life. I live fifteen miles around the mountain here, and I never even heard of you until yesterday afternoon. And here I come around and you tell me that

I'm an Israelite."

Well, you say it was because the way he was dressed. Oh, no. All the Easterners dressed like that, and wore beards. "You are an Israelite, in whom there is no guile!" Now what about that?

He said, "Rabbi, when did you ever see me?"

He said, "Yesterday, when you were under the tree, before Philip called you I saw you." Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever, see.

What did he say? His priest might have been standing there; there might have been a lot of critics standing there—which there was; but he run up to Him, and he said, "Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel." His name is indelible tonight. It's wrote in the Lamb's Book of Life.

59 There was those standing by, of course, who didn't believe that. Certainly. They said, "This man is a fortune-teller. He's Beelzebub." And Jesus turned around.

Why? They had to answer their congregation for something. The works had been done. It was there. So he said, "This man is Beelzebub, a fortune-teller, a telepathist or something."

Jesus said to them, "You speak that against the Son of man. It shall be forgiven you. But some day the Holy Ghost is coming, and if you speak (to do the same thing), and if you speak a word against that, it'll never be forgiven you, in this world or in the world that is to come." It's never to be forgiven.

Now, that was the generation we're in now. Now, we got the first generation identified. We can pull more, but let's go now, 'cause we're going to have to start the prayer line. There was the Jews. The real orthodox, real Christian, God-called believers, recognized that right now.

60 Then one day He was going down to Jericho, but He had need to go by Samaria. Wonder why? They were looking for a Messiah, but we Gentiles wasn't. But now we are looking for a Messiah, see. See we've had two thousand years, like they had two thousand years, see. But we've had two thousand years looking for Him. We've heard of Him, but now we're looking for Him to come the second time.

And now we notice that He had need to go up to Samaria. That's up on the mountain. And when He went up to Samaria, it must of been around noon, so He sent his disciples into the city to buy victuals. From the city came a little woman. Now, if you want ... if I had time I could break that down and tell you why she came at that time of day. All the

decent women has to come together. The ornery and the decent are not associated together. They cannot be caught in public at the same time, even to this day. Now, she was marked, a woman of ill-fame. You know what I'm talking about—prostitute.

61 Now we find out that she come up there about eleven o'clock in the day to get ... draw water. And let's think, she was a very attractive woman. And she had her water vase on her shoulder, and it kind of comes up.... I've seen them put one pot on their head and one on each hip and walk—talk like women can—and never spill a drop of it. What a balance! I don't know how they do it.

But here, walking along, and she had this—it's got two handles on it. And then they go to the well. It's got a windle, and you let it down and get the water, and then draw it back up. And this was Jacob's well, where Jesus ... just outside the city. It was a public well, and where Jacob had dug the well and watered his animals there, and so he'd drank from it himself.

62 And so we find this woman coming up to get her water, and she started to let down the pot. Let's think that she was thinking of the night before, and she started to let the windle down as she hooked the hooks over the arms of the vase to let it down to get the water. And she heard a man say, "Bring me a drink."

And the well there, if you was ever there.... It's a little panoramic, something like this here tonight. And there's vines grows over the wall. And so this Jew was sitting over against the wall. And she looked over there and she saw this Jew sitting there against the wall, and she said, "It's not customary for you Jews to ask a Samaritan anything. We have no dealings with one another." Otherwise, there was a segregation. And "We have no dealings one with another. And you being a man and ask me, a Samaritan woman, to bring you a drink."

63 And He was an ordinary Jew. He wasn't dressed any different. He was a man, I think they said in St. John 6.... He was only about thirty-two years old, but He must have looked fifty, because they said, "You're a man not over fifty years old; yet you say you've seen Abraham?"

He said, "Before Abraham was, I am."

[blank spot on tape] "...don't ... do not come here to draw. Why," she said, "the well's deep, and what have you to do with? How can you draw?"

64 Said, "The Waters that I give is Waters in the soul." And the conversation went on.

Now you have to take my word for this. He was contacting her spirit, see. Now she was a woman, one woman, come out of Samaria. And said,