

## **Christ is the Mystery no 146**

### **Christian Life no 26**

*Satans game plan, divide and conquer*

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This morning I would like to continue in our study of Christ is the Mystery of God Revealed and we will again look at paragraph 226 for our text.

**Christ is the Mystery pp. 226** *His Presence in the individual with a personal a-vindication of Himself expressing Himself--the living Word that's promised for the day, expressing Itself through you, a vindication of the great revelation of God... Look, only in an individual, never in a group: an individual, not in a group, His identification is with an individual. You get that? Not with the Methodists, not with the Baptists, not the Presbyterian, not the Lutheran, not the Pentecostal, but as an individual. "I'll take one and leave one. I'll separate them." That's right. "There'll be two in the field; I'll take one and leave one. There'll be two in bed, and I'll take one and leave one." It's not a group. It is a personal vindication of a preganated child of God filled with the Holy Ghost, so surrendered to God that he don't care about anything else, and the Holy Spirit living Its Life, pulsating through him, showing the personal, personal vindication of the Word Itself expressing Itself to the people and to the world.*

Now, we know that Jesus spoke to us concerning the rapture that there would be divisions because of His Word, and then the final division would be when he takes one and leaves the other. He tells us that at the very end of the world system, He will come and His Word will bring division, and this division will come because of the Word of God, and then when the Rapture takes place there will be further division when *"there will be two in the bed and one will be taken and one will be left, Two in the field, one taken and the other one left."*

Now, Brother Vayle comments on this in his sermon, **Messiah and Messiah-ettes # 2 P:65** and he says, *"Matthew 25 is the separation of the people by the Word, and Luke 17 is the separation, one taken, one left, is the Rapture. and this guy said, he said, "Lee Vayle made that up." Yeah, even called my name, which was very glamorous. I'm known. Did I make it up? Bro. Branham said it. I'd be a fool to make it up. You know why? I didn't believe it. When he said it I believed it. He's vindicated. You'd be surprised what you find out when you believe he's vindicated.*

So let's take **Luke 17:34** first. *"I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. 35 Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 36 Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 37 And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord? And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together.*

Now, let's see what brother Branham said about that. We see brother Branham comment on this in his sermon, **Thy house 61-0808 P:49** Now, *notice the rapture will be universal, because He said, "There will be two in the field, and I'll take one and leave one. There'll*

*be two in the bed; I'll take one and leave one." You see, when it's dark on one side of the earth, where it's two is in the bed, it'll be harvest time on the other side of the earth, when there'll be two in the field. See? And it shows **it'll come one great big rapture**; it'll come right out from the world. See? **"Two in the field and I'll take one and leave one. Two in bed, I'll take one and leave one."***

Now, let's look at the separation spoken of in **Matthew 25:29** *For unto every one that **hath** (that is of an ability to echo back the word) **shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not** (him that is not able to echo the Word and say it just like it was said) **shall be taken away even that which he hath.** (so notice he that echos more revelation is given, and he that does not echo or say it just like it was said, even that which he thinks he is echoing will be taken from him until he will begin to deny everything he once held as truth. The separation comes because of the Word. And then that person who has been cut off from the Rapture has only tribulation left. That's his reward. God always offers mercy before judgment. But it's your attitude that will bring your reward.)*

*30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*

Notice what brother Branham says in his sermon, **Modern events made clear by prophecy 65-1206 P:49** *And remember, the sin that Israel did (by Balaam saying they're all the same), that sin never was forgiven Israel. And look; let me give you a striking figure; **out of two million that left Egypt, two of them went into the promised land. Every one of them eat the same thing; they all danced in the Spirit; they all had everything in common. But when it come to the separating time, the Word done the separating. So is it today. Word done the separating. When it come time, he said, "Why, here, we're..."It's so close, look that the Bible said in the last days the two spirits (Matthew 24:24) would be so close, it would deceive the very elected if it was possible. That shuck looks just exactly like the wheat, but it ain't the wheat. See? It isn't the wheat, but it looks just exactly like it. See? So close, it would deceive the very elected...***

Now notice that he identifies the shuck with one of those two spirits that are so close. So in case you think that shuck is out there somewhere outside of the Message still in the denominational system, you are wrong, for those in the denominational system have taken the Mark of the Beast.

From his sermon, the **World again falling apart 63-1127 P:86** Brother Branham said, *"That denominational system is the mark of the beast. You've knowed it. You never heard me say it before; that's the reason I've racked it so hard. Because now I think the time's just about finished, so might as well let it come forth and tell the Truth about it. There she is. That's the marking of the beast, exactly. Rome was the beast, and she was denomination, the first organization. And we come out of her, we Pentecostal people, to*

*not be partakers of it; and turned right like a dog to its vomit, and a hog to its wallow, right back in. No wonder our Pentecostal system is done, and so is the Methodists, Baptists, World Council of Churches, and all. They're being swallowed up in the Council of Churches, making a mark or an image unto the beast to give it its power. "And it had a head wounded unto death, and then live," pagan Rome to papal Rome. Oh, my, how blind has Protestants been. And here you are, right now setting right in the midst of it. And there's nothing you can do now. The system's done formed. They'll take it and don't know they've took it. They'll just be in there; that's all. They can't get out of it. It's already done.*

And what does a man do to find himself marked in the beast's system?

From his sermon, **Mark of the beast 61-0217 P:75** brother Branham said, "*What is the mark of the beast? To reject the Holy Ghost. See? The borderline... See? After he once come to the knowledge of the truth... "For it is impossible for those which were once enlightened..." See? Coming up to the knowledge of the truth, and seeing that they see the truth, and see the knowledge of it, and see it's here, see it working, see it's right, and have a knowledge of the truth and then turn away again, "There remaineth no more sacrifice for sin."* Just like Cain at the beginning, so will it be at the end. That's **Hebrews the 10th chapter**. And will be marked away from the Presence of God and be a Baptist, Presbyterian, or a Pentecostal, by denomination only, the rest of their days. They'll serve the denomination instead of serving Christ, serve their **creed**. Be a Catholic, be a Methodist, be a Protestant, or whatever you might be. But **if you're of Christ you're sealed with the Holy Ghost**. If you're not, you'll be marked one of these days and just you'll cater to your organization; that's all you'll ever know and be condemned at the end.

Now, what I am trying to drive home the point this morning is that there is to be a falling away from The Truth in this hour. And we all see it happening all over the Message. I am not preaching this to point fingers at any individuals but rather to show you what it is and how to avoid it in your own life. Because we know the Bible teaches a falling away will take place, and we know then to fall away they had to be in it to begin with. So who will this happen to and how can I make sure I am not caught up in the great falling away. So pay attention this morning and take notes.

**1 Timothy 4:1** *Now the Spirit speaks expressly,* (that word means distinctly, precisely) *that in the latter times some shall depart from The faith,* (notice not just departing from Faith, but from The faith, and there is only One faith and One Lord, and that One Faith is the revelation of that One Lord. And how is it or by what means will cause them to depart?) *by giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy;* (you know what that is? The definition says, *the behavior of people who do things that they tell other people not to do: behavior that does not agree with what someone claims to believe or feel.* In other words that have a standard for themselves and a different standard for everyone else. And notice they can do this because he goes on to say) *having their conscience seared with a hot iron;* In other words, they have desensitized their own conscience until they can condemn others for doing what they themselves are doing. They can't see the mote in their own eyes, but they can see the sliver in everyone else's eye.

And that is exactly why Jesus calls them hypocrites.

**Matthew 7:5** *Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the sliver out of thy brother's eye.*

The other word we need to understand is what is a Seducing spirit? The word seducing comes from the Greek word *planos* and means **imposters**, **misleaders**, or ones who mislead, and **deceivers**. And notice these **imposters, misleaders and deceivers** are men who will use **doctrines of devils** to draw away disciples after themselves. That's their motive to speak perverse things to draw away disciples to themselves. That is what the Scripture teaches.

**Acts 20:30** *Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.* Of your own selves it says, so they come from within.

**62-1124B - "Investments" 14** *Instead of accepting, and embracing the Holy Spirit, and forgetting their differences, they separate the brotherhood and try to draw away little groups after their own following. 15 We find out that in Revelation 3, at the Laodicea age, ... they were so disagreeable with Him, they put Him out of the church, because it's the only church age that we find, even through the...*

And what are doctrines of devils?

**Father the hour has come 56-1002A P:57** *The time has come when they're teaching doctrines of devils, perverting the Bible's teaching into theories and theologies to draw groups of people away after them.*

Notice having a form of Godliness but they deny the power that comes with the Gospel. So all they teach is theology, no power, no God to back up what they say, just theology.

Now, I am not going to get into what those doctrines are but Paul does name a few, but it really matters not how many, we will show you how you can tell when they have left the truth into error in a few more minutes.

But what I am attempting to do here this morning is to equip you in a way that you will be able to avoid the trap that Satan has set up to catch away as many into his trap as possible. But, before I show you how he does this, let me read a few more prophetic Scriptures that prophesy this great falling away.

**2 Thessalonians 2:3** *Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;*

In other words, the falling away must take place before the anti-christ can begin to move into his position of power. So the falling away is crucial to the plan of Satan in order for him to come in and take over.

Again we see in **Hebrews 6:4** *For it is impossible for those who were once for all enlightened,* (and there has not been a once for all enlightenment until this hour) *and*

*have tasted of the heavenly gift, (That is the Holy Ghost Himself) and were made partakers (companions, ones who walk along side) of the Holy Ghost,*

Listen, 2 million people left Egypt under the Pillar of Fire, and were baptized under the cloud, and walked in the light as He is in the light, and all but three perished.

And Jesus said they are every one dead, and William Branham said that means they are eternally separated from God.

Notice he says, *5 And they have tasted the good word of God, (That's the Shout, the Message) and the powers of the world to come, They've witnessed a millennial man, one who could talk to a killer bull and he went and laid down, one who could talk to a swarm of angry bees, and they returned to their nest. The scripture tells us there will be a falling away from this Message, and then it tells us that it is impossible for it to happen to those who are full of the Holy Ghost. But the worst thing is that when they fall away from this Message, and the Messenger who brought this Message, that it will be impossible for them to ever change their minds again concerning the Word. 6 If they shall fall away, it is impossible for them to renew themselves again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.*

That ties in exactly with what we read a week ago concerning **Hebrews 10** where the Apostle Paul said if they willfully turn away from the truth after they have come to a knowledge of it, there remains no more sacrifice for their unbelief. You see, before they came to the knowledge of the truth, there was still a propitiation for their sin, their unbelief. But once they come to the knowledge of the truth then they willfully turn away from it, they cross the line right there and can never come back. Oh, they will still think they are getting blessed but they are not. And the curse will come upon them and overtake them and they are doomed forever.

**57-0922E - "Hebrews, Chapter Seven #2"** *"Then, if we sin willfully, if we sin, disbelieve willfully. Not after we receive the Truth, been born again; we couldn't sin then. A sinner cannot commit the unpardonable sin. He can't do it. It's the ungodly that does that. It's the make-believer, not the believer. .*

Now, I read you quotes on that last week, so be warned.

Again we read in **Luke 8:13** *They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of testing fall away.* Here is another clue as to who will fall away. Those who have no root. Those who were not in Christ before the foundations of the World.

And again we read in **2 Peter 3:17** *Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.*

Notice he tells them beware lest you also fall from your steadfastness. How? By being led away by the error of the wicked. Who is wicked? Those who would lead others into the errors of Satan.

Now, I want to read a few quotes from brother Branham about this falling away just to establish the front site with the back site so our aim will be perfect.

**Is your life worthy 63-0630E P:41** *The Bible said, Paul, the prophet of the Lord said, "That day will not come except there come a falling away first, and then the man--before the man of sin will be revealed, he that setteth in the temple of God upholding himself, all that's above God, he as God, forgiving sins on the earth and so forth..." How that this thing happened, but it couldn't happen until the falling away, **until the church begin to get away from the spiritual feast, draw itself back and organize itself. And then the revelation didn't stay with the church.***

Notice he said they had the revelation and they lost it.

**Convinced and then concerned 62-0521 P:8** *We find today, that **there is such a falling away. It seems to be that people are not interested like they used to be. They are falling away from the fundamental facts of the Bible. They seem to be drifting.***

**Convinced then concerned 62-1125M P:28** *This day of falling away, and being that it is fallen to that, **the people are losing concern.***

**Testimony of a true witness 61-1105 P:95** *God's Word is a true witness. And God's Word said in the last days there would come perilous times, and men's hearts would fail them for fear, and perplexed of times, and distress between the nations, and **there'd come a falling away from the Church.** And men would rise up, and showing themselves big dignitaries and so forth, and would **power away from the church, and have a form of godliness, and deny the real power of God: church joining.** He spoke of the church getting in that condition. We are a witness that the Word of God is fulfilled. The church is in that, every organization is in that same state right now. **I'll challenge any man to show me any organization on fire for God, filled with the Holy Ghost, with signs following them. Rise and tell me one, any organization. There is no such a thing. It's not on the pages. That's right. They're all powerless and dead. Get it. But He also prophesied there'd be a real Church in that day, a little flock, a remnant. He said there would be, and there will be. "There will be a people who know their God," said the prophet, "will do exploits in the last days."***

Ok, so now we have a few examples from God's prophet of the conditions that make up the falling away. He said the people would fall away from **Biblical principles**, then they would become **unconcerned**, and then they would just begin to **drift away**, and pretty soon the church becomes **powerless**, and that is the condition of the falling away crowd. Powerless. But notice he also said there would be a remnant who would have the power of God in the church. And he said, **"There will be a people who know their God," said the prophet, "will do exploits in the last days."**

But what I want to look at this morning is not the power of God or rather the lack of it, that is just the symptoms of a dead and lifeless church. What I wish to show you is **what must happen** in order to get the people to the point that they begin to become unconcerned, and they begin to drift away, and then in drifting away they loose what they

had to begin with. They no longer echo the word, but teach it in some theological way, and therefore they do not say what was said in the way it was said, etc.

Now, let me read you some quotes from God's prophet concerning this falling away.

**Anointed ones at end time 65-0725M P:121** Notice. *The anointed ones, only the Word will separate them, not the signs. Oh, no. They'll do the same signs. But the Word's what separated them. Sure. They all prophesied; they all done this, that, and the other, sure, just the same. Jesus said they'd do the same thing. But the Word's what separated them, notice, not signs. Did you notice, Jesus said here in **Matthew 24**...*

Notice that even the false anointed who are not and never have been in the correct doctrinal teaching, have Mark 16 working in the church. But what separates the true from the false is the Word, the correct understanding of the doctrine.

But what I want to bring home to you this morning so that you will never be deceived is **Satan's strategy** to bring on the great falling away?

From brother Branham's sermon **Victory day** he lays out very clear for us how the falling away takes place and Satan's strategy to Divide and then conquer the church.

**63-0421 - "Victory Day" p. 74** See? *It's just his way, see, now, instead of accepting the way that God vindicates to be Truth. 75 The way that God Himself moves upon the scene, and saying, "This is it. "These signs shall follow them that believe. I'll be with you, even in you. A little while, and the world won't see Me no more; yet you'll see Me, for I'll be with you, even in you." See, "The world won't see Me, but you will." See, "Cain won't see Me, but you will, Abel." You see? Because, it's the same thing. 76 And instead of coming and saying, "Well, wonderful. We see God in the midst of the people, working. Let's do that"? No, sir. With greed and with jealousy, the same thing that Cain has, he requires the blood of his brother. He tries to wipe him out of the way, get rid of him. "They're nothing but a bunch of holy-rollers. They're little." See? You know what I mean. That's what starts the trouble. There's where trouble begins. That's where the broken vows. There's where broken fellowship separates. That's the thing that breaks up homes. That's the thing that starts the wheel moving towards divorces. That's the very thing that breaks the fellowship.*

Notice he says, instead of taking what God said, they want someone else's opinion of what God's word says. And that is exactly what Satan did to Eve. And brother Branham in the next paragraph tells us the same.

*77 That's the thing that broke the fellowship in Eden, is because that Eve failed to keep the focus, of her looking on God's Word, and listened to the reasonings of the enemy. See? See? If she just stayed right with, "God said so. That settles it. God said so," but she didn't want to do that. See? She changed the focus of her glass, and begin to see, instead of being just one way, there become two ways. See? She saw, "Well, now, maybe this man could be right. Maybe he is right. Now, we know God is right, and maybe he is right. This is just more light on what God said." You see there? 78 There is the same thing that happens today, exactly right back to the same spot. See? See? You see two*

*ideas but There's only one. There's not no creed. It's the Word, God's Word, God's purpose, God's plan. All other plans are no good.*

So what's he saying? He's saying, *there's only one man with Thus saith the Lord*, and **God has just one voice in a generation**. It's not Prophet of God plus a Five fold ministry. It's God's Shout, and he entrusted it to a prophet and if there be true five fold ministers they will not deviate one iota from what that prophet taught.

**Church Age Book Chapter 3 - The Ephesian Church Age P:47** *"Thou hast tried them that say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars." My, that is a blunt statement. "Thou hast tried them who call themselves apostles." Isn't that presumptuous? What right has a people to try those who call themselves apostles? And how do they try them? Oh, I love this. Here it is in **Galatians 1:8**, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have (already) preached unto you, let him be accursed." It was the apostles who brought the original Word to the people. **That original Word could not change, not even a dot or dash of it.** Paul knew it was God Who had spoken to him so he said, "Even if I come and try to give a second revelation, try to make one little change in what I gave originally, let me be accursed." You see, Paul knew that first revelation was correct. **God can't give a first revelation, then a second revelation.** If He did, He would be changing His mind. He can give a revelation and then add to it, as He did in the Garden of Eden when He promised the Seed to the woman, and then later designated that Seed had to come through Abraham, and then later said it would come by the same blood lines in David. But it was the same revelation. It only gave the people more information to help them receive and understand it. But **God's Word can't change.** The Seed came exactly as revealed. Hallelujah. And **see what those false apostles were doing. They came with their own word.** Those Ephesians knew that Word as Paul had taught it. They were full of the Holy Ghost by the laying on of Paul's hands. **They looked those false apostles in the eye and said, "You are not saying what Paul said. You are, therefore, false."** Oh, that sets my heart on fire. Get back to the Word! It is not you that really tries the apostle, and prophet and teacher, **IT IS THE WORD THAT TRIES THEM.** One of these days there is going to come a prophet to the Laodicean Church Age and you will know if he is the real one sent from God or not. Yes you will, for if he is of God **HE WILL BE IN THAT WORD EXACTLY AS GOD GAVE IT TO PAUL. HE WON'T DEVIATE FROM THAT WORD FOR A MOMENT, NOT BY ONE IOTA.** In that last age, when there will be many false prophets appearing, watch and see how they keep telling you that if you don't believe them and what they say, you will be lost; but when that LAST DAY PROPHET comes on the scene, if he is truly that prophet, he will be crying out, "**Get back to the Word or you are lost.**" He won't build on a private revelation or interpretation, but on the Word. Amen, and Amen!*

So that is the Key. God gave the key to Adam and Eve, but she thought this guy, he sounds very intelligent, he's quite a teacher, he's quite a preacher, he's quite an apostle, so I think he's right too. And after all, he is not telling me that God never said it. He's just telling me that it's not so important. And so the Serpent taught Eve to just twist the Word

a little bit for her own desire and it would be ok. Well, brothers and sisters, it's not ok. God said it and to add to it or take from it you will pay with your life.

We have had 7 thousand years of pain and suffering, and death because one woman just took the word of a teacher, that false apostle the serpent, over the Word that God had laid down to Adam and Eve. Just one word off brought all this sickness and suffering and divorce and death. just one Word of that serpent preacher against the Vindicated Word of God.

And brother Branham said in his sermon, 62-0211 - "Oneness" 61 ***Think of it! One word, to disbelieve God through a promise of the devil or his machinery, one word sends you into torment. That's the way it started. And if God, in His mercy as He is, would send this mass of hell upon the earth, and cause little hungry children, all kinds of afflictions, and starving people, and death in the earth, because one word at the beginning, could not He have looked it over and kept from having all this mass of suffering? Could He not have done it? Then if He didn't excuse one Word there, knowing that this would be the results, how much more will He not excuse one Word there when the individual is going to be the sufferer alone, who disbelieves. Think of it, it's a tremendous thing.*** 62 ***Now, when Adam and Eve listened to the lie of the devil, the holy image of God left them, their fellowship was broken with God. Their fellowship of oneness with God was broken. The very minute they listened to the lie of the devil, that broke their fellowship. And the very minute that you listen to the lie of the devil, it'll break your fellowship. That's the very minute that you go out from the Presence of God, like she did, is when you failed to take God's Word just as It is.***

63 ***Now look, I want to ask you something. We all know there's a God. And if God is so correct with His Word, and so determined that He'll judge the people by His Word, then He's got to preserve a Word somewhere to judge the people by. This Bible is It. Don't you forget that. It's the Bible that God will judge the people by, for It said in **Revelation 22**, "He that will take one Word away from It or add one word to It."*** 64 ***See, not just say, "Well, I go to church. I believe God." Why, every devil in the hell believes Him. Every one of them's religious, every one.***

65 ***But it just takes one word; that breaks the fellowship right there. A chain is no stronger than its weakest link. The more your weakness is on disbelieving God's Word, there's where you want to put a new link, strong with the rest of it. If you believe Jesus Christ saves, then you must put a link in there that believes He heals. If you believe He was, you must believe He is. Hallelujah! If you believe He was, and wondering whether He is, that link will break, then you're lost. See what I mean? It's stern, it's hard, but it's the Truth. You must believe Him, every Word, everything that He said.***

Notice Satan's strategy, ***Divide and conquer.*** He got Eve to believe that there was another ministry that could teach it ***better than God taught it himself.*** So instead of taking the vindicated Word which was "Thus Saith the Lord" she says, "*this other guy can explain it really well*", so I'll just listen to him instead of God' voice and what God says says about it. And right there she brought death and destruction into this world.

And Satan will try to get you to pit the Bible against William Branham who was vindicated by God. He will say, "we don't need to listen to what this man William Branham says, this other guy can say it better". And the other way he divides in order to conquer is that he will get you into an argument with someone who claims to believe the prophet but is misquoting the prophet, and thereby because that person is confused he will read the quotes as though they are confusing. And so he says, Brother Branham's absolute is the Word so my absolute is the Word. But what he is doing in this, is he is dividing between Vindicated Spoken Word and Vindicated written Word.

But let me tell you when you do that you fall for the strategy of Satan who wants you to pit the Vindicated spoken Word against the vindicated Written Word, and then you withdraw from the vindicated Spoken Word and right there you are done for, because he now has you where the Baptists are and the Pentecostal, and all other organized religions who've turned down the Vindicated Word for this hour.

Let me tell you from one who has taught the doctrine in more countries around the world than you can shake a stick at. I've never found a quote of brother Branham's yet where he did not come behind what he said, and explain what he meant by what he said.

Every quote the Oneness use to try to say brother Branham taught Godhead like them, if you read just one or two sentences further into his statement, you will find him qualifying every statement he made by saying that Jesus was God because God was dwelling in him.

God is not the author of confusion, and neither is his mouthpiece, which is His Voice, His prophets. But if you think that brother Branham is confusing that is because you are confused. He was never confused, but those who think he is confusing just shows they are confused. That doesn't even make Bible sense that God would send a man who couldn't talk right so you have to have someone come behind him and say what he means.

God needs no interpreter, he interprets His own Word by bringing it to pass.

From **An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages (Chapter 4 - The Smyrnaean Church Age)** *"Well, starting way back there in the first church the people got to thinking and reasoning **how to improve on God**. The deeds of the Nicolaitanes began showing themselves. **Then a group formed. They drifted away from the pattern of the Word. All it takes is just one word changed and that little leaven then leavens the whole lump.** He that offends in one point of the law is guilty of all. **Eve just changed one word.** That will do it. And when that **Satan-centered group was formed, it began to hate and to fight the true believers, insisting that they (the aliens) were the church of God. Notice how organization breeds hatred. It destroys fellowship. It makes bitterness.** That is what myrrh means. This is what Smyrna was full of. **Bitterness. A root of bitterness defiles many.** So more and more defilement was coming in. Every age would feel its scars. The Smyrnaean church had drifted far from the original. It had become a hybrid. It had hybridized itself the way Eve did. **You know that a hybrid is what comes of two species mixing. The result is no longer pure like the original. It is mongrel.** Well, when Eve allowed the beast to mingle his seed with hers she produced a creature called Cain that wasn't pure human. He was of the **WICKED ONE**. Notice how different he was from Abel.*

*Notice how different he was from Seth. He hated God and would not obey the Word and persecuted and killed the righteous. He set himself up above the Word of God. The church, too, has departed from what she originally was. She is a hybrid. That is, the church nominal is a hybrid. People say, "I am a Baptist." It wasn't so in the beginning. "I am Methodist." It wasn't so in the beginning. Instead of the straight Word of God, instead of the Spirit-filled men in the church who were led by Spirit-given revelation, there are now creeds, and by-laws, and the educated guesses of educated men. Learning has taken the place of revelation. Reason has replaced faith. Program has replaced spontaneous praise in the Holy Ghost. It wasn't so from the beginning. The whole specie has changed. It has become a hybrid church.*

From brother Branham's sermon, **56-1209A - "God Making His Promise" 42** *And you wonder what's happened to you. That's what's happened. You change your nature. You become a wolf or a goat instead of a lamb. And that's what's the matter with the Pentecostal church today. It's snorting, and puffing, and enough temper to fight a buzz saw, and then wonder what went with the Holy Ghost. Backbitings and fightings and everything else amongst the Christian church and wonder where went the Holy Ghost. The Holy Spirit will not abide on such a thing. That's right. It cannot do it. If that lamb would've made one snort like the wolf, away would've went the dove. And today, why, we just do everything. We go everywhere, act like the world, tell dirty jokes, and everything else, and smoke, and drink, our deacon boards, even our pastor's dance and carry on, and then expect the Holy Spirit to dwell in such a place like that. Never. That's right. 43 Not only that, but you fuss and fight and bat and stew and argue against. "I'm a Oneness. I'm a Trinitarian, hallelujah. You ain't got nothing." You haven't either as long as you act like that. "I belong to the Assemblies. I belong to this, and I belong to that." Why don't you belong to Christ? Certainly. But you draw little denominational barriers and separate fellowship, separate the brotherhood, and then wonder why you don't have miracles and things happening in your church. The miracle Worker has gone. That's right. No wonder you can't believe in the Divine working of the Holy Spirit. It isn't with you no more. 44 Where God is, Supernatural takes place, for He is Supernatural.*

And let me make one point perfectly clear before we close. I know my motives and objectives are right with God, because I check them every hour, and when I left this church to go down to South America, God still backed up my ministry with signs and wonders. He answered my prayers when I asked Him to reduce the temperature by 30 degrees to cool the meetings for the brethren.

Now, listen! Jesus said, "*if you abide in me and My Word abides in you, then ask what you will and I will do it.*" And he did what I asked. So if I was not abiding in Him and His Word was not abiding in me, then he would not have answered my prayer. I also laid my hands on a precious brother in Argentina who had been diagnosed with both lungs full of cancer just two days before I arrived and God answered my prayers and healed him completely. So don't look at my hard preaching and say Brian Kocourek is hot tempered and mean spirited, because when I make a mistake I apologize immediately, do you?