

Christ is the Mystery no 181
Review no 4
Christ Identifying himself in You
Brian Kocourek, Pastor

This evening we will review sermons no 33 through 43 in our series on **Christ is the Mystery no 33** *To be Christ like* and we took our text from paragraph 74 of Christ is the Mystery where brother Branham said, *74 But the only way that you can actually be a Christian is for Christ to identify Himself in you. How... We got some a stinger there. I hope everybody on the tape gets that too. See, see? You say, "I'm Pentecostal." That don't mean a thing. It's **Christ identified in you**; that's when He has recognized you.*

What Brother Branham says here is very Scriptural even though the Fundamentalist and Pentecostal will deny this. But Paul tells us the same thing very plainly in **Romans 8:16** *The Spirit itself* (and there is only One "The Spirit" and that is God's Spirit. So he says here) *The Spirit itself* (God's Spirit) *bearth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:*

Notice he tells us that "*The Spirit Itself*" which is God Himself who bears witness with our spirit. And brother Branham tells us very plainly and straight forward the only way that you can actually be a Christian is for *Christ Himself to identify Himself in you.... It's Christ identified in you; that's when He has recognized you.*

Notice He recognizes you, This is not speaking about you recognizing Him, but Him recognizing you. The whole world recognizes that God is God, but they will not make Him the Lord of their life? We even have that problem right in this Message. People living no higher than denominational Baptists.

People claiming to be right in this Message, yet "*lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.*"

Wisdom verses faith 62-0401 P:144 *How can the true Word of God grow on these bobbed-hair, short-wearing, cigarette-smoking, bowling alley-hangers, church-joiners? How can it do, when such pleasure-loving, seeking crowds as that, hang out, and love such things as that, and loving of the world, **how can the love of God come in? How can the seed of God grow in such a ground as that? It'll never take root; it'll never bring any life to it.** It'll lay there on them old dusty denominational rocks and rot away, but it'll never bring life. Yes, sir. Yes, sir. Pleasure-seekers, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God--terrible, yet they're smart. They're twice as smart as the other class. See? Sure. Smart, educated, wisdom-seekers just like Eve was, and they got the same dose she got, just exactly. It's the truth.*

Jesus said in **John 6:57** "*As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.*"

So we have a right to ask the question, by whom are you living by and for?

Galatians 5:25 *If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Now, that word IF is a very big word here because he is telling us that IF we live in the Spirit then we will also be walking as the Spirit would walk if it has control of our bodies.*

The early church were called Christians because they were so much like Christ in the way they acted and talked and conducted their lives.

QA Image of the beast 54-0515 P:32 *There's only one way to be a Christian. The word "Christian" means "Christ-like." And you can't do it; you can't work it in yourself; there's no way at all you can do it. You have to forget yourself, die out to yourself, and let Christ come in and live the Life of Christ in you.*

And that brings us to the next sermon in this series on **Christ is the Mystery no 34 The Image of Christ**. And in this sermon we took our thoughts from what brother Branham said in Paragraph 75 where he said, *"But when Christ is identified in you, identifying Himself, then you are Christ-like; which the word Christian means to be Christ-like. There's your identification."*

Notice he said *"But when Christ is identified in you"* which is speaking in past tense, then he stops, and corrects himself and makes it present tense by saying *"identifying Himself, then you are Christ-like"*.

So we are looking at a present tense identification which he also said *"there's no way at all you can do it. You have to forget yourself, die out to yourself, and let Christ come in and live the Life of Christ in you."*

Now, this statement right here separates us from all other wanna be Christians, because they look back 2,000 years ago, 200 years ago, or 50 years ago at what Christ did in a historical sense, and we look at what He is currently, presently doing in us now, each day.

Brother Branham said in his sermon, **Leadership 65-1207 P:113** *"Now, just examine yourself by the Word, by the Message. Examine what a real Christian should be: rugged, loving, not one of this modern Christianity. Why, it's soft, flexible, half dead, rotten, interbred. See? It's not the real Christianity; live any kind of a way, and belong to church. Don't you want that sweet fellowship with Christ, the Holy Spirit, that you're, the conformity of your own heart to the Word?"*

To be a Christian means to be conformed to the image of Christ, and in **Romans 8** we are told that we are predestinated to be *"conformed to the image of Christ", Who is the First Born Son in a vast family of brothers.*

And in his sermon, **Messiah the 61-0117 P:62** Brother Branham said, *"They look like him. They act like him. They are his flesh, his blood, his spirit. Amen. That's the way God's church is, His Eaglets, His Messiahettes. They look like Him; they act like Him; they preach like Him; they do the works that He did. The things that I do shall he also. More than this shall he do, 'cause I go to the Father." Amen. "These signs shall follow My eaglets." Amen "They'll do just as I do. If My Spirit's in them, then they'll do the works that I do. If they don't do the works I do, it's because that My Spirit's not in them."*

Again from **God in His people 50-0227 P:22** brother Branham said, “Now, if I told you I was John Dillinger, or the spirit of John Dillinger was on me, you'd look for me to have guns, act like John Dillinger. If I told you I was an artist, the spirit of a great artist was on me, you'd expect me to paint the pictures of an artist. Is that right? If I told you I was an expert mechanic, and the mechanic's spirit was on me, you'd expect me to know what was wrong with your car. If I said to you that I was born of the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Jesus Christ was on me, you'd expect me to **do what He did, act like He did.** That's His Spirit working through a human being.”

That is the problem we have in our churches. Men don't want to die to self, they like who they are and the position they have attained. But **God will not accept what you have to offer him.** He will only accept the life of His son. So if the Life of His Son is in you, then God will accept you. But if you have not died to self, that Life will never enter into you and take over because you are in the way. And with no Christ Life you are none of His, that is what the Bible tells us.

Never ever forget, Paul said in **Romans 8:5** *For they that live for self do mind the things of self; but they that live by the Spirit do mind the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded or self absorbed is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind (the mind that is focused on self) is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8 So then they that are living for self cannot please God. 9 But ye are not self focused, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.*

Brother Branham said in his sermon, **Position in Christ 60-0522M P:79** *What am I talking about? Hear It, Branham Tabernacle. You've had your chance. When a man once is anointed with the Holy Ghost, to be adopted into the family of God, to be positionally placed by the Father, and set into a service out here, **into his purpose of life, or what God has called him for, his walk must be holy, holy, holy unto the Lord.***

The Scripture is replete with the assurance that obedience is the only sure manifestation that a child is truly a son of God. Just look at the evidence in the Son of God. Look at what he said is evidence that he loved His Father.

John 14: 31 *But that the world may know that I love the Father; as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do.*

John 12: 49 *For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. 50 And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.*

So you see that Jesus did nothing, and said nothing until god showed him what to do and what to say.

Hear ye Him 57-0519A P:40 *Now, watch. God never did anything 'less He asked man to do, but what He did Himself. His Son, when He was born here on earth, He was an obedient Son. **Every step was for the Father. Everything He done was to glorify God.***

And we seen God in Christ. Is that right? "No man has seen the Father at any time, but the only begotten of the Son has declared Him." The very move, the very action, everything that Christ did was God working in Him. You get it now? Now, watch what takes place. Then God takes His Son after a long life, just before Calvary, and He taken Him up on a high mountain in a public place. He brought the heavenly witnesses down. He brought the earthly witnesses up. And there God took His Son, and when they looked up, they saw a cloud that overshadowed them. And Jesus' raiment shined like the sun in the midst of the day. What was it? God put a robe on Him, just like the old adoption said. He robed Him in a glorified condition. No wonder He said, "All powers in heavens and earth is given to My hands." He robed Him and He placed Him. And then He said, "This is My beloved Son; hear ye Him." Then He had the powers of heavens and earth was given unto His hands.

Therefore we can see that the most important attribute a son can manifest is his obedience to his Father.

Super sign 59-1227M P:49 *Someone, as I have said before, wants to make Him a little short God. He was man; God was using a man. God was using a flesh that He created Himself in order to create through Him and to "Bring through Him many sons," says the Scripture, "through that obedient Son. Through one son all fell; through an obedient Son all shall live that believe." God with us, a sign, said that would be a sign. Jesus so loved to refer to Himself as Son of man, man Himself, just a man, "I am nothing; the Son can do nothing in Himself." But it's the Father was in Him, the Immanuel, that God, the baby, God, Jehovah God, that little baby cried, that was Jehovah. Did you see it? God living in a baby. God living in a teenage. What type of a teenager was He? He set the example. When He was lost by His father and His mother, they looked about to find Him, and they found Him in the temple, What did He say, as a teenager? "Know you not? Wist thou not that I must be about My Father's business?" Example for teenagers.*

And that takes us up to **Christ is the Mystery no 35 through 38** where we focused on what brother Branham called the *Three fold purpose of God. And we looked at this Three fold purpose for three sermons, from no 35, 36 and no 37* in our series.

And we took our thoughts on this three fold purpose of God from paragraphs 76 and 77 of brother Branham's sermon *Christ is the Mystery of God Revealed*. where he said, 76 *Notice, God has had a threefold purpose in this great mystery secret. God, in His great mystery secret that He had before the world began, He's got a threefold purpose in it. And now, what we want to go upon this morning is: What is that threefold purpose? See? Now, I believe by the help of God, Who's present, and He'll show it to us. 77 "Now, if He had this threefold purpose... We want to find out what is this threefold purpose. "The first thing was that God wanted to reveal Himself to the people. He couldn't do it as a great Jehovah God Who covered all space, time, and eternity. He could not. He's too great to ever be revealed to people, because it would be too mysterious. How could that great Being that never did begin, that after you went beyond the cycle of a hundreds of billions and trillions and trillions of years of light space, and on out into the infinite, into the eternity, and a great Creature that was all that, and still is...78 But what He wanted*

to do, He loved Fatherhood, for He was a Father. And the only way that He could express it was to become a Son of man. That's the reason Jesus kept saying, "The Son of man." See, they didn't know what He was talking about, many of them. But now you get it? He wanted to express Himself. That was His, one of His great threefold purposes, was to express Himself, identify Himself with human beings, to reveal Himself in Christ.

79 Secondly: to have the preeminence in His body of believers, that is, His Bride, that He might live in people.

Now, that is the only way that God could live in His Bride is for her to die to self, and give him the total preeminence as brother Branham's says here. And that is what Paul said in Romans 8 that if we live by the Spirit we are sons. And he said we do not live for self, for if we live for self we can not live for God.

These three sermons we took on the threefold purpose of God led us perfectly into **no 38 Her pre-eminence in Him brings her justification. No 39 Pre-eminence in Him brings Holiness. No 40 Glorified in His Saints. and No 41 To Live in His People.**

We found this word preeminence means: *"the state or position of outstanding power or importance: eminence, distinction, or glory"*. And we all know God's **glory** is His **values**, His **opinions** and His **judgments**. So what we see here is that Brother Branham believed that the second-fold purpose of God's plan was for *God to have a people, His own children, who would not only hold preeminently to His values, his opinions, and His judgments, but those very opinions, values and judgments would be reflected in their very lives as part of their nature.*

And that is exactly what Jesus Prayer was in **John 17:11** *And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. 14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. John 17:20* *Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:*

Jesus tells us we become One with God through the same Word, and the same Glory that He became one with His Father through.

Therefore it is very apparent that we become one with God by receiving the very same Word that Jesus received and reflected in his life and that brings us into the same Glory or the same mind as the Father. *And the glory which thou gavest me* (remember glory is doxa and it is the opinion, values and judgment, so *"the opinion thou gavest me"*) *I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: And the values thou hast given me I have given them that they may be one, and the judgments thou hast given me I have given them that they may be one even as or in the same way I and you are one Father.*

That is why Paul said in **2 Corinthians 3:18** *But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, (the doxa of the Lord) are changed into the same image from*

glory to glory, (from opinion to opinion, from values to values, and from judgment to judgment) even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Because after all what man can understand the things of God except the spirit of God be in him. That's **1 Corinthians 2**.

And the apostle Paul said in **2 Thessalonians 1:10** *When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.*

Notice here that the scripture tells us that *He comes to be Glorified IN His saints*. Now this word **glorified** is a the Greek word **en-doxazo** which comes from the root word **doxa**. **Doxa** is word which means **Judgment, value** or **assessment**, *specifically an opinion which does all three*. And *an opinion is the culmination of an assessment, the value placed upon the assessment and your judgment of the assessment*. And it is interesting to note that the reference work which lists this word also says that the word is used in the New Testament as a good opinion that always results in Praise, Honor and finally Glory itself.

And the Apostle Paul told us that the Gospel is to produce this glory in us. **2 Thessalonians 2:14** *Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

And we are told also that is what the Appearing of Christ is to produce in us as well. **Colossians 3:4** *When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. In His values, his opinions, and his judgments.*

You see, that is what the Great Mysterious secret of God is all about. **1 Corinthians 2:7** *But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: It's all about His children having the same mind as the Father.*

Romans 8:18 *For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*

In closing let's turn to **Colossians 1:27** *To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:*

In **no 42** we spoke from paragraph 91 where we showed the opposite of having **the pre-eminence in Him** is to have a life that is centered on any other than Him, which leads to spiritual adultery or spiritual fornication. Brother Branham said in PP 91, " **Any word in the Bible that's rejected or if any self-interpretation put to It, it's absolutely rejecting and committing adultery against the God that is your Husband. An adulteress never enters the Kingdom of heaven; we know that. See?**

And we hear brother Branham in his sermon, **Spoken Word is the Original Seed 88-3** define Spiritual adultery as follows: "That's how adultery is committed spiritually. **When you, knowing better by the Word of God, by the intercourse of the mind, take in a lie of the devil against the Word of God: that's exactly what Eve done. With a spiritual**

intercourse first that come by believing Satan's lie into the womb of her mind, that polluted her soul, set death in the soul; then the natural act taken place. And that's the only way that a woman ever can commit adultery against her husband, is to first let some man talk her into it and then receive another man that's not her husband. Then she's committed adultery. And when the Bride of Jesus Christ lets man-made creeds and dogmas take the place of the Word of God, she is committing adultery.

Now, as I have spoken on **Romans 8:5** through **12** so many times showing you that the word **flesh** speaks of **self**, and therefore when we see in **Galatians 5:19** *the fruits of the flesh*, we can most assuredly say they are the acts one commits within oneself first before the act can be committed by the body.

Notice Paul says in **Galatians 5:19** *Now the works of the flesh are, adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, etc. Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh (that's self) with the affections and lusts. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*

The inner spiritual man is like the good tree that bears good fruit, and the flesh or self centered person is like the corrupt tree which brings forth evil fruit as we see in **Matthew 7:17** *Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. 21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. 24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. 26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. 28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: 29 For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.*

Finally in closing we found in sermon **No 43** that we spoke on *what it means to be in Christ*. we took our text from paragraphs 92 through 94 where brother Branham said, *He took kinship with the man that was lost (Amen.) and become a man, God made flesh. Hallelujah. Think I'm excited, but I'm not. Something inside... 93 God became from God*

and become me, to take my sin upon Him, that He might make me Him (Amen.), back to His great purpose of sons and daughters of God, for He is a eternal Father. That attribute was in Him (See?), so that had to be displayed. Now, see the whole threefold purpose? See? To express Himself. He wants to become... Now, the world is lost. Now, He has to express Himself in a Man to become a Saviour through the reconciliation of the Blood from His cross. Now, He had to become that to die, in order to save and to bring Himself back into the Church to have the preeminences in His Church. 94 Now, remember, it cannot and will not, and never will be, and never has been a denomination. He has to have the preeminences and He is the Word. Amen. How can any creed be injected in there? It turns the church into a prostitute to take any man's words, or any creed, or any denomination;

Now, listen, every camp is based on a certain doctrine or creed, right? And when you cut off the rest of the Word in favor of your pet doctrine, you are actually prostituting yourself to that camp. Then to have a camp mentality is to prostitute yourself against the Word of God, and when you do that you are gearing yourself to the gullibility of them who are perishing.

2 Thessalonians 2:10 *And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. 13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: 14 Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

In closing let me read that from the **Wuest Translation** verse **10** *every kind of wicked deception geared to the gullibility of those who are perishing, this gullibility being caused by the fact that they did not accept the love for the Truth to the end that they might be saved, and for this cause God will send them a deluding influence resulting in their believing the Lie, in order that they all might be judged who did not believe the truth but took delight in wickedness.*

Let us pray