

Christ is the Mystery no. 37

God's Three fold purpose part 3

Preeminence in the bride

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This morning I would like to continue with the three fold purpose of God as we continue to examine brother Branham's sermon "[Christ is the Mystery of God Revealed](#)". Therefore let's turn in our books tonight to paragraph let's go right to brother Branham sermon "[Christ is the Mystery of God Revealed](#)" and focus on paragraph 79 or 144 in the books where brother Branham begins to show us the second of the three fold purpose of God.

79 Secondly: to have the preeminence in His body of believers, that is, His Bride, that He might live in people. Now, He could do that in Adam and Eve, but sin separated them, so now there had to be some way to get it back again. Oh, my. Oh, when I... This is rich to me, just to even think of it. See? See what God's purpose was?

Now, the word preeminence means superior or outstanding, so he is talking about attitude here, God having the preeminence or the superior position in your life.

80 Now, why didn't He just keep Adam and Eve like that? Then He would have never been able to express His Fullness, His full attribute, because... He could be a Father there; that's true, but also He's a Saviour. You say, "How do you know He was?" He is, 'cause I've had the experience. See, see? He is a Saviour, and He had to express that, and how could He do it? Only through Christ. How could He be a Son? Only through Christ. How could He be a Healer? Only through Christ. See, all things are wound up in that one Person Jesus Christ. Oh, my.

Notice he is not just talking about God being the preeminent one as far as being your God. But he is talking about God being the preeminent Father, the preeminent Saviour, the preeminent Lord, the preeminent healer, the preeminent provider. God wants to be the "numero uno", the number one in your thinking, in your feelings, in your emotions, in your finances, in your relationships to others. And when God has the preeminent place in your entire life, on your job, in your home, in the field and at the market place. When God has the preeminent place in your thinking, in your heart, then all your thoughts will be God. Whether you are doing a business transaction, or when you are working for someone. Your thoughts, your words, your actions will all reflect the Preeminent one in your life. In your home, in your bed, at the breakfast table, at lunch, in the restaurant, in the school, at the work place, in everywhere you live and breathe he is the number one thought on your mind. When you buy clothes, sisters, when you stand before that mirror, He is with you in your purchase. When you look in that mirror, do you see Him standing behind you and is He pleased. When you shoot that deer, is He with you and guiding your site? Do you ask Him? That is the example our prophet gave. He said when he shot those squirrels that God created, he hardly even aimed. He said I just lifted the rifle and didn't take time to aim, but nevertheless the bullet went plumb through the eye. Perfect shot at 75 yards and he was used to shooting at 50. You see that is what he says next in pp 81.

81 And when I think of it, I just see denominations pass off the scene, everything else just going. See? When I see God's great purpose: revealing Himself, and having... **First, to reveal Himself in Christ, the Fullness of the Godhead bodily, and then to bring that Fullness of Godhead bodily into a people that He could have the pre-eminences, the oversight, the leading...**

Notice the oversight, the leading, in everything you do, do all in the name of Jesus. Paul said, whatsoever you do in word or in deed do all in the name of Jesus Christ. Giving praise to His name.

I want you to notice how brother Branham describes this preeminence in the Bride. Listen to his words in paragraph **82** *And the other night... If you didn't get the tape that I preached here one night on "A Prisoner of Jesus Christ--Paul, a Prisoner..." See? **When God gets you to be His prisoner, then you can't do nothing but what the Spirit says do.** Paul, with all of his great intellects... He was taught by Gamaliel to be a great priest or rabbi someday. And he had high ambitions. He was intellectually a great man: great authority, great man in the nation. But **he had to sacrifice every bit of it (See?) to become part of the Word, to express Jesus Christ.** He knew what it was to say... He had a notion to go to some place (some brethren had called him), but **he was forbidden by the Spirit to do his own will.** Oh, if people half spiritual can pick that up... See? **He was forbidden to do his own will.** He only could do... "The Spirit forbid me." See? He was a prisoner to Christ.*

83 Then, this little fortuneteller one day, who he knowed... Paul knowed he had power to cast that devil out, but **he could only do it as God willed it.** Day after day she followed him, crying out after him, but **one day the Spirit give him permission.** Then he rebuked her, the spirit that was in her. See? **He knowed what it was to be a prisoner.**

84 **Moses: his intellectuals, he had to lose them in order to find Christ, to be a prisoner.** Then when God got all the world beat out of him and all the mighty man that he was, and stand in the Presence of that Pillar of Fire that day, he was found just speechless. He couldn't even talk, he said. God had a prisoner then. See? **You won't try after your own searching.** Then God had to endue this man, endow him with power enough that he could go down there. And he said, "Lord, I told Pharaoh what You said, and he wouldn't do it." He said, "Then take this, thy rod (God speaking; that's God's Word); go out there and point it toward the east and call for flies." And flies come into creation, because **He had a prisoner that Pharaoh couldn't pay off with nothing.** Nobody else could turn him no way. **He was a complete prisoner in the chains of God's Word, bound up wholly to THUS SAITH THE LORD. Oh, if God can get His prisoners like that.**

85 Now, that's when He can express the preeminences. You see? **He's got the man or the person so that he knows nothing but Christ.** You get what I mean? All right. That's secondly. **First, to express Hissself completely: God in Christ.** Second, to have the preeminences by this in His Church (which is His Body, Bride) to... **He could have the preeminence to express Himself through them.** All right. And **thirdly, to restore the Kingdom to its rightly position that fell by sin by the first Adam, back to where He walked in the cool of the evening with His people, talked with them, fellowshipped with them.** And now sin and death had separated them from His Presence and His entire

expression. Do you read it? Before the foundation of the world to express all of His attributes, what He was...

Now from brother Branham's sermon "**The Spoken Word is the original Seed**" he said, **96 When God and His Word becomes one** (Hallelujah.) *that's when God's Spirit waters the Seed of God, the Word of God, It produces God; and it's not the individual; it's God. For "you are dead"; you're not yourself no more. You reckon yourself dead, hollowed out, waiting for the Seed germ.*

Paul Said in, **2 Timothy 2:11-12** *It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:* So suffering and death are essential components of God molding and shaping us into the very image of His beloved first born son.

Now, brother Branham continues in paragraph **96**...*Then what is it? It isn't you no more; isn't the man; it's God IN the man. It's a Seed germ like the beginning spoken Word. God's Word made manifest IN the man; then it isn't the man; it's the man that's died.*

Notice, that is exactly what the Apostle Paul told us in **Galatians 2:16** *Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for **by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.** 17 But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid. 18 For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. 19 For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. 20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. 21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.:*

Then brother Branham added in pp 96... *Then let God plant His Own Life in you, then it's not you no more; it's God's Life, because it's God's Word, watered by the Holy Spirit will produce the same thing.*

We see this in **Romans 8:10** *And if Christ be in you, **the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life** because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwells in you."*

You see, that is what Brother Branham is saying when he says, *let God plant His Own Life in you, then it's not you no more; it's God's Life,* And in **Romans 8:12** Paul adds *Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. 13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but **if ye through the Spirit** do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. 15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. 16 The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. 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. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waits for the manifestation of the sons of God.

Now, we will move forward to pp. **97** *All right. Manifested, the works manifested the same by us, for It is the same Word. Now, if you want to do the works of Christ, do the same thing He done. "He that believeth on Me shall have My works." What is that? Believeth what? That He is the Original Seed germ that come.* And remember, what were the works of Christ? John 5:19, *"the son can do nothing but what the Father shows him to do, and whatsoever the father doeth, the son doeth likewise."*

Then brother Branham says, *Now, the Word that God spoke to multiply and replenish the earth, It couldn't find a place to land. Finally this Word caught into the womb of a virgin. (We'll speak of the two wombs this afternoon more...?...)*

I would like to add here that when brother Branham says there are two wombs, he is referring to the physical womb and the spiritual womb of the mind where ideas are conceived and brought to life.

Back to **The Spoken Word** he continues, *And what happened? From Him came forth the germ Life, the thing that gives, the Water that gives the kernel its chance to reproduce itself. The Spirit came out of Him and went up.*

98 *Here we are. We come along. What happened? We believe It; we believe It. Now, what did Jesus say? "He that believeth on Me (See?)... He that believeth on Me, the works that I do, the manifestation that the Holy Spirit come in the form of a dove come upon Me and done this (not through hybreeding, but through virgin born...)" Not the course of life, like breeding a child, husband to wife; no, not that, not a hybreed, but a virgin born. "Now, through this, I'm giving this Life that if you by faith will accept what Father, all the prophets, all the Word of God, I will pour this Life down upon you, and you can't do nothing else but produce the same thing that I am." There you are.*

99 *"The works that I do shall he do also." And what did He do? Just as the Father led Him, what He saw. Saint John 5:19, just... "I do nothing till the Father shows Me." What was He, made Himself a man. God was made flesh and dwelled among us. The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. God's spoken Word, through a virgin, brought forth a body, and in that body come the--the Water, the Spirit, and washed by the water of the Word and then went in Him, dwelt in Him, and there come the Life of God manifesting Himself through Christ. God was in Christ, the anointed One.*

I would like to take these wonderful thoughts we read here and add some thoughts that some say brother Branham sent in a letter to Br. Ernest Fantler, and was made available to the public through brother Robert Goff. Now, I do not know if Brother Branham was quoting this from GD Watson a 19th century minister or not, but regardless of the source the words ring true.

"If God has called you to be like Jesus in all your spirit, then He will draw you into a life of crucifixion and humility, and put on you such demands of obedience, that He will not allow you to follow other Christians,...

Romans 8:17 *And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.*

1 Corinthians 9:12 *If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ.*

*“and in many ways He will seem to let other good people do things which he will not let you do. Other Christians and ministers who seem very religious and useful may push themselves, pull wires, and work schemes to carry out their plans, but you cannot do it; and if you attempt it, You will meet with such failure and rebuke from the Lord as to make you sorely penitent. Others can brag on themselves, on their success, on their writings, but the Holy spirit will not allow you to do any such thing and if you begin it, He will lead you into some **deep mortification** that will make you despise yourself and all your good works .”*

Now, this deep mortification means God will cause to come upon your soul a deep feeling of shame, and humiliation, for what you have attempted to do outside His Will for yourself.

It is not that God will slam you to the earth for this, because he allows others to do it and get away with it without feeling or remorse or grief. But you are different. You are His to do with whatsoever he desires. And all you want to do is that which would be pleasing to Him, and thus you are smitten in your soul, of your own volition. That means by your own conscious choice and not because of fear of reprisal.

In the book of Philemon Paul called Himself a prisoner of the Lord Jesus Christ. Now a prisoner is one who is not in control of his own destiny, but is totally captive to another. ***A Prisoner is a person held in custody, captivity, or a condition of forcible restraint, especially while on trial or serving a prison sentence. 2. One deprived of freedom of expression or action:***

You see it is God working in you to perform, it is not yourself. **Philippians 2:13** ***For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.*** God Himself, His very Life in you working in you to will what He wills and to do what He would have you to do.

“Others will be allowed to succeed in making great sums of money, or having a legacy left to them or in having luxuries, but God may supply you daily, because He wants you to have something far better than gold, and that is a helpless dependence on Him, that He may have privilege of providing your needs day by day out the unseen treasury.

And God spoke this of His Son to Isaiah, in **Isaiah 42:19** ***Who is blind, but my servant? or deaf, as my messenger that I sent? who is blind as he that is perfect, and blind as the LORD'S servant? The Lord may let others be honored and put forward, and keep you hid away in obscurity, because He wants to produce some choice, the fragrant fruit for His coming and glory, which can only be produced in the shade.”***

When we realize that we belong to Him, then we will lay aside our own desires and look to His will to be done.

David who was a man after God's own heart said in **Psalms 100: 3** ***Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.***

And the Apostle Paul who acknowledged Himself to a prisoner of the Lord Jesus Christ said in **Ephesians 2:10** *For we are **His** workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which **God hath before ordained** (set in order and predetermined) **that we should walk in them.***

“God will let others be great, but keep you small. He will make you work and toil on without knowing how much you are doing; and then to make you still more precious, He will let others get the credit for the work which you have done, and this will make your reward ten times greater when Jesus comes.”

“The Holy Spirit will put a strict watch on you with a jealous love and will rebuke you for little words and feelings or wasting your time, which other Christians never seem distressed over. So make up your mind that God is an infinite Sovereign, and has a right to do as He pleases with His own, and He will not explain to you a thousand things which may puzzle your reason in His dealings with you.”

Zechariah 8:2 *Thus saith the LORD of hosts; I was jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I was jealous for her with great fury.*

And Joshua speaking to the people said in **Joshua 24:19** ... *The LORD: He is an holy God; he is a jealous God;*

And Moses said in **Deuteronomy 6:15** *For the LORD thy God is a jealous God among you...*

And again in **Deuteronomy 4:24** *For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.*

So make up your mind that God is an infinite Sovereign, and has a right to do as He pleases with His own, and He will not explain to you a thousand things which may puzzle your reason in His dealings with you.”

John 5:19 *Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, (truly, truly) I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.*

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

John 15:10 *If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.*

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.*

John 12:50 *And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.*

“God will take you at Your word; and if you absolutely sell yourself to be his slave, He will wrap you up in a jealous love, and let other people say and do many things that you cannot do or say.

Jesus Himself said in **John 5:30** *I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.*

So if he could do nothing but what the Father showed him to do or say, he was a total prisoner of the father. But not out of fear, no he was a bond slave out of Love for his Father.

Matthew 12:50 *For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.*

Matthew 7:21 *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.*

John 14:21 *He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.*

*“Settle it forever, that You are to deal directly with the Holy Spirit, and that He is have privilege of **Tying of your tongue**, or **chaining Your hand**, or **closing your eyes**, in ways that others are not to deal with. Now when you are so possessed with the living God that you are, in your secret heart, pleased and delighted over this peculiar, personal private, jealous guardianship and management of the Holy spirit over your life, you will have found vestibule of heaven.”* That means you will have found your place or entrance into heaven, for we are given access through Christ into this glorious liberty of God, to walk in His Word and to become the Living breathing Word of God incarnate among brothers and sisters in need of hope and life.

1 Corinthians 3:16 *Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?*

Ephesians 4:6 *One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

1 Corinthians 6:19 *What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?*

1 Peter 5:6 *Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:*

2 Thessalonians 1:12 *That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

2 Corinthians 1: 21 *Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God;*

Romans 15: 13 *Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.*

2 Corinthians 13:11 *Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.*

2 Corinthians 11:7 *Have I committed an offence in abasing myself that ye might be exalted, because I have preached to you the gospel of God freely?*

Colossians 2:6-12 *As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: 7 Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. 8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. 9 For in him (not in mere traditions of men or in their vain philosophy, but IN HIM) dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. 10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: 11 IN whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:*

Colossians 3:1-5 *If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. 5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:*

Revelations 3:21 *To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.*

Let us pray...