

**The Parables of Christ no. 24**  
*The Bride and Her Ten Pieces of Silver*  
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Now, this Morning we will continue in our study of the parables, and we will study the parable found in **Luke 15:8-10** concerning *the Bride and Her Ten Pieces of Silver*.

Now, before we read this parable, I want you to understand that the central character in this parable is a woman, and the scene that takes place concerns this woman's frantic and the painstaking measures to find a missing piece of silver. We are told that she had ten pieces of silver and she has lost one of them. So let's open our Bibles and read this parable for ourselves of the woman and her ten pieces of silver. Now, you will notice as we read this parable that I have broken it down into 12 points to consider in understanding this parable.

**LUKE 15:8** *What (1) woman having (2) ten (3) pieces of silver, if she (4) lose one piece, doth not (5) light a candle, and (6) sweep the house, and (7) seek diligently till she find it? 9 And when she hath found it, (8) she calleth (9) her friends and her neighbours (10) together, saying, (11) Rejoice with me; for (12) I have found the piece which I had lost.*

Let's us pray. *Dear Father we have come again to Thy word this morning to know Thee better and to receive a better understanding of the conditons that surround us in this hour, for your Prophet William Branham said "the entire new Testament speaks of this hour". Therefore Father, we know that these parables were spoken by your Son Jesus and since they are a part of the New Testament, therefore as your prophet stated, they must speak of this hour. You yourself declared to Moses, "I am that I am" and you have told us in the Book of Malachi that you are God and you Change not. And we know that you are The Word. Therefore you are the ever Living Word, and not the Word for days gone bye, but you are the Word for the Day in which we live. The Ever Present water from the Rock. You are the Living Word, and we desire Father to see Your Word Living Itself out before us in this hour. Therefore, Father we ask that your Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation in the Knowledge of Yourself would open to us the understanding of this parable that we are studying today and make it live to each and every one of us, that we might be like those who were on the road to Emmaus, as their tesimony was, "did not our hearts burn within us as He opened to us the Scriptures."* This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ Thy Beloved and Obedient Son. Amen.

Now before we go any further, I want you to understand that this parable speaks of the second coming of Christ.

**SECOND COMING OF THE LORD 57-0417 17** *Now, in the blessed Word, I wish to read just a verse, or a line or two, out of St. Luke's Gospel, and the 15th chapter, the 8th verse: Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she shall lose one piece, does not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently until she has found it? And when she has found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbors together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost. 18 Now, that may seem like a very odd Scripture for the second coming of Christ, but it's speaking of the second coming of Christ*

Now if we are to understand this parable in the light of today, first of all we need to know who this woman is, because that is what Jesus is asking here. He is asking a question. **"what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, does not light a candle and sweep the house, and seek diligently until she finds it?"**

Now, notice in your Bible that there is a question mark showing us that this is a question Jesus is asking. Therefore, in reading this sentence, we must also ask the question, **"Who is this woman?"** and **"What does she represent?"** Because that is exactly what Jesus is asking us. He says, **what woman or who is this woman that would act out this scene given this set of circumstances?**

Therefore to understand this parable, I have broken it down into 12 points to consider.

**NUMBER ONE:** We must Know who this woman is, who she represents? For if we do not understand who or what she represents, then we can not even begin to understand the parable itself, and how it might apply to this hour.

**Number 2:** We understand that she has **ten** pieces of silver and therefore we must understand why she has ten, and what that means? What is so significant about that number ten that Jesus purposely used it in this parable concerning the pieces of silver.

**Number 3:** Since We know that she has silver pieces, therefore we must know what these silver pieces represent?

**NUMBER 4:** Since she has lost one piece and has become painstakingly diligent in her search for it, we must ask ourselves the question, what does the missing piece of silver represent, and why is she so desperate to find it?

**NUMBER 5:** In her search for this missing piece of silver, she lights a candle. Therefore, we must ask ourselves, What does lighting a candle signify?

**NUMBER 6:** and in the course of searching for this missing piece of silver we find her sweeping out her house, and so we must ask ourselves, What does sweeping the house mean to us in this hour?

**NUMBER 7:** Since she seems to be so diligent in her search for this missing piece, we must ask ourselves what is so important about this piece of silver that she turns the whole house upside down in her searching for it. Why is she so diligent about searching for this missing piece of silver? What are these circumstances that cause her to go into what would appear to be a panic condition, trying to find this lost piece of silver.

**NUMBER 8:** Once she has found her missing piece of silver, we must understand the significance of her calling her friends and neighbors together. Why does she call them?

**NUMBER 9:** Then we must ask “Who are these neighbors and friends that she calls?”

**NUMBER 10:** and why did she call them together? Why together? What does this signify, calling these people to gather together?

**NUMBER 11:** What does rejoicing signify in this parable?

**NUMBER 12:** What is significant about these words, “I have found that which was lost?”

Now, that we have laid out so many questions that need answering, let's begin our study with point number **ONE:** which is, “Who is this woman?” Now, that is a good question, and since Jesus does not tell us her name, we must assume that she is mentioned in type to represent some group.

Now, last week in our study on the **Ten Virgins** we read where Brother Branham told us that woman or women throughout the scriptures always represents a church.

From the sermon, **WHY WE ARE NOT A DENOMINATION? 58-0927 31** William Branham said, *“Now, a woman, in the Bible, represents “church.” How many knows that? We are a Bride; the Church is a Bride.”* And being that this woman Jesus is speaking of in this parable is a church, we must then ask ourselves, “what church does she represent here,” because there is a true church and a false church. One is called a Bride, while the other is called a whore, because she is unfaithful to her husband. And thus we begin to get a clue as to the peculiar behavior of this woman and why she is so diligently searching for this piece of silver.

If you will remember last week when we studied the parable of **“The Ten Virgins”**, We found those Virgins represented **the church in it's purity** with no man made creeds among them. They believe the Bible alone. They Believe Sola Scriptura as Martin Luther put it.

And we found in that parable that there were ten virgins, and so we examined the purpose behind the number ten concerning the virgins, and we found it to represent the coming to completion of an entire system.

**Number 2:** We know that she has **ten** pieces of silver and therefore we must understand why she has ten, and what that means? Why does Jesus use Ten Pieces of Silver for his parable, and what does that mean?

Now as we stated last week, the number ten is one of the perfect numbers and it is significant because it **represents the entire numerical system coming to a completion.** Therefore the number ten signifies the whole cycle is now complete.

The number ten is used throughout scripture to depict the end of a cycle, such as God completed the cycle of man in the antediluvian age with Noah. Noah was the tenth

Generation from Adam bringing in a new covenant from God, and Abraham, was the tenth generation from Noah bringing in a new unconditional covenant from God.

Then, there are the ten commandments, and of course the ten spies Moses sent to spy out the land. And there were ten rows of **ten silver** talents which made up the base or sockets for the tabernacle in the Wilderness.

Tithes is a tenth, that represents the whole which is due God, showing His claims on the whole, and there were ten plagues upon Egypt which brought the cycle of world power in Egypt to its end.

Therefore as we saw last week the number ten represents a conclusion, and refers to coming into a full cycle. And here in this parable we see there are ten pieces of silver that Jesus refers to.

Now, ten speaks of the end, so we see again in this parable that Jesus is speaking of the end of something. And since the number ten refers to the pieces of silver in this parable, we must understand what silver signifies in order to know what is coming to its full cycle, and thus to its end.

Now, since the ten pieces of silver concerns this woman, we must understand whatever it is, it is so important to this woman that she becomes obsessed with finding that missing piece. And since it has to do with the woman, we must find out what silver represents so we can understand her reaction to not having it. Because if ten represents the conclusion of something, then this concerns the woman and it may tell us why she is so desperate to find it. Now, remember, she (a woman) represent the church.

**Number 3:** We know that she had pieces of **silver**, and therefore we must know what these are and what they represent? Now, **in the Scriptures Silver represents redemption by refining.** Now, redemption means to bring back to its original condition, and refine means to bring to purity. And refining represents the process whereby the dross is removed from the silver that it may be displayed in its purity. The dross is that which is not a pure part of the silver. It is the impurities that are found in silver or any precious metal. And dross then represents sin, in our life. Those things which make us impure.

**I PETER 1:18** *Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:*

**PSALMS 12:6** *The Words of the LORD are pure Words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.*

**PSALMS 66:10** *For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.*

So we see that this woman had these pieces of silver which represented purity and refinement. They represented all that she was to her husband and in losing one, would have a great significance to her relationship to Him. If He came home and she was missing just one of the coins, He would not receive her as His own. So these coins represented not only her refinement but her redemption. And the word redeem means to buy back or to bring back to its rightful position. And when He came, her having the ten pieces of silver represented her making herself ready to be brought back into his presence and to receive her rightful position at his side. But to be missing one piece of silver meant rejection, dishonor and separation.

**SECOND COMING OF THE LORD 57-0417 54** *It's later than we think. We don't come to church to occupy a pew; we do not come to church to hear a good sermon, or come to church to hear good music. They all got their place, but what we better come to church to do is check up with God and our souls salvation, for **the day of redemption is near.** Jesus Christ **God's Son** likened this, He said, to a woman. And in our subject tonight we find this woman, **her husband had gone**, and she had lost one of the coins out of her tablet. **Now, I will try to explain that. 56 Today, if a woman is married, she should wear a wedding ring as a sign that she's married. That's to keep other men from having anything to do with her.** They look and they see she's a married woman. In those days, they didn't have wedding rings; they had a tablet They call it "tablet." **they put on their head. It had ten coins**, and it went around their head. And that was a sign they were a **married woman**, and no man was to fool with them; no boys was to flirt with them. They were married.*



61 Oh, if there ever was a time that the church ought to **take inventory to find out if you've got all the coins on**, it should be now. It's getting dark. The very haunts and clouds of destroying civilization is hanging over the earth, sin and debauch on every hand. We're living in a tremendous time, when there's wickedness, people who go to church just for a sham, people who go to church to try to hide from their **meanness**, people who go to church and profess Christianity and **live like the rest of the world, drinking, smoking, gambling; women immorally dressed, wearing clothes that they oughtn't to wear** in their own dressing room, out on the streets before public. And brotherly love is a thing that's passing, almost. **We have not lost one coin, but we've lost practically every one of them.**

62 And it was getting night, and remember, her husband would return. And if he found her with one of those coins out, it showed she had been marked a harlot. And if she had defied, or defiled herself in any way, and it was seen by the people, they brought her before the priest and brought witness that she'd been found such, and the priest seen that she was a married woman took the coin out of her tablet that she'd been doing wrong by. If she had marred her virtue, they took that out. If she had been flirting, showing that she wasn't true to her husband, they took that one out. Whatever it was, they took it out. And when her husband returned, he found that she had been marked, and he would divorce her immediately and have nothing to do with such a woman. He did not want such a woman. So it was getting along towards dark when she realized that she had lost something, time for her husband to come, and it's getting late.

... 70 And look, the church is lollyng. **The church has no conscience no more.** You can hardly wake them up. The Bible said they would come in that condition when they'd say, "**Lo, our Lord delays His coming.**" And they'll be devouring and biting one another, and so forth, and **fighting around.**" It's just exactly that hour. Everything's ready. The pages is turned, as it was like that, and it's ready, the coming of the Lord.

In the Old testament there was a law of the jealous husband, and if the husband came home and had a suspicion that his wife had been unfaithful while he was away, there was a certain thing he that he could do, and we find this in Numbers chapter 5.

**NUMBERS 5:11 ¶** And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 12 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man's wife go aside, and commit a trespass against him, 13 And a man lie with her carnally, and it be hid from the eyes of her husband, and be kept close, and she be defiled, and there be no witness against her, neither she be taken with the manner; 14 And the spirit of jealousy come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be defiled: or if the spirit of jealousy come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be not defiled: 15 Then shall the man bring his wife unto the priest, and he shall bring her offering for her, the tenth part of an ephah of barley meal; he shall pour no oil upon it, nor put frankincense thereon; for it is **an offering of jealousy, an offering of memorial, bringing iniquity to remembrance.** 16 And the priest shall bring her near, and set her before the LORD: 17 And the priest shall take holy water in an earthen vessel; and of the **dust** that is in the floor of the tabernacle the priest shall take, and put it **into the water:** 18 And the priest shall set the woman before the LORD, and uncover the woman's head, and put the offering of memorial in her hands, which is the jealousy offering: and the priest shall have in his hand the bitter water that causeth **the curse:** 19 And the priest shall charge her by an oath, and say unto the woman, If no man have lain with thee, and if thou hast not gone aside to uncleanness with another instead of thy husband, be thou free from this bitter water that causeth the curse: 20 But if thou hast gone aside to another instead of thy husband, and if thou be defiled, and some man have lain with thee beside thine husband: 21 Then the priest shall charge the woman with an oath of cursing, and the priest shall say unto the woman, The LORD make thee a curse and an oath among thy people, when the LORD doth make thy thigh to rot, and thy belly to swell; 22 And this water that causeth the curse shall go into thy bowels, to make thy belly to swell, and thy thigh to rot: And the woman shall say, Amen, amen. 23 And the priest shall write these curses in a book, and he shall blot them out with the bitter water: 24 And he shall cause the woman to drink the bitter water that causeth the curse: and the water that causeth the curse shall enter into her, and become bitter. 25 Then the priest shall take the **jealousy offering** out of the woman's hand, and shall wave the offering before the LORD, and offer it upon the altar: 26 And the priest shall take an handful of the offering, even the memorial thereof, and burn it upon the altar, and afterward shall **cause the woman to drink the water.** 27 And when he hath made her to drink the water, then it shall come to pass, that, if she be defiled, and have done trespass against her husband, that the

*water that causeth the curse shall enter into her, and become bitter, and her belly shall swell, and her thigh shall rot: and the woman shall be a curse among her people. 28 And if the woman be not defiled, but be clean; then she shall be free, and shall conceive seed. 29 This is the law of jealousies, when a wife goeth aside to another instead of her husband, and is defiled; 30 Or when the spirit of jealousy cometh upon him, and he be jealous over his wife, and shall set the woman before the LORD, and the priest shall execute upon her all this law. 31 Then shall the man be guiltless from iniquity, and this woman shall bear her iniquity.*

Now, notice here that the water is bitter and in the king James Version it is said that the water is to cause the curse. But what actually causes the curse is whether the woman is guilty or not. For the water does not cause the curse, but only is the catalyst that brings into manifestation what is already there. If the woman is innocent, then there is no curse upon her, but only blessing. Just like the waters of the flood. The same waters that destroyed the wickedness of man from the earth, and washed clean the earth from man's sinful ways, is the same water that lifted Noah up and above the earth and away from the death and destruction that lay below.

And the Bitter water represents the washing of water by the Word, just as the bitter scroll that the prophet ate also represented the Word of God, sweet to the taste but bitter to the stomach.

**NUMBER 4:** What does the missing piece of silver represent, and why is she so desperate to find it? Why is she concerned that she only has nine of them? Brother Branham also said from **SECOND COMING OF THE LORD 57-0417** *Each one of those coins... If we only have time but I haven't, I'm going to try to keep my word as close as possible, I could tell you what each one of those coins meant. It was placed in there, and each coin meant a certain virtue of that woman. The first, meaning her love to her husband. Second, her pledge of virtue to live clean for him. And the third and fourth and fifth, on to the ninth and tenth...*

*59 If you want to look it up, look in Galatians 5. You'll find out that that woman represented the Church, and the Church is an espoused Wife to Christ. And the tablet that the Church is supposed to wear is found in Galatians 5, which is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, goodness, meekness, gentleness, patience. That is the tablet that's supposed to be worn in the Church: brotherly love, kindness, fellowship. And this woman, when it... It must have been along about dark that she realized that she had lost one of those coins.*

**GALATIANS 5:22** *But the fruit of the Spirit is (1) love, (2) joy, (3) peace, (4) longsuffering, (5) gentleness, (6) goodness, (7) faith, 23 (8) Meekness, (9) temperance: against such there is no law. 24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*

Now, this is just nine fruits of the Spirit, but the most important fruit, the tenth fruit of the Spirit is missing here. And without that fruit, you could have all nine of the fruits of the spirit that are that are listed in Galatians chapter five, and still be found to be an adulterous, just like the woman in our parable feared.

Brother Branham said in his sermon **Paradox 64-0206BP:78** *We Pentecostals put our evidence upon speaking in tongues, and how bad we've been fooled in that. And how many of them says the fruit of the Spirit is the evidence, how badly you're fooled by that. No, sir.*

This woman had 9 silver coins, she had nine fruits of the spirit, and yet she was still fearful that the one missing coin would show her to be an adulterous woman. And how many soft spoken meek mannered peace loving gentle spirited people have turned down the very God from heaven who has come down with a Shout. They did it when He manifested Himself in His Son and they do it still today.

From the sermon, **SIRS WE WOULD SEE JESUS 64-0304 38** Brother Branham said, *Those Pharisees could show ten times the fruit that Jesus could. Did you know that?*

**God identified by characteristics 64-0311 P:23** *Some of them said, "The fruit of the Spirit's got it." And it's wrong. The only evidence is, is when the a-vindication, when God Himself identifies Himself in the promised Word of the hour. There it is. Who had any more fruits of the Spirit than them kind old priests, circumcised the children, and blessed them, and everything else? And here this guy Jesus was, come around, kicked over their*

sacrifice blocks, looked upon them with anger, beat them, run them out, no identification of nothing. **The Scripture is His identification.** He had no fellowship card; He belonged to no organization. But God spoke of Him; that was His identification. **That's the genuine identification of God in any hour, is His identification.** That's what it is, the Scriptures that's promised made identified by the characteristic of the promise which is God, and God is the Word. And the characteristic of that promise being identified, that makes the believer. Jesus said so, and that settles it. Amen. Notice, now we find out, the characteristics identify Him. As He said, "If it doesn't do it, then don't believe Me." Now, Jesus spoke that it would identify Him.

**What shall we do with Jesus 64-0126 P:48** Christian Science said, "Love, and you got the fruit of the Spirit," but they haven't. They deny the Divinity of Jesus Christ. What is the evidence of It? When that spirit that's in you can punctuate every promise with a "amen," and God will confirm it. That's exactly the way it was with Jesus Christ. Oh, yes. They had more fruits of the spirit. They had all kinds of evidences. **You can't pin any evidence down to anything but God Himself manifests His Word. That's the only true evidence that there is that you're a Christian.**

**Who do you say this is? 64-1227 P:103** The evidence of the Holy Ghost is believing His Word, always been, every age, if you can receive the Word. Those priests had Jesus beat a million miles when it come to fruits of the Spirit: gentle, and peaceful, and meek, and lowly. He tore up churches, kicked them over, and tore the people out, and called them snakes in the grass, and everything. See? But He was that Word. He was that Word. That's it: believe God. God is the Word. Believe It.

Now, we have shown you here that to have nine fruits of the spirit still does not mean anything when the Groom comes for His Bride. If she is found to be lacking that last fruit, then she is still turned out, divorced as a harlot and separated from His presence forever.

So then what is that tenth fruit that is so crucial, that without it you have not the One that has come for you? **It is a Fruit of the spirit** but not one of those mentioned in Galatians chapter 5.

**Anointed ones at end time 65-0725M P:42** Notice. But it's what they produce that tells you the difference. **"By their fruit,"** Jesus said, "you shall know them."

And then he said, **What is the fruit? The Word for, the fruit for the season; that's what it is, their teaching. The teaching of what? The teaching of the season, what time it is, man's doctrine, denominational doctrine, or God's Word for the season.**

In other words, man's doctrine? Denominational doctrine? or God's Doctrine! Then what is the tenth fruit, or the tenth piece of silver that refined who this young woman was? It is the doctrine of God, the doctrine of Christ! It has to be because this woman knew if her Groom came home and she did not have it, she would be put out from His presence, and she would not have him any longer. He would say to her, **"I used to know you as my wife but I do not know you as my wife any longer."** And the Apostle John told us in **2 John 9, He that has the doctrine of Christ has God. 2 John 9** Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

And he also told us, in **1 John 2:23** Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.

Look, they say we blaspheme because we call Jesus the Son of God. But they also said Jesus blasphemed because of the very same thing. **John 10: 36** Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?

**John 5:23** That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

**John 5:26** For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;

Now, we know it is the doctrine of Christ because it is the doctrine that Jesus received from His Father and taught us. **John Chapter 7:16** Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. And he also said, **John 14:10** Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.



Now, if you are not sure what this tenth fruit of the spirit looks like, brother Branham tells us in the sermon **SIRS WE WOULD SEE JESUS 64-0304 P:28** where he says, "You want to see what the fruit of the Spirit is? **Watch what the Bible promises for a certain hour, then watch for that to be vindicated. That is the evidence.**"

There's the evidence that you have received the fruit of the Spirit. To be able to see the Word of God manifested in the hour that you are living. **And you hath He quickened who were dead in trespasses and sin.**

**NUMBER 5:** What does lighting a candle signify? **65 The church better be examining their self by the Word of God, our purity, our loyalty, our devotion.** We've become tattlers, tale-bearers, cigarette smokers, backbiters, painted-up Jezebels, everything in the calendar that the rest of the world does; the Christian church is associating in those things today till you can't hardly tell the one from the other. It's time we took inventory. It's getting late. Now, in order... **It was so late till she had to light a candle.** And she got a candle. Not only did she get a candle, but **she got a broom** and she went to house-cleaning. Oh, brother, if there ever was a need of a time of a lighting of a candle, the sending forth of the Gospel Light, the Holy Ghost back into the church... Not so much for emotion, not for some fantastics, not for some emotional workup, not for a jump for joy, but for a heart-searching experience when men and women get right with God. Right. We're at the end time.

**68 And she lit a candle to give her light.** And, brother, every little candle in here ought to be lit tonight. ... Brother, we the Church of the living God, in these great hours that we're now living, it behooves us to check up, go before God, **light the candle of the Word of the Gospel,** and examine ourselves, and find out if we're not falling short, and especially when we see all these things coming. We're at the end time; the coming of Christ is at hand. There's not another hope in the world for the Church.

**71 The Lutheran church lost her light. The Methodist church lost her light. The Baptist church lost her light. The Pentecostal church lost her light.** Every light seems to be gone. The Pentecostal people, the Holiness people is acting just exactly like the Methodists. The Methodist is acting like the Baptists. The Baptists is acting like the Lutheran. The Lutheran is acting like the Catholic. And it's all gone back to one great big conglomeration of sin. That's right. We're in the end time, the coming of the Lord.

**NUMBER 6:** What does sweeping the house mean? **SECOND COMING OF THE LORD 57-0417 68** Not only that, but she got the broom, and the neighbors could see the dust flying. **She had a real house-cleaning time,** for her husband was about to come. **And if he caught her with that one coin out, she was "a harlot."**

**71 Now, she had a house-cleaning time.** She scrubbed the floors; she swept the walls; she took down the cobwebs; **she kept on until she found what she had lost.**

**82 That is husband and wife, which is type of Christ and His Church.** And when you go to your church, you may have the best pews in the city; you may have the highest steeple there is in the city; you may have the best pipe organ; you may dress the best; you may sing like a mockingbird; but all of that, if you're kissing and flirting with the world, that kiss on the cheeks of Christ is a Judatarian kiss. He doesn't want nothing to do with you. He looks upon your wedding engagement ring, and He finds the tablet moved; **He finds love has gone;** it's a form. He finds loyalty is gone. You've committed fornications with the world. You go to dances, and boogie-woogie parties, and watch old dirty television programs. You are committing adultery with Christ, on Him, as calling Him your Husband. The Bible said, "You say, 'I am rich, I have need of nothing.'" But He said, "You don't know that you are naked, miserable, blind, poor, and don't know it." It's time we lit a candle and swept the house. The coming of the Lord is at hand.

**NUMBER 7:** Why is she so diligent about searching for this missing piece of silver? What are these circumstances that cause her to go into a panic mode to find this lost piece of silver.

**Enticing Spirits 55-072435** Last Wednesday night I was preaching on the woman that had the tablet over her head, or **she lost one of her pieces of coin,** and she was sweeping the house and trying to find it 'fore her husband come. And come to find out that that woman was an Oriental type woman and she represented the church. And the wedding band used not to be worn on the finger, it was worn across the head, with nine pieces of silver in it. **And when a woman become a prostitute they took out one piece of silver and showed that she was a prostitute.** And so this woman has lost one of the

pieces, **not a prostitute**, but her husband had been away, and she was trying to hurry to find that piece to put it back in her tablet for when her husband come he would know that she has been caught in prostitution and it would mean a breaking up of home and so forth. And I applied that for a few moments to the church; lost a lot of great things. And it's time for Father to come, so we've got to hunt them up.

**NUMBER 8:** What is the significance of her calling her friends and neighbors together. **Feast of the trumpets 64-0719M P:108** Now, as soon as this Church, the Bride is drawn together, she's taken up; in that mystery of the Seventh Seal, or the Seventh Seal, the mystery going.

**Satan's Eden 65-0829 P:18** People, ignorantly worshipping Satan, thinking they are worshipping God. As we're warned by prophecy in II Thessalonians that... Let's just read that: II Thessalonians, the 2nd chapter. Let's just get it a moment, if I can right away. I'd like to read that just a... I believe II Thessalonians. I got the Scripture here and say... **Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming (that word is parousia) of the Lord Jesus, and by our gathering together unto him,** And see the coming of the Lord and the gathering to Him, as God will gather His people to Him in the last days: the gathering of the people **to the Lord, not to the church, to the Lord.... gathering together unto Him.**

**NUMBER 9:** Who are the neighbors and friends she calls? I believe that is all those people around the world that have been called by the tenth fruit of the spirit which is the doctrine of Christ, the teaching of the hour. They have been called to the wedding supper and are coming forth with the same excitement as the woman (church) who has found that which she thought she had lost. And they are rejoicing as though they too had lost their own piece of silver, and have now found it.

**Luke 14:23** And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.

**Matthew 22:9** Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. 10 So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

Brother Branham said, "Now, **she had a house-cleaning time.** She scrubbed the floors; she swept the walls; she took down the cobwebs; **she kept on until she found what she had lost.** And when she did, **she called her little sister churches to come now.** I don't care if you're a Methodist, Baptist, Pentecostal, Presbyterian, come, **let us rejoice together.** When that time come, when the church finds its brotherly love, when the church finds its holy decency, when the church finds its place in Christ, it'll call to the other members of the body, "Come and rejoice with us." God wants the church to love Him."

**NUMBER 10:** Why together, what does this signify, her call to gather together? It signifies a oneness of mind, as Paul said in **1 Corinthians 1:10 ¶** Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

**NUMBER 11:** What does rejoicing signify in this parable? **REVELATION 19:7** Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, **and his wife hath made herself ready.** 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints..

**NUMBER 12:** what is significant about the words **I have found that which was lost?**

Remember, in Alpha she lost something too, and Alpha must become Omega. And what had she lost in that first church age? She lost her first love. And so too the Church has lost her first Love. And when God has come with a shout in this hour and restored to us that first Love, we couldn't hold our peace and we have called together the Bride from around the world to know what we know, to see what we see, to hear what we hear, and to share in finding our First Love again.

**LETTING OFF THE PRESSURE 62-0518 E-102** Our heavenly Father, we can see, Lord, that **the church has lost its first love.** We can see that the church in full, all over the nation, has dropped, not only the nation, but the world. We realize that You spoke the other morning and said the seeding time is over here, that **the only place to sow seeds is in the foreign fields.** This is a gleaning over the stubble. And, O God, truly them words was right.



**368-1 RESUME OF THE AGES - CHURCH AGE BOOK CPT 10** In that age, the true church had lost its first love. That love was typified as the love of bride and groom at their marriage and early years of wedded life. There was a cooling of that complete love and abandonment to God.

**77-1 EPHESIAN CHURCH AGE - CHURCH AGE BOOK CPT 3** The very name, Ephesus, has a strange compound meaning, "Aimed at", and "Relaxed". The high aspirations of this age that had begun with the fullness of the Spirit, "the depth of God", whereby they were aiming at the high calling of God, began to give way to a less watchful attitude. A less ardent following of Jesus Christ began to manifest itself as an omen that in the future ages the physical vehicle called the church would sink to the awfulness of the "depth of Satan". **It had become relaxed and was drifting. Already the age was backsliding. It had left its first love.** The tiny seed planted in that Ephesian Age would one day grow in **the spirit of error** until all foul birds of the air would roost in its branches. So inoffensive to human reasoning would that little plant appear to that New Eve the New Church that again she would be deceived by Satan. The Ephesian Age had presented to her the opportunity for God's best, and for awhile she prevailed, and then relaxed, and in that unguarded moment Satan planted the seed of complete ruination.

**88-2** The fervent desire to please God, the passion to know His Word, the cry for reaching out in the Spirit, all begins to fade and instead of that church being on fire with the fire of God it has cooled off and become a bit formal. That is what was happening back there to the Ephesians. They were getting a bit formal. The abandonment to God was dying out and the people weren't too careful about what God thought of them as they began to be careful about what the world thought of them. That second generation coming on was just like Israel. They demanded a king to be like the other nations. When they did that, they rejected God. But they did it anyway. That is the history of the church. When it thinks more of conforming to the world instead of conforming to God, it isn't long until you see them stop doing things they used to do, and start doing things they wouldn't do initially. They change their manner of dress, their attitudes and their behaviour. They get lax. That is what "Ephesus" means: relaxed--drifting.

**89-1** That cycle of revival and death has never failed. All you have to do is recall this last move of God in the Spirit when men and women dressed like Christians, went to church, prayed all night, took to street corners and weren't ashamed of the manifestations of the Spirit. They left their old dead churches and worshipped in homes or old store buildings. They had reality. But it wasn't too long a time until they began to get enough money to build fine new churches. They put in a choir instead of singing unto God for themselves. They put gowns on the choir. They organized a movement and ran it by man. They soon began to read books that weren't fit to read. They let down the bars and goats came in and took over. The cry of joy was gone. The freedom of the Spirit was gone. Oh, they kept on with a form; but the fire had died down and the blackness of ashes is about all that is left.

**89-2** A few moments ago I mentioned that John understood what it was to love God. That great apostle of love would certainly see it when the church began to lose that first love of God. In I John 5:3, he says, "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments (His Word)." One little deviation from that Word was a step away from Christ. People say they love God, they go to church, they even shout and rejoice and sing and have a great emotional time. But when it is all over, watch and see if they are in that WORD, walking in it, living in it. If they go through all the other and then don't walk in that Word, they can say they love God but their lives tell another story. I wonder if John didn't see a lot of that before he died; people saying they loved God but not obeying His Word. Oh, Ephesian Church, something is happening to you. Someone is trying to either add to that Word or take from it. But they are doing it so subtly that you can't see it. They haven't made a move so big you can see it out there in the open. It is under cover, and they are bringing it by way of reason and human understanding and it will take over unless you refuse it. Go back to Pentecost before it is too late!

**89-3** But as usual people don't heed God's warning. That revival fire built upon the sacred Word is so wonderful, and the manifestation of the Spirit so blessed, that a little fear creeps in and a whisper in the heart says, "How can we protect this truth we have? What can we do to see this revival goes on?" That is when the "antichrist spirit" comes in and whispers, "Look, you have the truth now, see that it doesn't get lost. Organize and set up your creed of what you believe. Put it all in a church manual." And they do it. They organize. They add to the Word. And they die just like Eve did for taking One wrong word.

*It's God's Word that brings life. And it's not what we say about the Word that counts, but it's what God said.*