

**The Parables of Christ no. 31**  
**The Suffering of Christ**  
*“How should we contemplate the suffering of Christ?”*  
*Easter Sunday, April 18, 2004*  
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This morning I feel led to examine the Passion of Christ and His sufferings in the light of what God said about it. It seems to me that since there are three kinds of believers in the churches, then we will have three views as to what the suffering of Christ or what we call His passion is all about. Therefore if we have three kinds of Believers who profess Christianity, then there must be three views concerning the suffering or passion of Christ.

As you know brother Branham in describing these three kinds of believers, called them Believers, make believers and unbelievers. He said the Believer simply believes. He may not be able to explain it, but by Faith He can see and thus He believes. On the other hand he said the unbeliever just looks at the Word that is manifesting Itself and says, there is nothing to it, and thus walks away quickly. But the make believer is the one to watch out for, because he is the one that is hanging around and is just looking to find some fault.

**BALM.IN GILEAD 59-0614 E-39** *The meetings produce three classes of people. And one of them is an unbeliever, the next is a make-believer, and the next is a believer. That's the three classes of people that the Gospel brings. It's always from Moses time, and all the way through, always been from Eden: Cain, a make believer; Abel, a believer. And it's been that way all along.*

Now, remember, last Friday we showed you that the attitude is what God looks at in the servant, and the attitude is what distinguishes what kind of believer you are.

**WHAT WENT YE OUT TO SEE 59-1001 E-18** But those who knew John, those who believed him, they went out to see something that was real. There divides today, as it was then, in three different classes: the world, the church, and the real true believer. That's the way the world stands today: The world, the unbeliever; the church, the lukewarm member; and then the real true believer. Some people go out into churches to find fault with that church. And some people go out to be a social standing, or what they would think a better class, or a get-together. Others go out to find peace, go to find God and something real. That's the one that gets the benefit of the meeting. I've always said that the Gospel produces three types of people: the unbeliever, the make-believer, and a believer. And it's always been that way. **It just depends on what you go for, the attitude that you have.**

Then if we have three kinds of believers, then there must be three different views concerning the suffering and passion of Christ. And if this is so, then there must be a true belief or a true view concerning his suffering, because we have true believers who have received the mind of God. Then there must also be make belief view which is a view that will try to find fault with something, and finally there must be a complete unbelief view which Brother Branham said is a social view. Brother Branham called the unbelievers, social believers.

I heard such a view from a woman recently who said, “I can not believe a Loving Father would allow His son to suffer like Mel Gibson’s movie showed Jesus suffering.” But this woman who has apparently not read her Bible failed to understand that in **Isaiah 53** we are told that It pleased the Father to crush His son.

Now, if there are three kinds of believers and therefore three views concerning the suffering and passion of Christ, then that means that two of those views will be false views, and only one view will be the correct view.

### **THE FALSE VIEWS OF CHRIST'S SUFFERINGS**

The recent movie on the Passion of Christ has brought these false views into the public limelight more than any other event in history of man. The only problem concerning all the hoopla that this movie brought forth is the fact the true view concerning the suffering of Christ is no where to be seen or discussed in public today.

And why is it that the true view concerning the suffering of Christ is no where to be seen today? Because none in the media know the true view concerning the suffering of Christ, nor do the modern day clergy teach the True View, because they do not know it, and neither are they capable of understanding the true View of the suffering of Christ because they are not ordained to know it nor are they ordained to understand it.

Therefore, the debate has come and went with two side of the issue being spoken and yet the third view which is the Perfect View, because it is God's View has not even been presented.

So we must ask, what are these false views concerning the sufferings of Christ?

Well, the make believer become angry at someone. And that is because their nature is to find fault. Therefore, some get angry at the Jews. Those who hate the Jew already look upon the passion as all the fault of the Jew while others who look to justify their own selves, will use any scapegoat they can find to render themselves guiltless concerning the passion and suffering of Christ. Others will want to blame you and me and everyone that is alive or has ever been alive for what was done to the body of Christ.

Others who are make-believers, may not blame the Jew, but since the nature of the make-believer is to find fault, they will look for someone else to blame. Others looking for something to blame will look to the church leaders and cast all the blame upon them. Or those siding with the church leaders will cast all the blame on some individual like Judas so they can cast all their contempt and anger upon them. And still others will look at the politicians like Pontus Pilot and place the blame on government. And yet the Word of God has been crucified afresh in our day, and we see the same scene acted out and the same Make-believer is still finding others to blame and so they will blame government, or the church, or an individual, or even a race of people, and they have missed the point all together. Such mental contortions that are being done to justify self, and find another to blame may be looked upon as a meditation by them who do so, but you can not honestly say they are meditating on the suffering of Christ, but rather their meditation is more upon the wickedness of Judas, or the Jews, or the wickedness of government, or even the wickedness of the church. And thus they have missed the mark altogether concerning the right view concerning the suffering of Christ..

Concerning the unbelievers view which we know to be the social view, they look to the social benefits and fruits that spring forth from identifying with the Passion of Christ. And so they talk about it as though by doing so they are understanding it, or they try to do things such as some sort of penance, as though their own superficial views and deeds will somehow isolate them from the true suffering of Christ. For they seek in their own actions, and in their own talk only their selfish interest. Therefore they load themselves up with pictures, and artifacts, and mementoes, and other such paraphernalia, and they think is they can be identified with the books, or tapes, or some piece of his clothing or possess one of the nails, they thus imagine these things somehow will protect them from peril, and suffering, and rejection. And in this way, the suffering of Christ is to work in them an absence of suffering, which is contrary to its nature and character.

These are they who so sympathize with Christ that they weep and lament for him because he was so innocent. I have heard this comment the most from those who have seen the Passion. They all look with the wrong view, and come out weeping, and they are no different than the women who followed Christ from Jerusalem, whom he rebuked, in that they should better weep for themselves and for their children.

**LUKE 23:27** *And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him. 28 But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. 29 For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed [are] the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck. 30 Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us. 31 For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?*

Such are they who come out as Christians during the midst of the Passion season, and come forth on Easter to show the world that they too believe, and yet after it is over they never get any farther into a relationship with Christ. For what help is it to you, that God is God, if he is not God to you? What benefit is it to you if eating and drinking are in themselves healthful and good, if they are not healthful for you, and what good will it do for you to have a view concerning the passion and suffering of Christ if your view is the wrong view. Therefore we should fear that we shall never grow better by reason of our many Sunday visits to church, if we fail to seek the truth when we go?

**Romans 10:** *verses 9-11 the following words, "9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."*

Now, if we examinethese words, especially in verse 9 Paul is telling us that there is a certain belief that must be believed and there is a certain confession that must be said in order for you to be saved. We can not just take any view concerning the suffering of Christ and be saved. We can not believe just anything and we can not just confess anything we want. For there is but one view that is True, and all others will not bring forth salvation, though they sound good.

He said, *if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

Therefore we see the importance of having the right confession. He said you've got to believe that God raised Jesus from the dead. He did not raise Himself, but God raised him up. There are a dozen and a half Scriptures which tell us that God raised Jesus from the dead. Therefore, we must know what God said about His Suffering, and we must know what God said about His resurrection, if we are to have the right view, because the right view is God's own view.

## II. THE TRUE VIEW OF CHRIST'S SUFFERINGS.

We can not know, nor can we understand, nor can we possess the True View of the Suffering and the Passion of Christ without knowing, understanding, and thus possessing what God's thoughts are concerning the suffering and passion of His Only begotten Son. For God has said,

**ISAIAH 55:6** ¶ *Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. 8 For my thoughts [are] not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: 11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper [in the thing] whereto I sent it.*

Therefore we must have the mind of God. That is we must know what is that God thinks about the suffering of Christ in order to know and understand the right view of this passion.

In **ISAIAH 53:1** we read, ¶ *Who hath believed The Message?* And that is the question God is still asking mankind. *Who has believed The Message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?*

Now, brother Branham read this scripture in his sermon God in simplicity, and said, *In other words, if you have believed our report, then the arm of the Lord has been revealed. See?*

Now, notice how God describes his Son in the following way,

**2** *He* (The son of God) shall *grow up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.* (Now, what is a root out of dry ground? It's all shriveled up and deformed looking. God's own Word speaks of His Own son brought forth in His exact Image with these words..) *He had no beauty or majesty to be attracted to him, nothing in his appearance that one should desire him.* **3** *He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.* (Now, if you are familiar with something you know it well. And God tells us of His Son that he is familiar with suffering.) *Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.* Like one whom men hide their faces from. That means they loathed him so bad they could hardly stand to look at him. Now, I know what it is to be that way. I saw a woman in the restaurant one day, that was so disfigured from a fire that they had reconstructed her face in such a way, that I could hardly look at her. Not that I wanted to despise her, but she was so disfigured, that it was only a natural reaction to do so. And I felt so sorry for her, I wanted to cry within. And a few months later I saw this woman on a billboard against drunk driving, and she had been such a beautiful young woman at one time, but was hit by a drunk driver and her car burst into flames and disfigured her face so bad you could not have recognized that this was once a beautiful person.

And God says, that His Only begotten Son is looked upon with the same disgust and He is despised, and that means, and that is not a pleasant thing to go through.

**The word despised means:** **1.** To regard with contempt or scorn: **2.** To dislike intensely; to loathe: **3.** To regard as unworthy of one's interest or concern: *despised any thought of their. And not only was He despised but we esteemed Him not. We did not value him. He was considered worthless to us. That is the condemnation that is upon mankind. And yet God tells us, he was*

disfigured not for any reason of his own choosing. Nor was it because he was at fault. But He was disfigured for our sake.

**4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.** We thought surely this one that God is allowing to be beaten so badly and to be whipped so much with such cruel scourging, using whips that had balls and hooks in them so when they hit his body they would grind his flesh to a pulp, and when they pulled back the whip it would tear out great chunks of His flesh, until we turned as it were our faces from him. We could look on no longer for the scene was so bloody, and cruel that we could not watch whether we wanted to or not.

**5 But he was pierced for our transgressions,** Those whips cut deep into his flesh, and those thorns sank deep within his head until they came out into the eye socket. And Isaiah continues to tell us, **he was crushed for our iniquities;** He was CRUSHED... **the punishment that brought us peace was upon him,** The PUNISHMENT THAT BROUGHT US PEACE... WAS UPON HIM... He paid the price, not for anything he had done, but for what you and I have done... **and by his wounds we are healed.** Let me repeat that... **by his wounds we are healed.** Therefore, every time you have a need for healing, I want you to think about those beatings he took, and the crushing of every blow to his body that he took, and then think about your healing, and don't ever forget it was made possible by his suffering.

**6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

I will never forget as long as I live, when I was a child if one of my brothers did something wrong, we all got it unless the one who did wrong came forth to confess his wrong. I will never forget, how many times I took the lash of the belt because of one of my brothers did something and didn't have the guts to step forward and tell the truth. And I will never forget that on several occasions I stepped forward to take the belt because I did not want my brothers to get it, even though I knew one of them had done the act but was too afraid to fess up. But that was just a belt, but Jesus took the whip with bones, and sharps and balls in it that not only tore his flesh, but crushed it to ground meat.

**7 He was oppressed and afflicted,** (That means how was not only beaten and crushed but when he was stripped of his clothing, he was humiliated in every way man can humiliate.) **yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.** Oh, my and when someone just says a mere word about you, you get all upset and start talking bad about them.

**8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken. 9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.**

**10 Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and It was the Lord's will cause him to suffer,** (Did not Jesus ask God to take this cup away from Him? Did not he plea with God to spare him from having to go through this? And yet He finally came to a resolve, and said, "Father not my will but thy will be done..." ) **and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and** (notice now) **the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.**

**11 After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.** Not his own but ours... **RISING OF THE SUN 65-0418M 34-5** *When God looked down upon the body... (The Spirit left Him in the Garden of Gethsemane; He had to die a man.) Remember friends, He didn't have to do that. That was God. God anointed that flesh, which was human flesh, and He didn't have... If He'd went up there as God, He'd have never died that kind of death; can't kill God. But, He didn't have to do it, but remember, He went there with you in Him. See?*

**12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.**

If we are to have the right view concerning the suffering of Christ we must say what God said. It pleased God to crush Him. Why? For your sake and mine...

And what else did God say about it? **ROMANS 10:9** *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

**ACTS 2:23** Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: 24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he

**ACTS 3:14** But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; 15 And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

**ACTS 3:26** Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

**ACTS 4:10** Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, [even] by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

**ACTS 5:30** The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. 31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand [to be] a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and [so is] also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

**ACTS 10:40** Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;

**ACTS 13:29** And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a sepulchre 30 But God raised him from the dead: 31 And he was seen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people. 32 And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, 33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.

**ACTS 13:37** But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption.

**I CORINTHIANS 6:14** And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.

**GALATIANS 1:1** ¶ Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)

**COLOSSIANS 2:12** Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with [him] through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

**I PETER 1:21** Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

**ACTS 2:30** Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; 31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. 32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. 33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

**HEBREWS 11:17** By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten [son], 18 Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: 19 Accounting that God [was] able to raise [him] up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

Now, Paul said, "***if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*** And if you do not believe that, you are lost. Now, that may seem like a rather bold statement to make, especially in this hour where the people are so morally bankrupt, and so afraid to speak up for the Word of God sake, but that does not change the facts any.

That is a very important statement to make, and seems awful harsh, but, it is perfectly in line with other statements which Paul has made.

In **GALATIANS 1:6** Paul said, ¶ *I marvel that ye are so soon removed ( or fallen away) from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another(heteros) gospel: 7 Which is not another(allos); but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert ( turn backwards) the*

*gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any [man] preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.*

**The Wuest translation says, "In fact, even if we or a messenger from heaven should preach a Gospel to you which would go beyond that which we preached to you, let him be accursed. Even as we have said on a previous occasion, indeed, now again I am saying, If as is the case, anyone preaches a Gospel to you which goes beyond that which you took so eagerly, and hospitably to your hearts, let him be accursed."**

**We find John say the same thing in 2 John 9** *"every one who goes beyond the limits of ture doctrine and does not remain in the aforementioned teaching with reference to the Christ, does not possess God. The one who remains in the aforementioned teaching, this one possess both the father and the Son. "*

**NIV 2 JOHN 9** *Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. 10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your house or welcome him. 11 Anyone who welcomes him shares in his wicked work.*

**Weymouth 1:6** *I marvel that you are so readily leaving Him who called you by the grace of Christ, and are adhering to a different Good News. 1:7 For other "Good News" there is none; but there are some persons who are troubling you, and are seeking to distort the Good News concerning Christ. 1:8 But if even we or an angel from Heaven should bring you a Good News different from that which we have already brought you, let him be accursed. 1:9 What I have just said I repeat — if any one is preaching to you a Good News other than that which you originally received, let him be accursed.*

**KJV 10 ¶** *For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ. 11 But I certify you brethren ( or make you brethren to understand) that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. 12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught [it], but by the revelation (apocalypses) of Jesus Christ. And if it took the Pillar of fire and an apocalypses then to understand the Gospel, it will take the same thing today. Alpha has got to repeat in Omega.*

Now, let's read again from **Romans 10: verses 9-11 to see if we have a better appreciation of these words Paul is speaking to us here.** *"9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."*

Then Paul tells us, we not only have to believe it in our hearts, but we must confess it with our mouth. Because if we just believe it and do not confess it we really don't believe it. For Jesus said, "for out of the Abundance of the heart the mouth will speak." Therefore, if you truly believe it, it will swell up within your heart to the place that you can't hold your peace. Maybe I can say it a little plainer.

If you really believe it, you can't wait for the opportunity to speak it. But if you are not sure you believe it, then you don't have it yet. Because the Word of God is a fountain that runneth over. It is not still water, but a living water than keeps coming forth and renewing itself and ever increasing within you and you can't help but to open your mouth and speak his Word and identify with what He is and what He is doing.

**Romans 10:13** *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

Now, here's the key, He says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. In verse 9 & 10 he said, you've got to believe first in your heart that God raised up Jesus from the dead and then you've got to confess it. And now he says, *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

Therefore, this believing and confessing is your calling upon the Lord. **AT THY WORD LORD 54-1207 E-48 Only by your confession can you be saved. That's the most powerful weapon that God put in the hand of man, is a committal and a confession. It'll do it every time, if you'll believe it, accept it on those basis, and believe it and stay with it. Keep confessing it. When you confess it...**

But what if you are not sure of what you believe? Can you be saved?

**CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH 55-0220E E-66** *Jesus said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom." You can't understand it. It's a mystic, mythical thing until you're born again. There the very Life of God comes in you. Everlasting, Eternal Life, Zoe, God's own Life comes in you, and then you're a part of God. You're a Son of God or a daughter of God. And then you see as God sees. You believe as God believes.*

This is the real issue then. How do you really know you are calling upon the right Lord? The Word Lord simply means master, Jesus used the same word Kurios when he said **MATTHEW 6:24** *No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*

Therefore, how will we know which Lord, Which Master to call upon? Paul answers this question as we shall see in the next few verses.

**14** *How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher (Even though they say they hear, thy boast in vain, unless they hear true preachers; for to hear false prophets means as much as not to hear. They hear and they do not hear; They have ears, but do not hear, nor do they preach the Word of God. ?* **15** *And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! ?* **This is directed against all conceited teachers and arrogant instructors .**

If you will notice in verse 14-15 there are four statements that Paul makes that of which follow together in such a way that one leads to the other, but so that the last forms the foundation on which the others rest. Thus we see from what Paul said, that it is impossible that those preach who are not sent, It then is impossible for those to hear who are without a preacher, and it is impossible for them to believe who do not hear, and thus it would be impossible for them to call upon the name of the Lord who do not believe. And thus it would be impossible for them who do not call upon the name of the Lord to be saved.

So then, the entire source and origin of salvation rests on this, that God sends out someone, ( A true minister of the Word).

1. **If He does not send out any, then they who preach, preach falsely, and their preaching is no preaching at all. In fact, it would be better for them not to preach.**
2. **Then also they who hear, hear error, and it would be better for them not to hear.**
3. **Then also they who believe, would believe false doctrine, and it would be better for them not to believe.**
4. **Then also they who call upon Him would call falsely (upon a false Lord), and it would be better for them not to call.**
- 1 **For such preachers do not preach,**
- 2 **such hearers do not hear;**
- 3 **such believers do not believe;**
- 4 **such callers do not call;**
- 5 **they will be damned because they would be saved by falsehood.**

Then we would see what is spoken of in **Proverbs 1:28** which says, "**Then shall they call upon me, But I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: for that they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord.**"

**16** *But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? 17 So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.* The true, revealed, and vindicated Word of God.

Then can you see the importance this morning of receiving a vindicated Ministry? Because if it is not vindicated, then how do you know what you are hearing is not error? And if it is error, then you would be believing error, and if you believe error, then you would be calling out to a wrong God, and if you call out to a wrong God, then how could you be saved? Therefore, God has come down to vouch safe His own Presence among us. We know that we are the elect of God because He said so. It is not just something we have read in a book, but God Himself has come down and has spoken through the lips of His Prophet whom He has vindicated and that is what I am standing on this morning.

Can you imagine the mess the Mess-Age would be in if all of God's True Five fold ministry were to be called off the scene? It is going to happen one of these days, and when it does, you talk

about a famine.

**UNCERTAIN SOUND 61-0429E E-51** *One day God said, "Now, you prophesied enough against them, come on out of the field, and I'm going to let the judgments of your prophecy rain down on them." So Elijah went up on top the mountain, up there for three and half years, or three years when they was all 'bout gnawing their tongues for pain, but he was setting by a little brook. Little spring, had the spiritual revelation all the time, waters of life pouring up. The rest of them... And listen, brother, sister, let me tell you. One of these days when God is, just get enough of this around here, **and He will take all the true off the field and then you'll want a revival. It has to come to pass.** The prophet said there would be a time in the last days, when there would not be a famine only for bread and water, but for hearing of the Word of God. **And the true servants will be taken off. And there'll be a famine in the last days. It sure will be.***

## **II. THE TRUE VIEW OF CHRIST'S SUFFERINGS.**

We can not know, nor can we understand, nor can we possess the True View of the Suffering and the Passion of Christ without knowing, understanding, and thus possessing what God's thoughts are concerning the suffering and passion of His Only begotten Son. For God has said,

**ISAIAH 55:6 ¶** *Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. 8 For my thoughts [are] not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: 11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper [in the thing] whereto I sent it.*

Therefore we must have the mind of God. That is we must know what is that God thinks about the suffering of Christ in order to know and understand the right view of this passion.

We must have the right view which is God's View or else we have but a satanic View.

**MATTHEW 16:21 ¶** *From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. 22 Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. 23 But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men. 24 ¶ Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any [man] will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. 25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?*

You must never think for one minute that if you were there in that day that you would have done everything in your power to stop what God had ordained. For all that Jesus went through was not for his benefit, but for yours and mine.

Let us pray...