

Questions and Answers #41

Be careful how you hear

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John 1: 1 - 4, ¶ *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

John 6:63 *It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, [they] are spirit, and [they] are life.*

33 Christ Revealed in His Own Word 65-0822 *"Christ and the Word is the same. ...We should never pray to change God's mind; we should pray to change our mind. God's mind don't need any changing"*

Deut 6: 4-9 *Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: 5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. 9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.*

I would like to read verse 7 from the Mazaretic text which is the **NIV** *Impress them on your children. Talk of them when you sit in your home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.*

And again verse 7 from the **Amplified Bible** *And these words which I am commanding you this day shall be first in your mind heart; then you shall whet and sharpen them, so to make them penetrate, and teach and impress them diligently upon the minds and hearts of your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down and when you rise up."*

So we see that to do so they were to place pictures and Scriptures and all sorts of things that the children will actually see with their eyes and when they see with their eyes it will have an influence in their minds and in their hearts.

Brother Branham preached a Message "**Christ Revealed in HIS Own Word.**" Now that is an absolute. If Christ is Revealed in **HIS OWN** Word, then the Word of Christ is the only way in which He is or will be Revealed. So then **if** we are to get to know Christ, if He is to become revealed to us, it must come only one way and that is through His Own Word. So then His Word is the Absolute or ultimate if we are to get to know Him.

He said, *We should never pray to change God's mind; we should pray to change our mind. God's mind don't need any changing.*

St. John 1:1 *"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God."* Now that doesn't take any special gift to be able to understand that? Or is it so plain that all we must have to do is be able to read. Therefore we can say that God and His Word are the same, Right? OK, now let's see what else we can find out about this Word.

Mal 3: 6 *"For I am the Lord and I change not"* Also we read from

Hebrews 13:8 *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever."*

Now let me first explain what this means that God is the Word. In [**Proverbs 23:7**] we are told, *"as a man thinketh in His Heart, so is he."* This body is not you nor any part of it. Brother Branham said it is like an old coat that we wear. Well, my coat is not me. So what you are is what your thoughts are.

Matt 12:34 & Luke 6:25 that Jesus tells us, *"For out of the abundance, or overflow of the heart, the mouth will speak."* So then there is no getting away from the fact that you are not only what you think, but what you are will be expressed through your lips in the form of words. You will speak what you are.

John 1: 1 that tells us *"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God."* To get to know God, it must come through His Word, and since He can not change, then we can establish the point and that *Christ is Revealed in His Own Word, because after all, Christ and the Word is the same.* Now if you are revealed by your own words, then Christ is Revealed in the same manner. Therefore, to get to know Christ we must get to know His Word. And that is why God has given us His Word. Could you imagine God wanting for us to know Him and not telling us anything about Himself? Then our knowledge of Him would be left up to our own imagination.

Let me put it to you this way. When a young man sees a young girl and he likes what he sees, what does she do? He tries to get to know her. But what if he never talks to her? Can he get to know her? Not really. He may say that he has fallen in love with her without ever talking to her, but how does he know that it is her that he is in love with? It might just be his own imagination that he is in love with. He imagines what she is like and so he thinks on these thoughts and then he falls in love with his ideals of what she should be like. But what happens if he dates her and they never talk? He will go on thinking she is what his mind imagines her to be. And what if they get married and they have never really talked and communicated to each other. Then he will be in for the shock of his life when he marries her and then finds out later that she is not what he thought she was.

So you see, we express ourselves by what we say and what we do. That is the real person in us doing those things and saying those things. This shell of a body is only a housing in which the real person in us lives. You do not know me by what I look like but by what I say and do. My expression reveals to you the real me. And how often people marry thinking that they will be able to change the one they are married to. It does not work that way.

And so we see that **not only is God revealed by His own Word, but we are also revealed by our own words.** But what if those words are not true? Or what if we were told words that were not true? Or what if we only hear what we want to hear? Then the description of the One being revealed will be wrong. Then that one will not be truly revealed will he?

Ex: Man looking for wife, given wrong picture and wrong description. Eve was seduced. By what? A lie! Early church left the One who bought them for another. How? By deception.

Galatians 1: 6-9 ¶ *I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert 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.*

2 Cor 11: 1-4, ¶ *Would to God ye could bear with me a little in [my] folly: and indeed bear with me. 2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present [you as] a chaste virgin to Christ. 3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or [if] ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with [him]. (you put up with it so easily). 5 ¶ For I suppose I was not a whit behind the very chiefeest apostles. And now, let's read **13-15** For such [are] false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore [it is] no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.*

The great falling away happens because of the gullibility of those people who are perishing.

2Thess 2: 5-12 5 *Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? 6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. 8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: 9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.*

Now let's read it from the **Wuest translation** which speaking of Satan in this hour he says, *"whose coming and presence is in the sphere of every kind of wicked deception that is geared to the gullibility of those who are perishing, this gullibility being caused by the fact that they did not accept the love for the truth to the end that they might be saved. And because of this God sends them a deluding influence resulting in their believing THE lie, in order that they all might be judged who did not believe the truth but took delight in wickedness."*

So you see, God knows who already believes and who does not. And so the purpose of the wrong influence is to give those who do not believe an opportunity to expose their unbelief.

John 3: 16-21 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. 21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.*

They are already condemned. But notice those who have their source in God, they can not help but to come to the Truth. Most people have not a clue as to Who or what God is? What they have is based solely upon their own imagination, or the imagination of another whether it be a churches position, or the opinion of a priest, rabbi or some minister.

CHAP. VIII.--How the Valentinians pervert the Scriptures to support their own pious opinions.

1. *Such, then, is their system, which neither the prophets announced, nor the Lord taught, nor the apostles delivered, but of which they boast that beyond all others they have a perfect knowledge. They gather their views from other sources than the Scriptures;(4) and, to use a common proverb, they strive to weave ropes of sand, while they endeavor to adapt with an air of probability to their own peculiar assertions the parables of the Lord, the sayings of the prophets, and the words of the apostles, in order that their scheme may not seem altogether without support. In doing so, however, they disregard the order and the connection of the Scriptures, and so far as in them lies, dismember and destroy the truth. By transferring passages, and dressing them up anew, and making one thing out of another, they succeed in deluding many through their wicked art in adapting the oracles of the Lord to their opinions. Their manner of acting is just as if one, when a beautiful image of a king has been constructed by some skilful artist out of precious jewels, should then take this likeness of the man all to pieces, should rearrange the gems, and so fit them together as to make them into the form of a dog or of a fox, and even that but poorly executed; and should then maintain and declare that this was the beautiful image of the king which the skilful artist constructed, pointing to the jewels which had been admirably fitted together by the first artist to form the image of the king, but have been with bad effect transferred by the latter one to the shape of a dog, and by thus exhibiting the jewels, should deceive the ignorant who had no conception what a king's form was like, and persuade them that that miserable likeness of the fox was, in fact, the beautiful image of the king. In like manner do these persons patch together old wives' fables, and then endeavor, by violently drawing away from their proper connection, words, expressions, and parables whenever found, to adapt the oracles of God to their baseless fictions.*

Mark 4: 24 *And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.*

Notice he said, take heed, be careful how you hear. How you hear? Don't we hear with our ears? I'd like to ask this question myself. How do you hear? with your ears? **Take Heed:** **Blepo**= Beware of, be careful, to discern, to observe and contemplate, to weigh carefully, **examine. What= Tis** : What, who, whom, why, that which **Hear=Akou**: To understand, comprehend or perceive, to sense what was being said, to give an ear to a teaching or teacher with a view toward understanding.

Matt 13: 10 – 17 *And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? 11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. 12 For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. 13 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. 14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: 15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and [their] ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with [their] eyes, and hear with [their] ears, and should understand with [their] heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. 16 But blessed [are] your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. 17 For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous [men] have desired to see [those things] which ye see, and have not seen [them]; and to hear [those things] which ye hear, and have not heard [them].*

Notice he said we do not hear with our ears nor do we see with our eyes. These are only outer senses that send stimulus to our mind. But what we hear with and what we see only brings a stimulus that enter into our mind or spirit where we have five other senses.

Five Outer Senses

- 1) *See*
- 2) *Taste*
- 3) *Feel*
- 4) *Smell*
- 5) *Hear*

Five Inner Senses

- 1) *Memory*
- 2) *Imagination*
- 3) *Reasoning*
- 4) *Conscience*
- 5) *Affection*

Choice

Believe or disbelieve

1) **Memory** = the ability to retain or revive in the mind past thoughts, images, ideas, etc.

2) **Imagination** = the power to form(conceive or picture) mental images of what is not actually present.

3) **Reasoning** = The ability to draw conclusions or inference from assumed facts.

4) **Conscience** = The moral sense. Knowledge from within. Inner thoughts and feelings.

5) **Affection** = The emotional state of being, disposition. The prevailing aspects of our true nature.

Now that we have the description of these five Outer and Five Inner senses, I want you to be able to see how it is that the Outer actually Govern and control the Five Inner senses. And so with this in mind, let's look at each of these, but let's start with the Outer sense of Sight because after all, brother Branham said, from the message [**Blind Bartimaeus March 30, 1960**] *"Your eye is the gate to your soul. You can look at it; it almost governs the other senses. You look at it before you taste it. You look at it before you smell it, and feel it, and so forth. It's usually the eye is the gate to the soul."* And in **Matt 6:22** we read, *'the eye is the lamp to the body' it is what brings light and understanding to you"*

And so with this in mind let's begin to learn for ourselves how the sense of sight not only in can govern the other outer senses, but how it also controls the inner senses as well. What we want to do is to see for ourselves the correlation between these senses and how the outer governs even the inner. We really do not have enough time to study how each of the Five outer senses controls the five inner senses, but if I can establish for you the control of sight over the inner senses then you can use the same laws and principals for sight and apply them to the other outer senses as well.

Now, Sight,... What is it? Simply put, sight is what we see. There are three types of sight. Outer, inner and a sixth sense which has to do with the soul.

- 1). We have Physical sight which is visual and one of the five outer senses.
- 2). We also possess Intuitive sight which we call Insight because it has to do with the inner senses which come from the spirit and which is a mental sight. This Insight is a mental awareness of the inner nature of things.

1 Cor 2: 11a *For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?*

- 3). We have Spiritual Sight which is Revelatory and is possessed only within the soul of the Believer who alone has this Spiritual sight which is also called Faith. This Comes only from God .

Matt 16:17 *And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed [it] unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.*

1 Cor 2: 10-13 *But God hath revealed [them] unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. 13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.*

Now let's go to the Scriptures this evening and see how that Physical Sight (which is an outer sense) can have an effect on the inner senses.

Genesis 3: 6-7 ¶ *And when the woman saw that the tree [was] good for food, and that it [was] pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make [one] wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. 7 And the eyes*

of them both were opened, and they knew that they [were] naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Here we see that something happened to them and they now knew that they were naked. something physical happened to them that caused them to see things in a different perspective than they had seen those things before.

Deut 6: 6-9 7 NIV *Impress them on your children. Talk of them when you sit in your home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. {7} **Amplified** And these words which I am commanding you this day shall be first in your mind heart; then you shall whet and sharpen them, so to make them penetrate, and teach and impress them diligently upon the minds and hearts of your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down and when you rise up."*

To do so they were to place visual stimuli (Scriptures) and things that the children would actually see with their eyes, and when they see with their eyes it will have an influence in their minds and in their hearts. So here we see a positive picture of using and controlling the five senses in a way which will control and guide the minds of the children and actually bring about an inner desire in them for the things of God. We see how then that sight can control the inner senses... In other words we begin to superimpose the Revealed Word upon everything we see, taste feel smell and hear.

1) Memory = *the ability to retain or revive in the mind past thoughts, images, ideas, etc.*

2) Imagination = *the power to form(conceive or picture) mental images of what is not actually present.*

3) Reasoning = *The ability to draw conclusions or inference from assumed facts.*

4) Conscience = *The moral sense. Knowledge from within. Inner thoughts and feelings.*

5) Affection = *The emotional state of being, disposition. The prevailing aspects of our true nature.*

Now let's look to the scripture for some other illustrations of how sight will control these five inner senses.

Numbers 15: 38-40 *Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue: 39 And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the LORD, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring: 40 That ye may remember, and do all my commandments, and be holy unto your God.*

Here we see that the sight is used to control our memory so that we do not prostitute ourselves to other things.

NIV *"You will have the tassels to look at and so you will remember all the commands of the Lord, that you may obey them and not prostitute yourselves by going after the lusts of your*

own hearts and eyes. Then you will remember to obey all my commands and will be consecrated to your God. "

Here we see God employing the use of sight to control the heart and minds by charging our memories with stimulus that in turn causes us to reflect within ourselves what our journey is all about. **Proverbs 17: 24 NIV** *A discerning man keeps wisdom in view, but a fools eyes wander to the ends of the earth*

Now what I am trying to establish here is that you see and hear with your mind, and we read in **Mark 4: 24** that we must *be careful*, we must *take heed how we hear* because the measure we use to hear is the only thing we will hear. *As a tree leaneth so shall it fall*. If our minds are already made up then what we hear will be filtered by what we want to hear. If our minds are not open then we will never come to the knowledge of the truth. (**ex:** young man leaning, try to stand up, can't do it!)

Mark 4:24 *For with what measure you use to measure out, that is all you will receive back.*

Luke 8:18 *Take heed therefore how ye hear:* **How** : Pos : By what means, after what manner, in what way *for whosoever hath*, **Hath** : **echo** : The word speaks of possession, but we also understand the word echo means repetition through reflection. *to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have..*

1 Timothy 4:15-16 *Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. 16Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine;* **Doctrine** : Didaskalia : Doctrine, teaching, instruction...*continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.* Notice that we are told that it will save both you and those who will hear you.

Proverbs 22:6 ¶ *Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.* And so a child will always revert back to the way he or she was trained. The filter we have, the measuring stick we have is based upon what information we filter it through. And so we see that every thing we know we were taught by someone. Every fact we use to make our decisions with is based upon what we were told. And the world is under such delusions today that people take what is only theory and believe it for Gospel. **Ex:** Darwin and evolution, Landing on the moon, Brother Branham said, they'll never do it. Videos show heavy gravity. No booster rockets to get them back, etc. What about star wars, It was a bluff to bankrupt Russia. etc.

I used this illustration in a church who had sat under false teaching for so many years that the people did not know what truth was. I hid a Lamb under a blanket and told them that The Gentiles worship what they know not, as Jesus has said. I told them to guess what was under the blanket because that is what most people do concerning faith. It is only a guess to them. I then read to them 7 attributes which described what I had hid under the blanket. Before I did, though, I told one group that what was under the blanket was a Bunny Rabbit. Another Group I told it was a Collie dog. Both Groups then thinking they knew what I had under the blanket, were actually blinding themselves to the attributes which were expressed because they read into them what they wanted to hear. That attributes were: **1)** Four legs **2)** beautiful outer coat **3)** Gentle nature **4)** it's nature is to follow **5)** It can jump small fences **6)** it is sacrificial in it's nature **7)** A Shepherd boys best friend . When each attribute was read each

group reinforced their error with the hearing of the attribute. Finally a group that I had told to be completely open until they heard all the attributes, said it was a Lamb and they alone were right. You should have seen the faces of those others. They were mad when they found out they had been duped. But I told them I purposely duped them in this illustration that they may never be duped again.

John 8: 37 – 47 *I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you. 38 ¶ I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father. 39 They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. 40 But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. 41 Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, [even] God. 42 Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. 43 Why do ye not understand my speech? [even] because ye cannot hear my word. 44 Ye are of [your] father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. 45 And because I tell [you] the truth, ye believe me not. 46 ¶ Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me? 47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear [them] not, because ye are not of God.*

Matt 23:32 *Fill ye up the measure of your fathers.* Jesus told them to fill up the measure of their fathers. In other words, every seed will bring forth after their own kind, or their own nature. Then can you expect them to believe? There is no way they can believe. They are ordained not to believe. That reminds me of a man who was mental and thought he was dead. So the doctor trying to help him, asked him if dead men can bleed, and the man answered, of course not, dead men don't bleed because they have no blood. So the doctor trying to shock the man into his senses poked him with a needle and immediately the man began to bleed. Upon seeing the blood come he shouted, I was wrong, dead men do bleed!

Now, if God were to come in this day and walk down the street, there is no way that you would know it was Him unless he began to open his mouth and talk to you and by words He would declare Himself to you. Because, you can only know someone by their mind - what they think and what they say. Even the things they do are a manifestation of what they are thinking. Brother Branham said, Eve had to first think adultery before she could perform it. You must first think of lying before you do it.

If you hear a false description you will be looking for a false person. That is why Paul told us in **2 Cor 11:1-4** that the people had become seduced to believe another Jesus, because they received so openly another Gospel.

And yet it was not an altogether different Gospel, only one that had become perverted.

Galatians 1: 6-9 *¶ I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.*

And a perverted Gospel is one of a different nature *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.*

3). Therefore how do we know what is the Correct Word of God? **VINDICATION** is the only way. And how does God VINDICATE His Word? God interprets His Own Word by bringing it to pass. Brother Branham spoke of vindication well over 2,270 times and the word comes from a Latin word vindicatus. This word comes from two Latin words, vim or vin which means to use force and the word discere' which comes from the root word diction which means to express by words. The words together form the word as we know it vindicate which means to clear from criticism or suspicion, in other words, to prove and back up. Therefore we see that the very presence of God on the seen is to back up the message that He gave His Prophet.