

Spoken Word no. 181

A Deceived Church

Brian Kocourek, Pastor

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Galatians 1:6 *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. 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, 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 of Jesus Christ.*

Now, from Paragraph **33** of the second half of Brother Branham's sermon, ***the Spoken Word is the Original Seed*** he said, *Now, she mingled her seed illegally, illegal to the Word. What was she trying to find? (Now, listen close.) What was she after? Wisdom, wisdom. And that's what she's done today. She's sent her preachers away to schools, incubated them out on a machine, psychology, all kinds of stuff that should not even in the Bible. And she's incubated her eggs. And when she's done, she's brought out a product of a bunch of people that will compromise anything and refuse the very message of God, not knowing what she's doing. She's ignorant of it. She don't believe, she don't think she's wrong. Neither did Eve think she was wrong. Eve thought she was right. And if that was a type, and this is the antitype, it'll have to work the same way the type did. Now, that's just... To me that's just two times two equal four.*

Now, let me read it from a new translation called **THE MESSAGE** ⁶⁻⁹*I can't believe your fickleness—how easily you have turned traitor to him who called you by the grace of Christ by embracing a variant message!* (that's a modified Message, one that has been tampered with.) Then Paul says, *It is not a minor variation, you know; it is completely another Message, a different Message, an alien message, a no-message, a lie about God. Those who are provoking this agitation among you are turning the Message of Christ on its head. Let me be blunt: If one of us, even if an angel from heaven!, were to preach something other than what we preached originally, let him be cursed. I said it once; I'll say it again: If anyone, regardless of reputation or credentials, preaches something other than what you received originally, let him be cursed.*

¹⁰⁻¹²*Do you think I speak this strongly in order to manipulate crowds? Or curry favor with God? Or get popular applause? If my goal was popularity, I wouldn't bother being Christ's slave. Know this—I am most emphatic here, friends—this great Message I delivered to you is not mere human optimism. I didn't receive it through the traditions, and I wasn't taught it in some school. I got it straight from God, received the Message directly from Jesus Christ.*

So they do not realize that they have turned down life in favor of the curse. And all who teach such are under the curse of God. But the problem is that they do not even fear God anymore, that is how mentally disturbed they have become.

In **Luke 6: 39** Jesus said, *Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch?*

Now that's an excellent question. But I think if you look around today you will find the great majority of Message churches where the people are blind and they are following blind leaders of the blind. As I have said before I will say for the record tonight, I doubt that 90% of Message preachers are even born again.

I was just in South Africa last week after finishing our meetings in both Congo's and Zimbabwe, and on Wednesday night to be in church I attended one of the largest Message churches in South Africa, and I was shocked when I heard them sing, and saw the words with my own eyes up on the big screen say the following; *"Behold, Elijah's God is in our hearts today, behold He's here to do just what we will and say."*

And I could not help to think how deluded people in this Message have become. That is exactly opposite from what God tells us in His word. He says, that God works in us to will and to do what He says, not visa verse. They must believe that they are in charge and God is just some sort of servant to them? They actually teach that the Holy Spirit as comforter is no longer in that office because they don't understand the Godhead correctly and therefore they do not know who actually came down in this hour. So don't tell me that understanding the Godhead is not important? If you do not have the doctrine of Christ correctly you do not have God, and it is very apparent what happens to them who do not have the Holy Ghost. For without the Holy Ghost there is no way they can understand the kingdom of God. I've got 20 pages of quotes on that from William Branham vindicated prophet of God.

And to make things worse they actually believe that the fullness of the Godhead is in the Bride. And they believe that Christ is no longer making intercession for our confession because they do not understand who is has come down. And on all counts they are false, false, false, and have fallen into a very degenerate Gospel. And where do they get that junk from? False preachers, cursed preachers as the Apostle Paul called them. And why do the people not protest? Because they love it.

Jeremiah 5: 31 *The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?*

Hosea 4: 9 *And there shall be, like people, like priest: and I will punish them for their ways, and reward them their doings.*

And the preachers are just giving them what they want to hear? And what is it that they want to hear? They want to hear all about how they have become God because they love hearing that the fullness of the Godhead is now in them. And what has it produced in them? A people who know not the fear of God. God is not in all there thoughts. And they have turned down the truth and will be damned by it.

Lucifer could have not prepared a better deception than to get the people to believe that they are God. After all did not he try to do the same and was kicked out of heaven for it? Then how could these people think they will be welcomed in heaven when they have done no different than Lucifer did in the beginning. These are a deceived people, horribly taught, horribly deceived.

Now, after Jesus says in **Luke 6: 39** *Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch?*

We then see Jesus say in verse **40** *The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.* Now, this word perfect comes from a Greek word that does not mean perfect as though you have reached some sort of a perfect state where you make no error. But the word simply means to equip.

Therefore we should read this statement that Jesus is making here as thus: **Luke 6:40** *The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is equipped by His master shall be as his master.* And why is that? Because it really does matter what teacher teaches you. If you sit under a false teacher, you will hear false teaching, and thus your mind will be filled with error.

As the Apostle Paul said in **ROMANS 10:13-17** *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. 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? 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! 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.*

Martin Luther in his comments on these verses said, "Even though they say they hear, they 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 True Word of God. There are four statements which follow one another in such a way that one leads to the other, but so that the last forms the foundation on which the others rest. Thus, 1. It is impossible that those preach who are not sent. 2. **It is impossible that those hear who are without a preacher.** 3. It is impossible that they believe who do not hear. 4. It is impossible that they call upon Him who do not believe. To these must be added a fifth, it is impossible that they who do not call upon the name of the lord shall 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). 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. Then also, they who hear, hear error, and it would be better for them not to hear. Then also they who believe, would believe false doctrine, and it would be better for them not to call. For such preachers, do not preach; such hearers do not hear; such believers do not believe; such callers do not call; they will be damned because they would be saved by falsehood. As we read in **Proverbs 1:28** *"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".* Then only they can preach with certainty who preach without error."

Now, we know what Paul said in **Romans 10**, and we know what he said in **2 Corinthians 11**, and again in the book of **Galatians**, that if they receive a wrong word, then they will receive a wrong spirit. How then can we think that anyone who sits under a wrong ministry and has a wrong conception of the message has the right spirit, which is the Holy Spirit? A wrong conception is a wrong quickening to life. Conception means to quicken to life. We know Peter said, in **1 Peter 1:23** that *"we are born again, not by a corruptible seed, but by an incorruptible seed, by the Word of God which Lives and Abides forever."* Jesus told us that the Sower sowed a seed which is the Word of God. And that seed will produce a life according to the law of reproduction, which states, *"Ever seed must bring forth after it's own nature."*

Then to receive a wrong Word is to receive a wrong seed, and therefore must produce a wrong spirit or a wrong life. How can it be any other way. Did you know that brother Branham said we must have a right teaching in order to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit?, to receive the Seal of God? And if you don't receive the seal of God there is only one seal left and that is the seal of satan, which is the mark of the beast.

Now notice that Jesus has been speaking about not following blindly, because you could be following someone who is as blind as you are. And then he tells us that if your teacher has rightfully equipped you, then you will become as that teacher. In other words, you will think like him, and speak like him, and act like him. Now that is not to say that you are to look at the flesh, but we are guided by one thing and that is the Word of God.

Jesus said, *"The son can do nothing but what He seeth the Father do, that doeth the Son likewise."* Then **the son will do and act and speak and think as the Father thinks and speaks and acts.** Now, let's face it, the Holy Ghost is the teacher, and if a man is yielded to the Spirit of God and called to teach this Word then he will do as the Father has shown him to do, and the people that look to that ministry will reflect the same principles and will become in a fashion as the lord is to the disciple. **40** *The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is equipped by His master shall be as his master.*

Now, catch what Jesus says here next. **Luke 6:41** *And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye? 42 Either how canst thou say to thy brother, Brother, let me pull out the mote that is in thine eye, when thou thyself beholdest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye.*

Now, if you have become one with your teacher, how is it that you are looking for fault in that teacher. It makes no sense to me, but they did it to Moses. He led them by following Christ and they followed Him as he followed Christ. And yet they wanted to stone him. And Paul said, Follow me as I follow Christ and yet they wanted to stone Him. And the same with William Branham and I have seen it with Brother Vayle and even with my own ministry. So we see Jesus warning the disciple about getting his focus wrong.

Now notice the very next thing Jesus tells us here. *43 For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 44 For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes.* And we know that in the message “Anointed Ones at the end Time”, William Branham taught us that the fruit is the teaching for the season., what they are teaching for the season. In other words, the fruit is what they are teaching. The fruit of their ministry. And he tells us that if you are a good tree, then you can not teach error. Your teaching will be right smack on target. For the word sin means to miss the mark. But the word righteous means to be rightly wise. And how could you be a righteous man if you are un-right in our thinking.

45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; (now remember the heart represents the understanding,) and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

Now in the light of what Jesus is saying here he is saying if your understanding is good you will bring forth good things, and if your understanding is evil then you will bring forth evil things. If you recall, Several years ago I preached a series on the garden of your mind and showed that the mind is a garden, and in it are planted many seeds, and the seed that are planted in your mind are those things that become manifested in your life. Therefore whatsoever you sow, you will surely reap. And therefore what things you are feeding your mind will become manifest in your life. Now, this is the end time and people must manifest what seed they are. And we know that whatsoever doth make manifest is manifested by the light. That’s Ephesians 5:13. So then, we must understanding that all seeds here on earth must come to a manifestation of what they are and the nature of the seed that they are will manifest itself openly once that Light strike the seed.

And so Jesus continues as we read from verse *46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?* And how can you say you believe this message if you are not living it? How can you say you have believe that token if you do not apply it in your life?

Now, we are going to get to the heart of this parable, as we pick up at verse *47. Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: 48 He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: (now remember that a rock represent revelation, so this man built his house upon revelation) and when the flood arose, (And remember the Bible tells us that the devil will come in like a flood) the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. 49 But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.* Now, notice that the only difference is that one heard and did what he heard and the other also heard but did not do what he heard. Thus the revelation that the one had was to do and the revelation of the other was that he did not have to do.

Look, what saved Noah and his household? His believing God that it was going to rain? Or His actions which came as a result of his believing God? In other words, his doing what God had instructed him to do and that was to build the ark. And we have been commanded to apply the token, and I just do not understand how people can think that that means to simply believe it. If I told you to apply the paint you would find a roller or a paint brush and something to open the can if you are going to apply it. And brother Branham said we must apply it.

THE TOKEN 63-0901M 34-9 *You should love one another. Believers should separate themselves from the world. **Don't just take it now, lightly.** And then, you people that's listening to this on tape, you women, you men, you listen a minute. If you ever believed me, you believe it now. It's time to quit fussing with one another. Believe the message of the Bible. Believe Jesus Christ; and love, and honor, and respect one another. Men respect your wives; you respect your home. Bring your home together, because, you remember, this Lamb was for the home, not just one. The whole home too had to be brought; everything had to be brought in. We should love each other, and believers should separate themselves from the world.*

*35-3 Notice, **they were not just yet come together to talk about the message. They come together to apply the blood, to apply the token. That's what you must do.** Pastor Neville, and to this congregation, trustees, deacons, to you brethren, **it's time that we laid aside all the foolishness of the world,** time we laid aside everything else. We've seen enough now, that we're positive, sure, and the Token must be applied. Without it, you're going to perish; you must perish. That is the only thing. Oh, don't come together, say, "I believe it." Get beneath it. Get into it. How to do it? By one Spirit we're baptized into the Body of Jesus Christ. Everybody believe with all your heart. See? He was not responsible for any out from beneath it.*

We find this same parable in **Matthew 7:24** *Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.* Now, if we want to apply the symbols in this parable we must know what they mean first to understand what this is all about.

Now, he said the rain would descend, and we know according to Deuteronomy 32: 2 God said his Doctrine would fall as the rain. So we see here that the rain must come before the floods. Now, we know that satan comes in like a flood, but we also know that a flood represents judgment by the Word, as it was in the days of Noah so shall it be when the Son of Man is Revealed. And as the doctrine begins to pour forth upon the face of the earth, then the judgments that the doctrine bring with it begin to take apart every house that is not founded in the rock which is revelation. You see the flood is the waters of separation, and we know the waters of separation is the Word itself. Notice the rains come first, then the flood which is the waters of separation which will take away any house that has not been build upon a rock which Is Revelation. And not just any revelation will do for Christ is that Rock. And therefore there is one Faith or one Revelation and that is the revelation of Jesus Christ. And building your house upon that rock which is Christ will weather any storms that will come.

So he says the rains will come, that's the doctrine, and then the floods will rise which is the waters of separation that will come as a result of that word, and then the winds will blow, which speaks of every wind of doctrine, and cunning craftiness whereby they lie in wait to deceive. And will beat upon that house, and if it was not founded upon the Rock of the Revelation of Jesus Christ, then it will not last.

If you just come to church because you know you should, watch out? The rain is falling, and the next thing will come is the waters of separation! Then you will find out where your home was built upon. As I pointed out Wednesday night, that If you have receive the revelation of Jesus Christ you will be tested to see whether you have it or not. That's the trial of your faith, which is the trial of your revelation.

*26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and **doeth them not**, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. 28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, **the people were astonished at his doctrine**: 29 For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.*

Now the King James version uses the word astonished here but the word astonished is not a good translation of the word ekplesso that Jesus used here, because it gives you a wrong idea of what was taking place. The Greek word used here is ekplesso and it means to strike out, to expel by a blow, to drive out or away; to cast off by a blow, or to drive out. In others words, they didn't want His doctrine. They wanted to expel him to get him to go away, for his doctrine was too hard for them to hear. And they didn't want it. Why? Because they all liked to talk about the Lord and to talk about the Word but he said with their mouth they draw near but in actuality their hearts were far from God.

From **ISAIAH 29:13** *Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:*

And that is what Jesus quoted to them in **MATTHEW 15:7** *Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, 8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with [their] lips; but their heart is far from me. 9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.*

JEHOVAH JIREH PT 1 62-0705 23 *See, you can't go by emotions. See, **your life that you live testifies what you are**. See? No matter what kind of a sensation, you cannot base Christianity on any sensation. **It's a life**. Jesus said, "**By their fruit you shall know them**." Not by their profession, not by what they say. And Jesus also said, "**You draw nigh unto Me with your lips, but your heart is far from Me**." That's their profession. See, your life tells what. And if a man says that he believes God, and denies one Word of this Bible, or changes It in any way, why it's got to be wrong.*

Luke 6:47 *Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, **and doeth them**, I will shew you to whom he is like: 48 He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. 49 But **he that heareth, and***

doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.

Luke 21: 34-36 <read> NIV ³⁴ *"Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with (1) dissipation, (2) drunkenness and (3) the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap."* ³⁵ *For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth.* ³⁶ *Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."*

Now, let's stop here for a moment to see just exactly what this means. He told us to be careful about three things that could weigh and close in on us like a trap.

Dissipation: which means Wasteful expenditure or consumption. **3.** Dissolute indulgence in sensual pleasure; intemperance. **4.** An amusement; a diversion. So we are warned to be careful not to become too weighed down by these things which are rampant in our society today. That's laodicea full speed ahead. And then he said,

Drunkenness: which implies a losing of ones ability to rightly reason. And to be resolute in our minds.

Anxieties of this Life: And we are told by Jesus to be anxious for nothing. You see, God is not pushy, and he does not want us to get pushy about anything. He said we need to lay in the presence of the Son to ripen. Not run, run, run, but lay in His presence until we get mellow in our spirit and ripe in our soul.

Now, this scripture tells us that if we are not focused on Christ when that day comes, we are going to miss Him, and yet these three things are what the entire world are focused on and they have missed Him altogether. Notice he said, if you are caught up in these things, *that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap.* ³⁵ *For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth.* ³⁶ *Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."*

So we are looking at the condition at the end time, and we know that we must be focused. If the eye be single, that means focused, then the body is full of light.

AMOS 8:11 ¶ *Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD: 12 And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find [it].*

Now, in the Book of Romans, chapter 7 and from verse 7 through the rest of this chapter Paul deals with the Struggle of sin which is unbelief. Now, in verse 6 Paul speaks to us about living in a newness of the Spirit. He said, *But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not [in] the oldness of the letter.* And brother Branham in speaking of the Shunamite woman, he said, *When she was willing to give what she had in support of the Word, God fed her. And if you're willing to give what Spirit you do have, what Spirit that God's give you to support of the Word, then God will keep you alive.*

Now, I do not believe for one minute that God is taking a count of whether you are naughty or nice. He does not look upon your mistakes, and believe me we are all capable of making a lot of them. God looks upon your heart and your attitude towards His Word. The support we give to this Word is what God looks at, because that support is a reflector of our heart and shows what spirit motivates our life.

Romans 7:7-25 (NIV) ⁷ *What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "Do not covet."* ⁸ *But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of covetous desire. For apart from law, sin is dead.* ⁹ *Once I was alive apart from law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died.* ¹⁰ *I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death.*

Now, that is a tremendous statement Paul made there. I want to read it again and I want you to think about what he is saying here.

The Weymouth translation puts it this way... **7:20** *But if I do that which I desire not to do, it can no longer be said that it is I who do it, but the sin which has its home within me does it.* **7:21** *I find therefore the law of my nature to be that when I desire to do what is right, evil is lying in ambush for me.* **7:22** *For in my inmost self all my sympathy is with the Law of God;* **7:23** *but I discover within me a different Law at war with the Law of my understanding, and leading me captive to the Law which is everywhere at work in my body — the Law of sin.* **7:24** *(Unhappy man that I am! who will rescue me from this death-burdened body?* **7:25** *Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!) To sum up then, with my understanding, I — my true self — am in servitude to the Law of God, but with my lower nature I am in servitude to the Law of sin.*

Now, in understanding the two natures that dwell within, we must first understand that although we have two natures, we do not have two souls. What Paul is speaking of here is the nature of the Spirit or soul, verse the nature of your flesh. It is you flesh that was sown in sin, and came forth to the world speaking lies, but not your Soul. That is the Life that God breathed into you. Now, I realize that the Scripture tells us the soul that sinneth, that soul shall die. And this is true. But that speaks of the life that sins that life is what must die. And here Paul is telling us that we have two natures warring within us. The nature of God by the Spirit and the nature of the flesh by the natural act of procreation. Now the miracle of the whole thing is that God could bring together the two to make one vessel.

From **Q & A August 30, 1964** brother Branham said, *you can't be in two bodies at one time, but there can be two natures in you at one time. Now, the nature of the Spirit of the Lord... When you're borned again, you're not borned of physical, like the baby was; but what's happened, the spiritual birth has come to you. And while this spiritual birth is growing into your heart, of God, there is a physical or a celestial body growing to receive that spirit. And when the life leaves this body, it goes to that body. Just as when the body is presented to the earth, the spirit comes in, and when the spirit goes out of the body, there is a body waiting. "For we know that after this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting." See? That's it, the spiritual body of the people.*

Communion December 12, 1965 *I was born of Charles and Ella Branham. In their nature I was a sinner; I came to the world, a liar, and all the habits of the world laid right in me. But down in there too, was another nature present (See?), predestinated, was in there by God. In this same body (See?) two natures in there. Well, I only catered to one. As it grewed, I gooded as a baby, "Da-da." First thing you know, I become a liar, become everything else that's a sinner, because I raised up that way. But down in there was a little speck of Life all the time.*

EXPERIENCES 47-1221*Are you two people in one? You're soul... Your soul, that's the nature of the spirit 'course. But now, you're body and spirit. Is that right? You are a body, flesh, and you're inside, then, spirit. Is that true? All right.*

CRUELTY OF SIN 53-0403 55 020 *Made him out of the dust of the earth, now, not in His Own image. He had already made the man. Then He breathed into him the breath of life, and he became a living soul. So the soul of man is the nature of the spirit. Now, when you're reborn, you don't get a new spirit. You get a new nature of that spirit. It's the same spirit, but a new nature of it. You take two men, stand them together, both look alike; and one of them is a sinner, and one of them is a Christian. One man say, "I got a spirit the same as you have." See? But one of them is a different, his soul, his nature's different. He's been changed.*

WORD BECAME FLESH 54-1003M 083 *We are a threefold being: soul, body, spirit. We know that what this flesh is; we realize that; it's here. We know what the spirit is; it controls the flesh. But what is the soul? The soul is the nature of the spirit.*

Now, where some have gone off in looking at what Brother Branham is telling us here is they teach that since the soul is the nature of the spirit, and since we are born with one nature, and then when we are born again we receive another nature, then it must be that we have two souls. The first soul is the one we are born with, and the scripture tells us that “*the soul that sinneth, that soul shall surely die.*” But what they don’t quote you is the next verse of that Scripture which says, “*But, if that soul shall repent, it shall surely live.*”

Ezekiel 18:20 *The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. 21 ¶ But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. 22 All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live.*

THIRSTING FOR LIFE 58-0611 *A soul is the nature of the spirit. And when a man is converted, he doesn't get another spirit. He gets a spirit change, a conversion means to change his thinking, change his way of living and so forth.*

Therefore, in getting back to what Paul is telling us, as long as we are living in the body of this death, we will have a struggle with this body to bring it into submission to God’s Word. Because, the body was created from the wrong seed or the wrong desire. Therefore it will always manifest wrong desire. But when our Soul is quickened to Life it will seek first the kingdom of God. The key to understanding this is in Ephesians chapter 2.

EPHESIANS 2:1 ¶ And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; **2** Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: **3** Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. **4**¶ But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, **5**Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) **6** And hath raised [us] up together, and made [us] sit together in heavenly [places] in Christ Jesus: **7** That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in [his] kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. **8** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God: **9** Not of works, lest any man should boast. **10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Martin Luther in His **Preface to the Book of Romans** said, “God judges according to what is at the bottom of the heart, and for this reason, His law makes its demands on the inmost heart and cannot be satisfied with works, but rather punishes works that are done otherwise than from the bottom of the heart, as hypocrisy and lies. ... “The law is spiritual,” For if the law were made for the body, it could be satisfied with works; but since it is spiritual, no one can satisfy it, unless all that you do is done from the bottom of the heart. But such a heart is given only by God’s Spirit, who makes a man equal to the law, so that he acquires a desire for the law in his heart, and henceforth does nothing out of fear and compulsion, but everything out of a willing heart. That law then is spiritual which will be loved and fulfilled with such a spiritual heart, and requires such a spirit. Where that spirit is not in the heart, there sin remains, and displeasure with the law, and enmity toward it, though the law is good and just and holy.

Sin, in the scripture, means not only the outward works of the body, but all the activities that move men to outward works, namely the inmost heart, with all its powers. **Faith on the other hand is a living, daring confidence in God’s Grace**, so sure and certain that a man would stake his life on it a thousand times. **Faith is not that human notion** and dream that some hold for faith. Faith, however, is a divine work in us. It changes us and makes altogether different men, in heart and spirit and mind and powers, and it brings with it the Holy Ghost.

Ezekiel 36:26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and you shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Impersonation of Christianity 57-0120M So God had to give you a new heart, not a patched up one, **a new heart. That's your intellects that you think with, a new way of thinking.** **043** Then He said after that, "Then I'll give you a new spirit." What's that? A new desire, "I want to do right."

E-6 Looking At The Unseen 59-0410 *About four years ago up in Chicago, I was reading a great headline in a paper where that the medical science had found a little compartment in the heart of a human being that did not even have a cell in it. It was not found in the animal life; it was only found in the human body, the human heart. And they said, "It must been the dwelling place of the soul." So then man does think with his heart. You look with your eyes, but you understand with your heart.*

Therefore, if you heart is right with God you will want to have the right thinking which are His thoughts, and if He has given you a new spirit, then you will have a desire to think His thoughts. And not until your desire changes can He place His Holy Spirit which comes to you in the form of His Holy word in you. Jesus said, ***"My Words are Spirit and they are Life."*** Therefore, God would not place His Holy Word in a vessel that had not the right understanding nor the right desire to have the right understanding. That is why I have said all along that the only thing the Five-fold ministry can do for you is to teach you the doctrine that God might anoint it to your heart, and bring forth the life of His Word abiding in your life.