

Spoken Word no. 224

“Galatians 5”

“Entangled in the yoke of bondage”

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February 5th, 2011

Instead of our reading the Scripture first, I would that we bow our heads and pray first because I have a lot of Scripture to read, and it would be better for you to follow in your bibles while sitting, instead of standing through it. So let's bow our heads in prayer before we eat this heavenly manna which God has given for us this evening. ...

Dear Father, we wish to thank you for this heavenly manna which you sent down from Heaven, this spiritual meat in due season, and we know that you came not to be seen but rather to be revealed to us through your Spoken Word. And thus Faith cometh by hearing and thus we come to hear. That is why we have come tonight Precious Father, and we ask that you open our ears that we might hear what will help us this evening to draw us closer to you and which will help us to be more conformed to the Image of Your dear son than we were before coming tonight. Grant this desire in Jesus Christ's name we ask it, amen.

You may be seated... Now, if you will open you Bibles to the book of **Galatians** chapter **5:1** beginning at verse one for our reading. *“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage”*. Now, why would the Apostle Paul be speaking these words in a letter of instruction concerning the adoption of sons. Because that is what this letter to the Galatians is all about. Instructing them as to the way of adoption, the right, the passage, the nature of adopted sons. And he is telling them that the spirit of adoption is not of fear but of a sound mind.

Now Romans chapter 8 and Galatians the entire book speaks of the adoption of sons as well as the letter to the Ephesians. So in **Romans 8: 15** Paul told us, *For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.*

Now, back to **Galatians 5:2** *Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. 3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. 4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. 5 For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.* (In other words, we wait for the earnest expectation of right-wise-ness which will come by revelation. That is also what he taught us in **Ephesians 1: 17-20** concerning *The spirit of Wisdom and Revelation in the knowledge of God*)

Now in moving forward with our text in **Galatians 5:6** *For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.*

Now, we know that circumcision is a cutting off of excess flesh, and if cutting off excess flesh doesn't matter nor does it matter if you do not cut it off, then what he is telling us is that it matters not how great you can manifest in this body a certain obedience to the Law, what does matter is that you have a true understanding or revelation concerning Your father and your relationship to him, and this can only come in understanding the principle of love,

God's Love and your Love for him, and not the principle of obedience in itself because you can have an obedience which comes through fear or any other pressure but that is not what God wants from us. God wants a love relationship that compels you, and drives you on.

That is why Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 5 that ***the Love of God constraineth us or compels us***. Not the law constraining or compelling us to obedience, but ***the love of God constraining and compelling us***.

That is what the Apostle Paul is trying to get across to us also in **Romans 8:28-39** *And we know that **all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.** 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. 31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. 34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

So in getting back to **Galatians 5:7** the Apostle Paul continued by saying, ***Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? 8 This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you. 9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.***

Now, This evening we will focus our thoughts and bring together what Brother Branham said in **The Spoken Word is The Original Seed** and we will pick up at paragraph 133 with what Paul is telling us in the book of Galatians chapter 5. In paragraph 133 brother Branham says, ***133 Now, that's why we got all the things that we've got. Now, all these things I've said, if they don't jibe with the Bible, or dovetail with God's Word, they're wrong. They're wrong.***

And of course whatever it is that he is going to say has to be right from this Bible. And this is where you will find me blasting out many times against these pastors that act as though they are a different class from the people, and think that they are over the people as though they are vindicated themselves and whatever they come up with the people have to just swallow and go on with life. But that is complete hogwash in my books. It is true this is the hour of Laodicea which means peoples rights, but let us never forget that there is a counter to that spirit and that is the Nicolaitane spirit which wants to rule over the people.

Now, these are two extremes, and the balance is that the Word of God is our Absolute, and unless you can find what the preacher is saying by this Word, then you had be very careful how you proceed with what was said. Jesus Himself said, “you don’t have to believe me because I said it, but the works that I do which no man can do, these bear witness of me, that God is with me.” So unless you are vindicated by the very presence of God Himself with Thus Saith the Lord, then your opinion is no better than the next guys opinion.

As brother Branham said here in paragraph 133 *Now, all these things I've said, if they don't jibe with the Bible, or dovetail with God's Word, they're wrong. They're wrong.* And the problem is that man y will even take a part of a thought that William Branham has said, and they will run with it, instead of searching where to find it in the Bible so they can line up the sites.

I like what Br. Billy Paul uses for his example, he says, a gun has two sites, the front and back and if you try to shoot just using one of them you will miss the target every time. And we have two sites to use to validate what we are to believe is from God, we have the Message and we have the Bible, and if we look at one of them without the other we will be certain to miss the target.

We know the Godhead is the greatest example of this, because we have Trinitarians using a few verses of Scripture to declare a false worship of three God’s and the Unitarians who do the same thing. Yet the Truth of God’s Revelation to us, the Doctrine of Christ must be seen from genesis to Revelations or we do not have the Doctrine correct, and thus if we do not have the Doctrine of Christ as John said, then we do not even have God and thus we are not saying what he said.

I came across a quote the other night that the Oneness in this Message use as there grounds for believing that Jesus is his own Father. And Paul said in **Galatians 5:1** “*Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage*”. And verse 7 *Ye did run well; who did hinder you* (that means who did cut in on you) *that ye should not obey the truth?* 8 *This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you.* It doesn’t come from God who is the Word, therefore, You can’t find this which they use to hinder you in the Word of God, and if you can not find it in Scripture then it doesn’t come from God. 9 *A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.*

So in getting back to our text from brother Branham’s sermon, let’s look at it again and take it to the Scriptures. 133 *Now, all these things I've said, if they don't jibe with the Bible, or dovetail with God's Word, they're wrong. They're wrong.* Now, this is the same problem that the Apostle Paul had with the early church or at least those imposters who called themselves brethren. Let’s pick up where we left off in his letter to the Galatians and begin reading from

He begins in chapter one teaching them that there are two seeds and thus two sons. Then in Chapter 2 he shows how that even among the church, the people who confess Jesus Christ having come in the flesh, there still persisted those whose motives were wrong and these men wished to control the others by a means of focusing on the flesh and the perfection of the flesh as the route to son-ship. This Paul confirmed to be contrary to Scripture.

These men were religious imposters and in no way reflected the spirit of adoption. He explained to them that they must crucify the flesh and the lusts thereof. And that which we left behind when we accepted the sacrifice of the only begotten of the Father, they wish to further entangle the believers into, namely the law and legalism. .

In chapter three we see where Paul began to show them that there inheritance is not a matter of satisfying law, but rather it is a passage of sons, a right of birth by obedience to the Father. In essence it is a nature and life in love with their father and at liberty to be a son.

Then in chapter 4 we see he distinguishes between different kind of sons, though having the same father Isaac and Ishmael were under different covenants with there Father.

One was born out of an act of the flesh, legal, and thus bound to the flesh, where as the other was under a covenant that was by promise from God, and thus eternal.

Then understanding that within these two covenants there are attributes and characteristics that control the covenants, we see that one covenant gendered to bondage whereas the other to a promise and thus is free.

Now, in **chapter 5** we see there is a liberty in which we are to take our stand. **5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. 2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. 3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. 4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. 5 For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. 6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love. 7 Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? 8 This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you. 9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.**

And if it doesn't come from the God who does the calling, then it can not be found in His Word either. Or at least it can not be rightly divided in His Word. Therefore, this spirit that wishes to control and influence you away from the Grace of God, comes down like some authority figure and they use words like heresy, and damnable heresy and words of intimidation, and that is what the even tried to do with Christ Jesus and Paul, but both withstood them to their faces. We even find this same spirit controlling people by fear even way back in the days when Jesus walked the shore of Galilee. And we know what took place in the Alpha must repeat in the Omega. That is what we find in the Scriptures as well

John 9:1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? 3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. 4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. 6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, 7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. 8 The neighbors therefore, and they which before had seen

him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged? 9 Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he. 10 Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened? 11 He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight. 12 Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not. 13 They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind. 14 And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes. 15 Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see. 16 Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them. 17 They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet. 18 But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. 19 And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see? 20 His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: 21 But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself. 22 **These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue.** 23 Therefore said his parents, He is of age; ask him.

Now, let's stop here for a moment and look at what has just taken place. Here we see two parents that were not even permitted to enjoy the miracle that God had just performed on their son who had been blind his entire life, and suddenly can see for the first time. What caused this fear that was placed upon these parents? Stupid Jealousy by those religious leaders that were jealous of what Jesus was doing and saying. And what did they do as a result of this jealousy? They used the power of the pulpit to hold down the people, and keep them from seeking further light. They held down the people by causing them to fear being expelled from the church for seeking out greater truth than what they wanted them to know and understanding.

And isn't that same devil still controlling the churches today? Claiming to believe the Prophet of the hour and yet forbidding the people they shepherd to examine the Doctrine that William Branham taught concerning the Presence of Christ and the relationship between the Father and His Son because it isn't endorsed in their camp.

Now, I like the guts that this young man showed to these Christ Rejecting Pharisees. He wasn't going to down play what had just taken place in his life for nothing. Let's read it.

24. Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, **Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner.** 25 He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see. 26 Then said they to him again, What did he to thee? how opened he thine eyes? 27 He answered them, I have told you already, and ye did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? will ye also be his disciples? 28 Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses'

disciples. 29 We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence he is. 30 The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes. 31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. 32 Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. 33 If this man were not of God, he could do nothing. 34 They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out.

Oh, how that devil doesn't like to be given back scripture. He hates to be taught. He hates to be shown up by the Word of God. But I love this man's attitude. He saw what had just happened to his parents and how they were coward into avoiding talking about this great thing that had happened to their son. And I will bet that his righteous indignation flared up at watching his parents being put on the spot and watching them in a way deny this greatest thing that had happened in their family since he was born. So he spoke up to these religious leaders and let them know that he wasn't going to be coward by their sharp tongues like his parents had just been treated. And he took out the Sword of the Word and let them have it to the point that they gnashed their teeth and kicked him out of the church. They excommunicated him for disagreeing with the pastor, so to speak.

Now, I would like to know where in the Bible a man can be put out of the church for disagreeing with the Pastor or the church elders. There is a certain thing called church order and there is a way of dealing with someone that is sows doubt. But for a person to say I disagree, then he ought to be given an opportunity via the Word of God to show the pastor where he is wrong.

Even brother Branham said, "You are obligated to come to me if you know where I am teaching something that is not right according to the Word."

Jesus Christ same 61-0516A P:73 *Remember, search the Scriptures. Bring your papers and take down the Scriptures that I quote. If they're not right, you're solemnly obligated to come to me and show... I don't want to be wrong. But I'm not wrong as long as the Scripture says it's so and God confirms it. A man can say anything he wants to; that's a man. But when God speaks, dare anybody to doubt it? It's eternal separation from His Presence forever.*

So if a man comes in a right spirit to the pastor to talk to the pastor on something the pastor said, and where he can show the pastor by the Word where he disagrees with the pastor, or believes that the pastor may have said something not exactly right according to the Scriptures, if that pastor has the Holy Spirit he will take what is said to him, and check it out himself by the Word. Then if the Lord gives him insight to where he was wrong, then God receives the Glory. Now, if the Spirit of God can show the Pastor other Scriptures which show he had it right, and where the man might be off, then if the pastor has the right spirit he will in a spirit of meekness set the brother straight by the Word of God and then God receives the Glory.

But if a man comes to a pastor believing the pastor may have strayed from the Word, and can show him so, and the pastor tries to use his title as a means of lording over that man, that shows that pastor has slipped from Grace.

If a man comes humbly to the pastor and the pastor gets all riled up and threatens to excommunicate that person, then that shows the pastor is off the Word Himself and has fallen from Grace.

And so, for all of you believers out there that have been threatened with being excommunicated from your church, don't you worry, as soon as Jesus heard that this man was excommunicated from the church for identifying with Him, he came to that man, and He will come to you too, for Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Notice in verse **35** we read, *Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? 36 He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? 37 And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee. 38 And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him. 39 And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. 40 And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also? 41 Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.*

Jesus said in **Matthew 23:13** *But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.*

In other words they stand in the way of those entering to go in.

The Apostle Paul said the same thing in **Romans 1:18** *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all un-godlike-ness and un-right-wise-ness of men, who hold down the truth in unrighteousness;* Now that word hold down comes from the Greek word katecho which means to hold down or to withhold the truth from.

And let's face it, the seed of the serpent do not want the truth to be taught. Because in John 8:37 Jesus told the Christ Rejecting religious leaders, "The reason you can not hear the truth of the Word is because there is no place for the Word of God in them."

And then in verse 43 Jesus said, *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.*

Now that reminds me of a story I read in a book years ago. The story was in a book entitled, **“THE DEVIL IN THE CHURCH AND HS SNARES LAID TO DESTROY OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS** copyright 1902. The article was called *“Enough Scripture to Poison a Parish”*. And the story goes like this. A little girl, being asked by a priest to attend his religious instruction, refused, saying it was against her father’s wishes. The priest said she should obey him, not her father. “Oh, sir, we are taught in the Bible, ‘honor Thy Father and thy Mother.’” “You have no business to read the Bible,” said the priest. “But sir, our Savior said, ‘Search the Scriptures’ ” **(John 5:39)** “That was only to the Jews, and not to children, and you don’t understand it,” said the priest in reply. “But, sir, Paul said to Timothy, ‘From a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures,’ ” **Tim 3:15**) “Oh” Said the priest, “Timothy was being trained to be a bishop and taught by the authorities of the church.” “oh, no, sir,” said the child, “he was taught by his mother and grandmother.” On this the priest turned her away, saying she “knew enough of the Bible to poison a parish.”

And so we see where that spirit comes from that would try to control the people through fear rather than through teaching them the truth of the Scriptures, and letting them make up their own minds concerning the Scriptures.

The Apostle Paul said in **2 Corinthians 4:2** *1 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; 2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. 3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. 5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. 6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.*

I like the way the Weymouth translation puts this: *1 Therefore, being engaged in this service, and being mindful of the mercy which has been shown us, we are not cowards. 2 Nay, we have renounced the secrecy which marks a feeling of shame. We practice no cunning tricks, nor do we adulterate God’s Message. But by a full clear statement of truth, we strive to commend ourselves in the presence of God to every human conscience.*

And the **Wuest** translation says, *“we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not ordering the manner of our lives in the sphere of craftiness, nor even adulterating the Word of God [by an admixture of error], but by means of an open declaration of the truth commending ourselves to every variety of the conscience on men in the sight of God.”*

The problem we have today, even among us in this Message, is that the people in the churches do not judge others by what kind of Life they are living before God, but rather they are judged by whether or not they are loyal to the “powers that be” in the church. Even brother Branham said this.

From his sermon, **“Thinking Man's Filter” 65-0822E P:32** Brother Branham said, *“No, she isn't a thinking woman. If she was thinking she'd know the church isn't going to judge her at the last day. The church is judging her now by her membership, her loyalty to the circles that she belongs to and the societies. They're judging her now by that. But God's going to judge her at the last day. So she isn't thinking.”*

So stand firm with the Word of God, and don't worry about what the leadership in that church will say to you. What you should worry about is what God is going to say to you if you do not stand for what He has revealed to you.

Those poor parents that were afraid to take a stand for what was right. I feel sorry for those poor people who were coward by those religious leaders who held down the people and kept them back from entering in. And I am sorry to say, but if they did not have enough manhood to stand up against those religious leaders, that is their problem.

From **Proving His Word 64-0816 P:85** brother Branham said, *“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.”* What? How does he live? *“By, well, if you'll just take some of God's Word, he'll live?”* Now, that wasn't what He said. Did you notice *“e-v-e-r-y- every Word”*? How does he live? *“Oh, he eats in there?”* No, he's dying fast, that's flesh. *“Well, he, oh, he belongs to church; he believes everything but That?”* He's still dead. Do you get it? *“He can only live by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the high priest? the bishop? the cardinal? the pastor?”* God. Every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. How do we know it's God's Word? He says so, then He proves It. He proves His Word. Notice. Then if that be so, your confession will not make you live. Your church membership will not make you live. Notice, by His Word only, not just one Word misplaced. No one shall... One word killed the human race. In the Bible in Revelation 22, one word will still kill the whole thing; his name will be taken from the Book of Life. *“Whosoever shall add one word, or take one Word.”* Not one word, not... No, I mean, not--not two words, just one word, not one sentence; one word, one word. Oh, people, do you understand?

So when any religious leader tells you that *“you've got to believe what they say just because they say so, and after all they are a five fold minister so you've got to believe them.”* Let me tell you that, that is so childish and shallow that it's thinner than the broth made out of a chicken that starved to death. You don't have to believe so just because your pastor tells you to believe something. You believe it because God's Word says so.

And so any ministry that used fear to control you is not of God. We are promised by God Himself that He has not given us a spirit of fear but a sound mind. **2 Timothy 1: 7** *For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.* Therefore if you fear man more than you fear God, then you haven't got what God said he would give to you.

In **1 John 4:18** we read, *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath a penalty. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.* And the penalty of fear is that when you fear, you begin to freeze, and you stop moving forward with God, and what God is bringing you into.

Fear is a dangerous tool of the devil, because it has a penalty. When a person is afraid they become bound by those fears. We read in **1 John 4**. That *perfect or mature Love will cast out fear because fear has a penalty*, it has to do with your freezing and crystallizing in your thinking. You see, in the Bible we read of where Joseph was engaged to marry Mary, but when he found her to be pregnant, even though she told him how it happened, that God Himself overshadowed her, yet his fear stopped him, and he was privately mindful to put her away. In other words the penalty of fear caused him to stop the plans that he had to marry her. Joseph feared that Mary had not been faithful, and because of that fear he made plans to stop the marriage.

So God sent His Angel to Joseph, and told him, “fear not” to take Mary as His Wife. What had fear done to Joseph? It caused him to doubt that God wanted him to marry Mary. And it caused him to stop moving forward with the plan of God for his life.

Luke 21: 25-27 *25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; 26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. 27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.*

Notice the Scriptures tells us that men will see things that will bring on perplexity which is doubt and anxiety feeling they will have no way of escape, and then what follows? Fear, then fear follows shortly thereafter.

In **1 Kings 18:21** Elijah said to the people, *how halt ye between two opinions?* How long will you be lame and stopped in your forward movement? **AMPLIFIED VERSION:** *How long will you be halt and limp between two opinions?* **NIV:** *How long will you waver between two opinions?* **NAS** *How long will you hesitate between these two opinions?* So you see that fear will cause great damage in your walk with God because it causes you to stop your moving forward with him. And you know, according to **1 John 7**: *“if you walk in the Light and He is in the Light, you not only have fellowship with one another but the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses you from all your sin.”*

Therefore, as long as you are walking your sins are covered and you are having fellowship with the One Who is in the Light. But what if you stop walking with Him. And you will if you let your fears take control of you. Therefore, any ministry that puts the people into a state of fear is not from God.

Did you know there are 62 times in the Bible we are told “fear not”. And it seemed every time the angel of the Lord comes on the scene he would say, “fear not”. So I say again, that any ministry that tries to control you through fear, or through the fear of excommunication is a spirit from hell.

From paragraph **233 Anointed Ones at the End-Time 65-0725M** *“For it is impossible for those which were once enlightened and didn't move on with the Word as it come to pass...” They're dead, gone.* And if fear causes you to stop, then it will also kill you spiritually.

Notice, that in **Genesis 19:26** Lot's wife crystallized when she quit moving on with the Word of God. What happened? First her mind stopped, then her body stopped to turn around, and when she did she turned to a pillar of salt. First her mind crystallized then her body became transformed into her revelation.

In paragraph **82 Israel in the Home Land 53-0329** brother Branham said, *And now, the first thing you know, the Pillar of Fire has begin to move again. But **Pentecost is so organized, it can't go.** It was so organized, crystallized until it can't go. That's right. That's true. But the Pillar of Fire is moving out, brother, and there's people that's going with It. Hallelujah. We're bound for the promised land. Yes, sir.*

In paragraph **63** of his Message **You Must Be Born Again 61-1231** brother Branham said, *No life in the serpent, it was absolutely crystallized. That was the penalty..*

From **Anointed Ones At the End-Time 65-0725M** brother Branham said, *Notice! Come up to the borderline and quit. Pp.195 Going to their home, and when they come up to the place to cross over, they doubted the Word!.....What happened? They perished in the wilderness. They stayed right there and organized themselves, and died, every one of them,..... pp.198 "Where the carcass is there will the eagles be gathered..... Where the fresh meat is, the Word of the Season, there the eagles will gather." But after it's rotten, then the vultures will swarm to it. See, see? See what I mean? When a kill 's made here comes the eagles, but after it lays there and rotten, then here come the vultures. The eagles won't have nothing to do with it. Jesus said, "Where the carcass is, where the manna fell, the night the manna falls fresh, there the eagles will gather for it." That's the manna for the day. See? Pp.214 Notice! But after it gets rotten, maggots get in it, then here comes the vultures. They can't smell it till it gets rotten. Pp.215 Said, "I AM sent me." I AM, not I was, or will be, I AM, present tense, the Word now. Not the Word that was or Word that will come, the Word that's now. pp. 219 Now, you go back and try to live again --go back after that old shuck's dried up, ever go back and live in it again? It never does. "For it is impossible for those which were once enlightened and didn't move on with the Word as it come to pass... They're dead, gone"*

The apostle Paul said in **Romans 8: 15** *For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.*

And in **2 Tim 1: 7** Paul said, *For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*

True sign that's overlooked 61-1112 P:130 *What good does your membership do you? If you haven't got an inheritance in heaven, forget about it.*

Thinking man's filter 65-0822E P: 36 *The church filter gets the membership and things like that when they let them get through with anything and still belong to the church, they get more members. What if we went to the churches tonight and filtered everybody out besides those who was genuine Word born Christians. There'd be a many a blank sermon up against a wall tonight. True. 'Cause it went through the Filter. And if I've got one desire in my heart, and I hope that everybody listening to me has the same thing: God, take me through Your Filter. And as David said, "Try me, and prove me, and see if there be any evil*

in me, then take it out, Lord." See? I want God's Filter. Don't care what the world does, what the church has, I want to be a thinking man, to think Who I'm going to be standing by one of these days for judgment.

What is the attraction? 65-0725E P:14 The people of that day, what they called that day, "a better religious class of people," **hated Him. The churches of that day hated Him and denounced Him, and denounced all that listened to Him.** And if they went and attended His campaigns, **they were immediately excommunicated** from the fellowship of the church. No wonder the Scripture said, "He came unto His Own, and His Own received Him not." The ones who ought to have loved Him, the ones who ought to have been for Him, was His bitterest enemy.

This day this scripture 65-0219 P:16 Now, how could those people ever fail to see Who He was? How did they ever miss it? How could it be when it was so plainly made known and showed? How could they ever miss seeing when He... What a Word. Think of it. "This day is this Scripture fulfilled before your eyes." Who said it? God Himself, Who is the Interpreter of His own Word. "This day is this Scripture fulfilled." **The Messiah, Himself, standing in the presence of the congregation and reading a word out of the Bible pertaining to Himself, and then saying, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled," and they still failed to see It.** What a tragedy that that would be, but it's happened. It's happened many times. How could it happen? Of course, like it did in other times, by believing man's interpretation of the Word. That's what caused it. Those believers in them days (so-called believers) **was taking the interpretation of what the priest had said about the Scripture.** Therefore Jesus, not belonging to any of their ranks or their societies, He was excommunicated from their company. And therefore, they could not identify Him with them, because He was different from them. The Person of Jesus Christ was so unique that no one should've missed seeing that that was the Son of God, because He was a perfect identification of the Scripture that was wrote of Him. That's the way any Christian is known: when his life identifies the very things that the Christian's supposed to do.

Recognizing your day 64-0726M P:61 So did Nathanael, a great Hebrew. When he saw that sign of the Messiah that was promised there, no matter how many priests, how many anything else... What did it do? It disturbed the priests to see them people leaving the churches and going. He said, **"If any of you attend his meeting, you'll be excommunicated. We'll put you right out of the denomination."** **So is it today. "We'll put you out of our organization if you attend his meeting."** Remember the blind man? The father and mother couldn't even answer. They was afraid because they said anybody that went to see Jesus or attended His meetings, they would be excommunicated. But that blind man could speak for himself. He that was once blind could then see. I who was once blind can now see. I who didn't know these things, it's been made known to me by the Holy Spirit. Turn loose denominations, because they're coming anyhow.

7 Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? 8 This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you. 9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. And this leaven that leavens a whole lump we will look further into tomorrow morning. Let us pray...