

Spoken Word no 43

Q & A 45 Discourse on CAB baptism of the Holy Spirit

Brian Kocourek, Pastor

Brother Kocourek Response: Wednesday evening I spoke on part one of a three fold discourse from an email I had received last Sunday afternoon from a foreign Pastor from Trinidad, concerning the Church Age Book, and something he purports to be errors, not understanding that the book was authored by Brother Branham but thinking it was authored by Br. Vayle.

Wednesday evening we spoke on part one which dealt primarily on the authenticity of the Church Age Book as Brother Branham's book which Brother Vayle was commissioned to help put it into Print, but of which brother Branham authored, and edited the entire book. Therefore, for the rest of this discourse where he uses the terminology "Quote Lee Vayle, Church Age Book" and then proceeds to give the page number, we shall drop the term "Quote Lee Vayle" since this is blatant error in that the book was and has always been brother Branham's book. Therefore the quotes shall read as "Wm Branham, Church Age Book". Therefore wherever the name Dr. Lee Vayle is used in his discourse, already having proven that the book was written by William Branham, and this pastor is making issue with the Church Age Book itself, then it would be foolish to write the name of someone else who did not author the book, and is not responsible for the contents of the book. That would be fighting the same argument in over and over again with every line he writes. Therefore this brothers issue is with the Message and not Lee Vayle, because it matters not whether he is ascribing this book to lee Vayle or Tom, Dick or Harry. His arguments are with the book, and what it says in conflict with what he thinks to be right. Therefore, I shall rewrite the name William Branham where Dr. lee Vayle has been listed in this entire discourse from here out.

Now, Wednesday night we also covered Marriage and Divorce where this Foreign Pastor had a misunderstanding concerning a man returning to a wife that had left him for another man. This Foreign Pastor could not understand that the woman leaving her husband for another man is actually her divorcing her husband. Because there is not an official piece of paper involved, he does not seem to consider it a divorce, just an act of infidelity. However, the act is what constitutes the separation, and being cut off, not a piece of paper. Brother Branham said, likewise when you promise that woman, that is as good as being married, and that is why still today there is so much looseness in the courtship process. This Foreign Pastor's problem seems to be in trying to balance forgiveness for an incident of infidelity and a woman who actually leaves her husband for another man.

This evening we shall deal with item number two on his questions list where he is misunderstanding the wording in the Church Age Book in reference to the evidence of being spirit filled and he thinks there is a difference between being spirit filled and receiving the New Birth.

Where I think this Foreign Pastor might be having his problem is that he is looking at the following quotes from Wm. Branham in the Church Age Book and he is thinking that they are saying that a person can be filled with the spirit of God before receiving the Word for the Age.

So let's read the statements first and then we shall see where the problem lays. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST-an ear to hear -THE NEW BIRTH 7 Wm. Branham author, "CHURCH AGE BOOK" - page 139-148 **Error no. 2:**

Wm. Branham Church Age Book (C.A.B.): 141-1 And to every age we hear the same truth. "He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit saith to the churches." But **only a Spirit-filled man can "hear" the revelation for that age. None other can.** No sir. They cannot because that is exactly what Paul said in I Corinthians 2:6-16. (Smyrnaean Church Age - Church Age Book Cpt.4). **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

Brother Kocourek Response: Now, to the unlearned this may look to appear hear that Wm. Branham is saying that only a Spirit filled person can actually listen with their ears and believe, but that is not what this statement

from the Church Age Book is saying at all. And in order to know what Wm. Branham is saying here we must ask ourselves what does Wm. Branham mean when he uses the word to “hear”, because that is the nuts and bolts of our brothers argument here. He sees this statement of Wm. Branham here, and he doesn’t know how to reconcile it with other statements Wm. Branham uses concerning Ephesians 1 and other Scriptures, where we hear first then receive the baptism of the spirit. And in this sentence it would appear to this brother and I am sure many others that there is some contradiction. So we must ask ourselves, how does brother Branham define this word here that would bring this statement into continuity with some other statements that Wm. Branham preaches that would seem to those who might be unfamiliar with brother Branham’s ministry to be not in sync.

But only a Spirit-filled man can “hear” the revelation for that age. None other can. Now, before we give our answer and show you what brother Branham means by the word, “hear” let’s read the next quotation of Wm. Branham from his book, the Church Seven Ages.

Again we see another quotation of **Wm. Branham Church Ages Book: 143-1** that our brother is not lining up. Here Wm. Branham says, *If the Spirit wasn't inside, you wouldn't “hear” the truth and receive it by revelation if you heard it every moment of the day. That was the sign of the indwelling Spirit in the days of Paul. Those who were filled with the Holy Ghost “heard” the Word, received it and lived by it. Those who did not have the Spirit heard it only as carnal men, put a wrong interpretation on it and went into sin.*

Now, here we begin to see brother Branham become more definitive when he let’s you know that carnal men will hear a certain way and a spirit filled person will hear it the way it is meant to be heard. Showing here that the spirit filled man will understand while the carnal believer will not understand.

Again we will look at the next sentence that is giving our brother some trouble. **Wm. Branham Church Ages Book: 144-1...** *then we know that the Spirit has to be abiding in the person or he cannot receive the truth for that time. Amen. That is exactly correct.*

I want you to notice that here it appears that the person has to have the spirit first or he can not receive something that comes his way. But that is not what this says at all. It is saying the same thing as when brother Branham uses the word “unless they are spirit filled they can not hear. For the word receive means 1. To take or acquire (something given, offered, or transmitted); get. 2. To hear or see therefore, he is saying the same thing again in this sentence.

The next sentence our brother is having a problem with is the following. **Wm. Branham Church Ages Book: 164-3** *...The Word always comes to the truly Spirit-filled. That is the evidence of being filled with the Holy Ghost.*

Again I think it is the wording here, as our brother looks to this as a person is filled prior to the word coming to them, and thinks this to be some gross error. But to set the record straight here, we know the Scripture teaches us that the Word of the Lord comes to the prophet. Now do you think that prophet is void of Spirit when this Word comes to him? Or do you believe that he is Spirit filled when the Word of the Lord comes to him? So too, when the Word becomes clear to us, is because we have the same spirit in us as the Giver of the word.

Again this next sentence our brother Foreign Pastor points to is the same as the others before it. **Wm. Branham Church Ages Book: 165-2** *In every church age we hear these words, "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." The Spirit gives the Word. If you have the Spirit you will “hear” the Word for your age, as those true Christians took the Word for their age.* **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: A -- HE THAT HATH AN EAR TO HEAR- EVIDENCE OF H.G. BAPTISM

Foreign pastor states: Wm. Branham, on the subject of the Holy Ghost in every age, employed two important scriptures to prove that a believer must have the indwelling Spirit, the article of Pentecost, before he can hear the Spirit by divine revelation and receive the message and messenger for the age.

“I positively state” that a man does **not have to be spirit filled to “hear”** the Spirit and truth for the age. With due respect, I challenge this error on the basis of the Word and message of Brother Branham. Apostle Paul

declared that a man is sealed or Spirit filled, baptized with the Holy Ghost, and receives the article of Pentecost, **after he hears the Word of truth, the gospel message of the age. End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

Pastor Kocourek Response: Now, first of all I think if our Foreign Pastor does not understand what the word “hear” means from brother Branham, and so he thinks it simply means “to audibly hear the sound of”. But if he understood what the word “hear” means and as defined by brother Branham himself, he would not be challenging these statements of brother Branham. I can give you many pages of quotes from Wm Branham where he tells us that to “**hear**” means to “**understand**”. And furthermore, our brother is referring to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as the article of Pentecost instead of referring it to what it is, and that is the infilling of the very Spirit Life of God. There is a difference between being baptized or anointed with power for service and then being baptized or given new birth in your soul. Not every one who is baptized with the Holy Spirit is born again by that experience. Most in fact are only baptized or anointed with the Spirit and that anointing goes only flesh deep in many cases, and some it moves them in their Spirit but unless they have the germ of life in them to begin with by election, they call bath themselves in the Spirit of God and they still will never come to a true genuine new birth.

Jesus told us in the parables that *the same rain that falls on the just also falls on the unjust.* **Matthew 5:45**

Leadership 65-1207 P:57 *You're either for God or against God, and the outward expressions shows exactly what's on the inside. See? The cocklebur, many of you think, "I got the baptism of the Holy Ghost; I'm going to heaven." That don't mean one thing that you're going to heaven. No, sir. You can have the baptism of the Holy Ghost every hour in your life and still be lost and go to hell. The Bible says so. See? It's exactly right.*

John 3:3 *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot “see” the kingdom of God.*

From his sermon **Key to the door 62-1007 P: 68** Brother Branham said, *No man can understand the Word outside the baptism of the Holy Ghost. And when a man says he's got the baptism of the Holy Ghost, and disputes the Word being right, there's something wrong.*

And again from the sermon **Identified masterpiece of God 64-1205 P:67** Brother Branham said, *How can a man have the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit wrote the Word, and a man have the baptism of the Holy Spirit and deny the Word? How can the Holy Spirit in you deny Its own Word that was set forth for you? I can't understand it. It's got to agree with the Word, and if your spirit in you won't punctuate every one of God's promises with "Amen." there's something wrong.*

And again from the sermon **Discerning body of Lord 59-0812 P:16** he said, *“Jesus said once, "That except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God," or understand. And in other words, you can't discern the Kingdom of God until you are born again.*

And from his sermon called **Calling of Abraham 55-1116 P:29** Brother Branham said, *Jesus said to Nicodemus, "Except the man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God." See what the right translation that is, "cannot understand the Kingdom of God." Somebody be doing something, showing you. "I just can't see it." You're looking at it, but you don't understand it. And you'll never know what the Kingdom of God is until you're born again, then you'll understand what It is.*

And the Apostle Paul told us the only way you will understand the thoughts of God is to have the Spirit of God in you. And that is the new birth.

I CORINTHIANS 2:9 *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit* (therefore if you do not have His Spirit in you how are you going to have those things revealed to you) *for The Spirit* (not a spirit, but THE Spirit, God’s 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 knoweth. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God;* (and if it is of God then it had its source in God, then it is a part of God’s own spirit

or life that he is talking about. And we have that in order) *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. 14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.* (In other words it takes the Spirit of God in you to discern them.) *15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. 16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.*

And this same Apostle said, *"let the mind that was in Christ be in you."* So it is possible to have the mind of God but as we have seen you can not have it without having His Spirit or His Life in you. And Jesus said that this Spirit is the Word of God. He said, *the Words which I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life.* **John 6:63**

Now, let's look again at this thought on the new birth quickening into you the word of God and releasing the very nature of God by His Spirit into your mortal vessel.

EPHESIANS 2:1 ¶ *And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;.*

Here Paul tells us we were spiritually dead, and had to be quickened which means to be made alive. And we see in **1 Peter 3:18** that this quickening is performed by the Spirit of God, and in fact God had to quicken His own Son back from death unto life. *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:*

Now, this word quicken was translated from the Greek word zoopoieo which literally means to give life to or to cause to make alive. So you see it is the Spirit of God coming into you that brings makes you alive to His Word.

1 Corinthians 15: 45 *And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.* Therefore it is the Spirit of God that He placed within His Son that was released back on the church that makes Him a quickening spirit, for Paul also tells us in **Romans 8: 11** *But if the Spirit of Him* (now, we must know who this him is here. And we know there are 18 Scriptures that tell us that God raised Jesus from the dead, so as Paul says,) *if the Spirit of Him* (that's God the Father) *that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead* (again that's God the Father) *shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.*

From brother Branham's sermon **Mary's belief 61-0121 P:30** *"Except a man be born again he cannot even see the kingdom of God." Now, "see" means "to understand." There's a lot of people that say they're born again and can't understand the message of God, can't see the Angel of the Lord. Their eyes are blinded, brother. Except a man be born of the Holy Ghost, the same Holy Ghost that wrote the Word will confirm the Word, and the same confirmation of the Holy Ghost in you... You see what I mean? It will bear record of Itself. Then our spirit bears record with His Spirit, because His Spirit bears recorded of His Word. "The Word of God is sharper, more powerful (Hebrews 4) than any two-edged sword, even piercing to the... asunder... and the marrow of the bone, and a discernor of the thought and the intents of the heart." That's "Thus saith the Lord," the Lord's Word, just exactly, Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever, appearing in His elected church.*

And again from his sermon, **IT SHALL BE EVEN AS IT WAS TOLD ME 50-0818 23** brother Branham said, *Anyhow, "to see" doesn't mean "to look at." The word "see" means "to understand." Jesus said, "Except a man be born of water and Spirit, he cannot see the Kingdom of God." In other words, he can't understand the Kingdom of God until he's born again. See?*

Notice what Jesus tells us here. They hear but are not capable of understanding. Then what are they hearing? Not what is being said! But what they want to hear. Notice in the following quote that Brother Branham tells us the same thing. To hear means to understand, and to see means to understand, but just because you look with your eyes does not mean that you understand what you are looking at, and just because you hear with your ears does not mean that you understand what you are hearing.

Brother Branham said in **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS COD 59-1223 60** Now, Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God."...and then brother Branham adds, So "see" means "to understand." Have you ever looked at anything, looking right at it, say, "Well, I just don't see it." See? "I just don't see it." You mean you don't understand it. See, see? You don't understand it. To see is "to understand." But with your eyes you look at anything. But with what's inside of you, you understand with, you see with that. See? With the eyes of God you look...

And again in **Questions and answers COD 64-0823E P:106 317**.brother Branham said, 1040-Q-318 318. What is the evidence that a person is really filled with the Holy Ghost? **John 14:26:** He will... "**When the Holy Ghost is come (See?), He will show you things to come.**" See? He'll be a... He'll perfect it; man made won't do it; and He is the Word. **When He the Holy Ghost is come, He will identify Himself in you with the Scripture. And that is the true sign that the Holy Spirit is in you, because It is the Word.**

HEAR RECOGNIZE ACT ON WORD 60-0221 30 First, faith cometh by hearing, hearing of the Word of God. Then the believer hears It, recognizes It, and acts on It. The carnal man will hear It, the sound of It, but never... "**Hear**" means to "**understand It**". Look at, is looking at something; but to see it, is to "**understand it**". "**Except a man be born again, he cannot see or understand the Kingdom of God.**"

Brother Branham said in his sermon, **Christ is the mystery 63-0728 P:120** Look, **Christ in you makes Him the center of Life of the revelation.** See? **Christ's Life in you makes Him the center of the revelation.** Christ in the Bible, makes the Bible a complete revelation of Christ. **Christ in you makes you the complete revelation of the whole thing.** See, what God's trying to do? What is the new birth then? You say, "Well, Brother Branham, **what is the new birth?**" **It is the revelation of Jesus Christ personally to you.** Amen. See? Not you joined a church, you shook a hand; you done something different; you said a creed; you promised to live by a code of rules; but Christ, the Bible... **He is the Word that was revealed to you.** And no matter what anybody says, what takes place, it's Christ. Pastor, priest, whatever it might be... It's Christ in you. That is the revelation that the Church was built upon. **End of Pastor Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement:A sinner is not filled with the Holy Ghost as a prerequisite to hear the Spirit of truth. There are many who came from religions and organisations who were not Spirit-filled and heard the truth **by the Spirit** and received it by revelation. **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

Pastor Kocourek Response: I do not disagree with our Foreign Pastor, but our brother seems to have a problem being able to read. The quotes that William Branham spoke in the church age book do not say that the person is filled with the spirit prior to hearing the Word of God. It says that his "**Hearing or understanding**" is evidence that he is Spirit filled, and is also evidence that he understands what is being taught.

I have always believed what brother Branham taught concerning our faith which begins in the mind first as a mental faith. And that is the faith that this brother is referring to which is prior to the baptism of the spirit. But brother Branham also taught us that when the Spirit of God moves upon that Word that we receive in our mind first, then He anoints it and once it is anointed, it drops into our soul and becomes a spiritual revelation to us. And that spiritual revelation is the new birth, and it is the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

From his sermon, **Blasphemous names 62-1104M P:53** brother Branham said, *And the biggest part of our faith is mental faith. By hearing the Word it brings us to a mental recognition of God. But if this coming from above, oh, brother, if it ever strikes this, there is a Godly, spiritual faith. Then what does that faith do? **That faith recognizes only the Word.** No matter what anything else says, **it only recognizes the Word,** because "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (And the Word's still God.) And the Word was made flesh and dwelled among us."* And **when the word Itself is pouring into our faith, our mental faith becomes a spiritual revelation.** "And upon this foundation I'll build My Church," (See?), not upon a mental conception of church joining, a mental conception of that, but upon the revelation. When **them streams of grace has poured into that mental faith that you've got, then upon this, a spiritual revelation,** "I'll build My Church and the gates of hell can't prevail against it." See? That shows they would be against it, but it'll never prevail. Oh, what a glorious thing.

Again in the same sermon **Blasphemous names 62-1104M P:56** He continues, ... *Number one, coming to you, your mental faith, right here, comes the Holy Spirit, coming down into your mental faith making it a spiritual faith. Then the spiritual faith only recognizes the Word. Now, and number two: Then you'll have the Holy Spirit, and will seal all these things into you, as that Holy Spirit covers this. From your faith up to the Holy Spirit seals you in with Christ; then you become one. Amen. (Get this thing out of my way. It's hard on your arms.) You become one. See, you and Christ live together. "At that day you'll know that I'm in the Father, the Father in Me, I in you, and you in Me." See? Then that's a sealed unit of the Lord God. Now, and then they are vindicated and placed. When that time takes place, they become vindicated sons and daughters of God.*

Earnestly contending for the faith 53-0614A P:82 Why brother, it's by faith you're saved. Is that right? But listen. In accepting of your faith, **God confirms your faith by the baptism of the Holy Ghost.** If you say you believe, and you don't get the baptism of the Holy Ghost, then you do not, it, your faith isn't accepted in the sight of God. **You've got a mental faith and in the stead of a heart faith.** That's right. **When you truly believe God, God's under obligation to pour the Holy Ghost on you.** And then if He does pour the Holy Ghost on you... You say, "Well, I've got the Holy Ghost too." Well, if you do, you're bound to believe in the supernatural signs and wonders, because you're added to it. That's the faith.

Witnesses 54-0303 P:21 You believe God and say you believe God, and haven't received the Holy Spirit, **there's something wrong with your faith.** 'Cause **God's under obligation to give every believer that repents and is baptized, is under obligation to give you the baptism of the Holy Spirit.** And He's more willing to give it to you, than you are to receive it. That's right. So there's something wrong somewhere. **You just got a mental faith and instead of a heart faith.** For God's under obligation to keep His Word. He said, "Repent, every one of you, and be baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and your children, to them that's far off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." That's true. And God's got to keep that promise. Yes, sir. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: Quote Ephesians 1:13 <In whom ye also [trusted], after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also **after that ye believed**, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise...>

John 5:24 <Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, **hath** (past tense) *everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*>

The apostles and disciples of Jesus heard, recognized and accepted the message and Messenger of their age and passed from death unto life, and they later went up to Pentecost. The prophet confirmed the same as follows: **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

Brother Kocourek Response: Again I have no problem with these statements as I do not see any conflict between what brother Branham said in the Church Age Book with what Paul says in Ephesians.

Now, these next quotes of brother Branham that our brother gives do seem to conflict with the others I will also give. I say they seem to conflict but the Word of God does not fight Word. So we will have to look at all of them from the same source to find our solution. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: Quote W.M.B.: 37 ...you have the new birth by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. See? By having faith and accepting Him as your Saviour, that's birth ...because you've passed from death unto Life. Now, if you want to back that up, take **St. John 5:24**... ...he's got Life because he believes. And that **same group had to go to Pentecost** to be baptized with the Holy Ghost. (Countdown 62-0909M).

St. John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, **hath** (paste tense) *everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*

Quote W.M.B.: 269-Q-60 ... "He that heareth My Words and believeth on Him that sent Me, **hath** (past tense) **Eternal Life**, has Everlasting Life"; that's the **new birth**. You're converted; it means you're turned around. But the baptism of the **Holy Spirit puts you into the body of Christ, subject to the gifts for service.** ...Now, watch. Eternal Life... Jesus said, "He that heareth My Word and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath Eternal Life, and

shall not come into the judgment, but's passed from death unto Life." You're a new creature right then.(Q&A Hebrews Part 2 COD 57-1002).

ETERNAL LIFE THEN BAPTISM

Quote W.M.B.: *111 You say, "What about the Holy Ghost, Brother Branham?" The Holy Ghost baptizes you into the Body, for service, but you believe unto Eternal Life. "He that heareth My Words and believeth on Him that sent Me, has Eternal Life." Then you're baptized by the Holy Spirit into the Body for manifestations of the gifts, and so forth, but you believe to Eternal Life. (You Must Be Born Again 61-123).*

John 10:27 < My sheep hear (understand) my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.>

The apostles and disciples heard the voice of the Lord/the Word, message and messenger of the age and followed Him and they later went up to Pentecost.

Matthew 16:13-17 <...he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? ...And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. 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.>

Peter the apostle heard and recognized the son of man, Christ the Messenger of the age and yet did not have the Pentecostal article until a later date.

B -- I CORINTHIANS 2: 6-16 MISINTERPRETED

Wm. Branham used **1 Corinthians 2:6-16**: *"We have received the spirit of God...that we may know the things of God...which the Holy Ghost teacheth...The natural man cannot receive the things of the spirit...because they are spiritually discerned"*.

Wm Branham assumed that the above phrases of scripture is speaking of the Pentecostal experience.

The emphasis of apostle Paul is not the Pentecostal experience, "the indwelling spirit", but he is emphasizing a work of grace that takes place before the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Wm. Branham's error is his emphasis on the baptism of the Holy Ghost and not the work of Grace by the Spirit. This assumption is contrary to the Word of God and the message of the hour. It is unscriptural and erroneous. It is misleading and detrimental to message believers and has brought about much confusion and heresies amongst them.

1 Corinthians 2: 6-16 is not speaking of being Spirit-filled with the baptism of the Holy Ghost like the church received, on the day of Pentecost before they discerned spiritual things. It refers to a **work of Grace by the Holy Spirit** through God's election and predestination of the believer.

"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day". (John 6:44) "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out". (John 6:37). End of Foreign Pastor statement:

End Brother Kocourek Response: Now, that we have read the quotes our brother uses for his evidence that Brother Branham was wrong in the Church Age Book, let's look at what else Wm. Branham taught concerning the baptism and the new birth. Because I have found while teaching nearly 2,000 Message Pastors and Ministers around the world that many will wrestle with the quotes of William Branham to their own destruction just as they did with the apostle Paul's Word as Peter himself tells us in **2 Peter 3:14 2**.

Peter 3:14 *Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. 15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; 16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.*

So you see it is not common that men with wrestle with the Scriptures, but the admonition by Peter is that we be found in peace. O, what a blessed thing Peace is. And that is what the devil will try to beat out of you every time. *But fear not little children, it is the Fathers good pleasure to give you the Kingdom.* So Peace, Shalom. When men shall revile you and say all manner of evil against you for my sake, blessed are you Jesus said, and great is your reward in heaven. Br. Vayle gave me some advice recently. He said, "Brian, came after brother Branham and they criticized him, and they have come after me and they've criticized me, and they will come after you too and criticize you, but just remember this one word,... Sovereignty. God is sovereign and answers to no one. He has it all under control. He's got every hair on your head counted and you won't loose out on anything. So peace be still. But notice that Paul says these men are not at peace, but are constantly on the move to try to wrestle with the Word of God, and I feel sorry for them, because *had they known who they Who He was, they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory.*

Now, let's look at some other things brother Branham said about the true new birth and the baptism of the Holy Spirit to place a balance with our brothers other quotes that we have thus far shared.

From his sermon **Token the 63-1128E P:74** brother Branham said, *...When God has give you the true baptism of the Holy Spirit, then the Life of Jesus Christ is within you. Now, that's true; every theologian will have to admit that to be the truth; it's the new birth. You're borned anew, of the Holy Ghost...*

Br Branham clearly states here when God gives you *the True baptism of the Holy Spirit, then* (When? at the time of the true Baptism of the Holy Spirit) *the very Life of Jesus Christ is within you*, and he calls it "*the new birth*". These are the same words that he uses in the Church Age Book, so these are not inconsistent with his own teaching. So let's say all that the prphet says, my brother. Let's not pick and choose what best fits your own theology.

Again Br. Branham says in his sermon, **Hear recognize act on word 60-0221 P:61** *...Now, anyone knows that the Seal of God is the birthright, the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Ephesians 4:30, says, "Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby you're sealed till the day of your redemption." When they were born again, they were filled with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the new birth, we know that. You're begotten of the Spirit; I'll admit that. But until you're born...*

Again these words are not inconsistent with what Brother Branham taught us His Church Age Book. He says, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the New Birth. The Holy Spirit is the new birth.

Now if we call it a new birth it is because a new life has been quickened into us. So what life do you think comes into you and is quickened or made alive in you if it isn't the Holy Spirit or God-Life itself. What is the New Birth if it is not the Baptism of the Spirit of God in the believer?

Again from his sermon **Spiritual inspiration 56-0128 P:75** brother Branham says,...*If you don't understand what I mean by being born again, I mean someone without the baptism of the Holy Ghost.*(he's talking now to someone without the Baptism of the Holy Ghost because of course those who have it know what it is, so he is telling those who don't have it what it is...) That's the new birth. Would you raise your hand and say, "I now believe; I want to receive the Holy Ghost...

So you see brother Branham says here that the New Birth is receiving the Holy Ghost. This again is very consistent with his teaching in His Church Age Book.

Finally we hear brother Branham say in his sermon, **Token the 63-1128E P:74** *...When God has give you the true baptism of the Holy Spirit, then the Life of Jesus Christ is within you. Now, that's true; every theologian will have to admit that to be the truth; it's the new birth. You're borned anew, of the Holy Ghost...*

Now, with this behind us let's move on with more discourse. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: SAINTS SPIRITUALLY DISCERNED WITHOUT THE PENTECOSTAL EXPERIENCE

Many saints of both the O.T. and N.T. spiritually **discerned**, heard the truth and recognized the messenger and his message, identified and confessed Christ of the age without the experience of Pentecost. Examples: Elizabeth, Simeon, Anna, John the Baptist, Andrew, Phillip, woman of Samaria, Peter, the apostles and Paul: They all did not yet receive the Pentecostal blessing, for the Holy Ghost was not yet given out. (**John 7:38-39**). All happened by a work of grace through the Spirit. **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

Brother Kocourek Response: Before we address the examples that our brother uses below, I would first like to say that I think our brother is confusing being filled with the spirit with what took place on the day of Pentecost where the people were anointed for service by the infilling of the spirit.

To say that there was no baptism of the Spirit until the day of Pentecost is to deny that Jesus Himself had received the baptism of the Spirit himself. Now, I know that the Spirit that came into Jesus had not yet been given out as it says in St. John 7:39, but what spirit then was it that filled John the Baptist in His mothers womb.

What Spirit was Jesus Christ baptized with himself as we see in several places of Scripture.

*In the Message, **ELISHA THE PROPHET 56-1002.2E 21**, brother Branham said, "And Jesus, the baptism He had was the baptism of the Holy Spirit, which was in Him, that come on Him at the river Jordan after He was baptized in water. John bare record; he seen the Spirit of God like a dove coming upon Him. And notice. Then when he went up, he sent back the same robe that he was wrapped in: the Holy Ghost upon the Church.*

So we see that while Jesus was on earth after his baptism there was not a release of that spirit that was bottled up in him until after it left him at Gethsemane. But before Jesus was in-filled with the entire fullness of the Godhead bodily, there are numerous examples of people in Scripture who were filled with the holy Ghost. We will look at a few of them while perusing the examples below. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement:Matthew 16:13-16—"Thou art the Christ the son of the Living God". **End of** Notice it was revelation that came to him. Thou art the Christ, The **SON** of the Living God. That is not baptism of the spirit but God giving a gift of revelation to Peter.

Luke 1:41 Elizabeth – "Mother of my Lord's blessed is the fruit of the womb". **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

Brother Kocourek Response: Notice here that our brother did not write out this verse, so I shall and what is revealing is that Elisabeth was "FILLED with what? With the Holy Ghost. Now, I know how that is possible, but I would like for my brother to explain that with his theology. *41 And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost:*

Again let's look at his example and again we shall read what he feared to write lest it might not fit with his theology. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: Luke 2:25-32—Simeon – "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation". **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

Brother Kocourek Response: Now, that is not all that happened here my brother. *25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. 26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,*

Now, I ask you brother, what do you see here with this brother Simeon which was any different than what was shown in Scripture of those who had received the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost. Don't you see, that all of God's kids, old testament and new testament are going to have God-Life in them if they are in fact God's Kids. God Life is God Life whether before or after the day of Pentecost.

And again let's read all that the scripture says about Anna as well. Notice our brother Foreign Pastor's words he describes what took place in **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: Luke 2:36-38 – Anna Prophetess of Christ. – “She gave thanks unto the Lord”.

End of Foreign Pastor statement:

Brother Kocourek Response: But is that all it says here my brother? No sire,

Well, let's see what Brother Branham has to say about this woman Anna.

Expectations 50-0405 P:52 Oh, brother, sister, the very God that led Simeon is here tonight. That's right. He can lead those same... Hours after hours could I testify. But look. At that same time, there was an old blind prophetess by the name of Anna. Look at her. When Simeon picked up the baby Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit, right to Him... ***Don't you believed It's the same Holy Spirit tonight?*** And look, winding through the crowd came an old blind woman, Anna, making her way through the crowd. No one told her. But she came right straight to where He was, lifted up her hands and blessed God. ***The Holy Spirit was guiding her through the people.***

Birth pains 65-0124 P:52 And so then here's Simeon setting there taking this persecution. He was the remnant. He heard John. And the little remnant of that day... And here he was setting there listening to this scroll and knowing--I mean knowing that John was coming 'cause he was part of the remnant; the Word was revealed to him. And all at once, when that Baby come into the temple, then it was duty of the Holy Ghost to reveal that It was there. So ***he moved by the Spirit***, come out of the little study room, right down through the hall, hit that line of women, coming right down along that line of women until he got down to where this little Baby was, they was all staying away from, picked up the baby in his arms, said, "Lord, let Your servant depart in peace for my eyes have seen Your Salvation." And that time, another one of ***the little elected in that day was Anna, a prophetess.*** She was setting over there, blind, in a corner, raised up blind. ***Here she come, led by the Spirit***, among all the women and the people crowding in and out of the temple, till she come right straight to where the Christ Child was. ***If the Holy Ghost could lead a blind woman to Him, what about a Pentecostal group that's supposed to have your eyesight.*** I won't go any farther; you know from there on.

Birth pains 65-0124 P:48 And Anna in the temple, blind, a prophetess that served the Lord by prayers, and then one day when ***she was in the Spirit...*** And Simeon had prophesied and said (an old man), he said, "***The Holy Ghost told me*** that I will not see death until I see the Lord's Christ." "Well now, some of the priests, you know, said, "Poor old fellow, he's just a little off, you know. Why, he's got one foot in the grave now, and the other one's slipping. Why, just let him alone. He's been an honorable old man, but he's kinda..." But you see, what did he have? ***It was revealed to him by the Holy Ghost. That's the same thing that is revealed to you people this afternoon. The Holy Ghost brought you here for some reason. To some... The Holy Spirit...***

Reproach for the word 62-1223 P:75 There's old blind Anna setting in the temple praying. ***The Lord revealed to her*** "Simeon is right." Amen! She couldn't see daylight from dark, but she could see farther than many people today that has got good eyes. ***She saw in the Spirit*** the coming Messiah was at hand, ***the Spirit moving in her heart.*** See what a little bitty church there was? Zacharias, Elisabeth, Mary, John, Anna and Simeon, six out of the millions. Like in the days of Noah; six of them. God dealt with everyone of them. They was all in harmony. They all got together. Amen.

Led by the spirit 59-0407 P:20 Her name was Anna. She was a prophetess. She didn't leave the temple; she stayed there day and night, fasting, praising God, waiting for the coming of the Messiah. And the Holy Spirit must have said, "Stand on your feet, Anna." She didn't have any eyes; she was blind. Here she come, weaving her way through the people, ***led by the Holy Spirit.*** What was... ***What Holy Spirit was that? The same One that led you here tonight, still moving over the sons and daughters of God. Led by the Spirit as she moved along.*** She come close to the baby and raised up her hands and blessed God. If the Holy Ghost could take an old blind woman in the corner and lead her to the Christ, how much more should He lead us tonight? Led, moved, God works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform.

Simeon and Anna 59-0211 P:23 And Simeon stopped. ***The Holy Spirit must've said,*** "Stop, Simeon. I'm going to show you a sign." And he turns his head. He runs, grabs the Baby, holds It in his arms, said, "Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your Word, for my eyes see Your Salvation." ...

*Then way over in a corner was an old blind prophetess. **Her name was Anna.** She couldn't see, eighty-four years old. She fasted and prayed all the time. **She too was Spirit filled.** Just then the Holy Ghost said, "Stand up, Anna." Here she comes, blind, walking through the audience, **led by the Spirit, led by the Spirit.** Didn't matter where she was going, couldn't see where she was going. But **she was led by the Spirit. And the same Holy Ghost that's leading us tonight.** Don't make any difference where you're going, as long as you're led by the Spirit. Here she comes. She comes to the--Mary. She sees His face. She raised up her hands. **The Holy Ghost come on her and she begin to prophesy. That same God is here tonight. Led by the Spirit, sons and daughters of God,** do you want Him to lead you to that same One tonight?*

Deep calleth to deep 54-0624 P:11** Then I think way over in the corner was an old woman. We're taught that she was blind; her name was Anna. She was a prophetess, waiting for the coming of the Lord. God's under obligation to show her the Christ. And **the Holy Spirit moved upon Ann.** And I can see that old blind prophetess that morning coming along through that building, blind, led by the Holy Spirit, moving along the--all along those people. Come down along that line of women and stop right in front of the fountain, for **she was led by the Holy Spirit.

So you see William Branham himself said she was filled with the same Spirit and he said it is the same Spirit that is here tonight.

Next our brother takes us to John the Baptist, in **Foreign Pastor statement: John 1:29-34 – John Baptist – “Behold the lamb of God” End of Foreign Pastor statement:** And again that is not all that we see here. John bore record that this one that came down and indwelt Jesus, is the same one that said to him that Jesus was the SON of God, and this same John if you remember was filled with the Holy Ghost even before being birthed. **Luke 1: 15** *For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb.*

And on and on and on again we could go so let's move ahead. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: John 1:40:42 – Andrew & Simon Peter. – “We have found the Messiah-Christ” John 1:43:51 – Phillip & Nathaniel – “Thou art the son of God, thou art the king of Israel” John 4:19-25 – Woman of Samaria. Sir I perceive that thou art a prophet John 6:67-69 – “We believe and are sure that thou art that Christ the son of the living God.” Acts 9:3-5 -- “Who art thou Lord” Acts 9:17-18 – “Be filled with the Holy Ghost.”

C -- THE NEW BIRTH AND THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST ARE ONE AND THE SAME

Wm.Branham's Teaching in the Church Ages Versus Wm. Branham's teaching on tape. End of Foreign Pastor statement:

Wm. Branham; Church Ages Book: 144-2 *Now before we leave this subject I want to make myself very clear on what the Baptism with the Holy Ghost is according to the Word. It is not according to me, and it is not according to you. It has to be according to "Thus saith the Lord," or we are falsely led. Amen. ... I want to tell you exactly what I mean. I mean for the sinner to come forward and be born again, which is to be baptized into the body of Christ by the Holy Ghost which is exactly what took place at Pentecost when the church was launched. In other words, **to be born of the Spirit is to be truly baptized with the Holy Ghost.** It is one and the same. (Smyrnaean Church Age - Church Age Book Cpt.4).*

Wm. Branham Church Ages Book: 154-1 *What is the **Baptism** with the Holy Ghost? It is the Spirit Baptizing you into the body of Christ. **It is the new birth.** ...we are NOT born again by the Spirit of Life of Jesus coming in, and then subsequent to that the Holy Spirit coming in to give us power. (Smyrnaean Church Age - Church Age Book Cpt.4).*

Foreign Pastor statement:Answer: Wm. Branham was very clear in expressing that the new birth and the baptism of the Holy Ghost are one and the same and it's exactly what they received on the day of Pentecost. It was spoken as **“Thus saith the Lord” in imitation** of the prophet Brother Branham.

It is dangerous enough to preach contrary to the Word and the message, but when a man speaks in the name of the Lord: *“Thus saith the Lord”*, and places the prophet’s name under it, **it is spiritual death** to sincere people and himself. **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

End Brother Kocourek Response: And I would like to add for my brother’s sake, to reject “thus saith the Lord” is to reject what God has said. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: In this case people are so deceived by this error that they will lay down their lives for what they assume that the prophet taught, not knowing that it was **“Thus saith Wm. Branham.”**

Nowhere on tape did the prophet use that statement of “Thus saith the Lord” in reference to that error that the new birth and the baptism of the Holy Ghost are the same. He denied and condemned that doctrine as wrong.

He could not speak in the name of the Lord and then deny his teaching. It will make him a confused prophet. Wm. Branham’s erroneous teaching on this subject is in total disregard, direct opposition and conflict to that of the prophet, Wm. Branham. It contradicts the Word from Genesis to Revelation.

This is erroneous, unscriptural, off the message and diabolically deceptive. It serves to keep people lukewarm in Laodicea. They would not press to receive the true article of Pentecost, and will miss the Rapture.

Most of the message world rest their faith upon this error of Wm. Branham in the Church Age Book, inasmuch that if Wm. Branham would acknowledge this error by saying, “I was mistaken”, he would bring deliverance to multitudes of souls. If he is convicted enough to acknowledge that he is wrong and the prophet is right, he would win more souls than he did in his life time. Would you and Wm. Branham deny examples as follows?

JESUS AND THE APOSTLES-BORN AGAIN-THEN HOLY GHOST BAPTISM

Jesus was first born of the Word of God, and thirty years later received the baptism of the holy Ghost at the Banks of Jordan.

John 1:13 <... Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.>

The apostles were born again (*St. John 4: 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*) by hearing the Word of God. They received eternal life and they afterward received the baptism of the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost. **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST IS DIFFERENT FROM THE NEW BIRTH **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

Brother Kocourek Response: and then he uses the following quote to clinch his nail. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Brother Kocourek Response: **Countdown 62-0909M P:24** *The new birth, you have the new birth by being--believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. See? By having faith and accepting Him as your Saviour, that's birth (See?), because you've passed from death unto Life. Now, if you want to back that up, take St. John 5:24, "He that heareth My Words and believeth on Him that sent Me, has Everlasting Life." See, he's got Life because he believes. And that same group had to go to Pentecost to be baptized with the Holy Ghost. Exact. **Holy Ghost is power for service.** So when talk like you got to be born again, and applying that to the Holy Ghost, many of the Methodists and so forth are wrong there. It cannot. It just won't cope to the Scripture here. You get the thing sideways. It's got to take it the way the Scripture's got it placed out here. See? And the Holy Spirit is a... "You shall receive the new birth after this"? What? No. **"You shall receive power (Acts 1:8) after this the Holy Ghost is come upon you."** See? And they'd already believed to Eternal Life, and so forth, but they had to have **the Holy Ghost for power.** "You shall be witnesses unto Me after the Holy Ghost is come upon you," because the Holy Ghost is a witness of the resurrection, showing that you have become an adult in Christ.*

Now, apparently our brother does not understand the difference between the new birth which is the infilling of the spirit and the Baptism of the spirit which is for service and for power to anoint one to their calling.

Jesus when he was born, the Spirit he had was God-Life or holy Spirit Life, and yet he had to be baptized with the Holy ghost to receive power for service.

Acts 10:38 *How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.*

In the Message, ELISHA THE PROPHET 56-1002.2E 21, *brother Branham said, "And Jesus, the baptism He had was the baptism of the Holy Spirit, which was in Him, that come on Him at the river Jordan after He was baptized in water. John bare record; he seen the Spirit of God like a dove coming upon Him. And notice. Then when he went up, he sent back the same robe that he was wrapped in: the Holy Ghost upon the Church.*

Revelation chapter 4 pt 3 throne mercy 61-0108 P:162 *They were gathered in that upper room, All praying in His Name, Baptized with the Holy Ghost, And power for service came; What He did for them that day He'll do for you the same, I'm so glad that I can say I'm one of them.*

Now, look, we have already established that Jesus said he that believeth on me hath which is (past tense) Eternal life. So they were already quickened by the Word, but just awaited that baptism of power that brother Branham spoke about.

But the real problem I see here is that Pastor just does not understand what Eternal life is. I wish he did, but this whole discourse he has been fighting the prophets words unknowingly with the prophets words knowingly.

Brother Branham said in **Things that are to be 65-1205 P:23** *Now, the only way that you can be a son or daughter of God... Because you have to be the--have to have Eternal Life... And there's only one form of Eternal Life, and that's God's Life. Only one form of Eternal Life, that was God. There to be a son of God, you had to be in Him always. The gene of your life, spiritual life tonight, was in God the Father before there was even a molecule. See? And you are nothing but the manifestation of the gene of Life that was in God as a son of God. Now, you're expressed, after His Word has come in you to light up this age. You are the, expressing God's Life in you, because you are a son or a daughter of God. Therefore... You get what I mean? See? You are now made... You're setting in this church tonight, because your duty is to express God to this nation, and this people, and this neighborhood where you associate. Wherever you are, God knew that you would be here, because you have to be one of His genes or His attributes. You had to be. If you've got Eternal Life, then it always was Eternal Life. And God before there was a foundation of the world knew that you would be here. And when the Word--or the water, the washing of the water of the Word fell upon you, it was expressed in a being. Now, you have fellowship with your Father, God, just as you have with you earthly father. See? You are citizens of the King, not citizens, but you are children, sons and daughters of the living God if it be that the Eternal Life dwells in you.*

Christ is identified the same 64-0415 P:29 *Now, therefore, if we have Eternal Life, we have part of God in us. And God in us... If He isn't, then... That's the only way you could have Eternal Life. It isn't something that was manufactured and then given to you by some creed, or you lived into it, you grew into a better man or a better woman. It's God Himself in you. Just like you're a part of your father here on earth, you're part of your heavenly Father. And what you are, you're the attribute of His thoughts of you before the foundation of the world. You're expressed. He had to breed it in and everything to get what you are, to make you what you are. .*

End Brother Kocourek Response:

Foreign Pastor statement: *Peter the apostle was born again by a confession of the son of man, Jesus Christ, given the Keys to the Kingdom of God and waited for the day of Pentecost to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost.* **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

End Brother Kocourek Response: *I John 5:1 <Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.>*

I hate to have to differ with my precious brother again but his example that he is using here of Peter doing something to be born again, isn't Scriptural. Pastor you are saying here that there was something Peter did to be born again? And for your information Peter was not born again by his confession. He was not born again until

he received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Jesus told him at the last supper, "*Peter, when you are converted strengthen thy brethren.*" **Luke 22: 32** That means his conversion was yet to take place.

Why it had to be shepherds 64-1221 P:115 *""You've got to be born again." And when you're born again, it just isn't because you believe. They say, "You're borned when you believe." But the Bible said, "The Devil believes also." Now, notice, it's not that; it's an experience. You say, "Well, I've lived a good life." So did the apostles, but **they wasn't borned again until they received the Holy Spirit. They wasn't even converted until they had received the Holy Spirit.** You remember the night before the betrayal--or on the betrayal, just before the betrayal took place? Jesus said to Simon Peter, "When thou art converted, then strengthen thy brethren." And Peter had followed Him for three years and a half, and had cast out devils, and healed the sick, had preached the Gospel, and still (according to the Word) was not even converted.*

Questions and answers COD 64-0830E P:60 403. *If the natural birth requires water, blood, and spirit, does not the spiritual birth require all three stages of grace before the person is **truly born again**? Absolutely, I just explained that this morning--the same, on the same thing. You've got to have all stages. You're begotten of the Spirit, just like a baby's begotten into the womb of a mother, but **not born until they receive the Holy Ghost. T***

God's wrapped gift 60-1225 P:54 *He's still a sinner until he's converted. And **when he's converted, he's borned again of the Spirit of God and changed over**; and he's accepted Christ, and the Holy Ghost has come in and made him a new creature, a new creation.*

Now, Foreign Pastor You said, **Peter the apostle was born again by a confession.** But my Bible says That Jesus said to Peter, *when you are converted strengthen your brethren...*

Brother Branham said in **Hear His voice 58-1005M P:102** *Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed? It's a birth, not a confession....*

Thirsting for life 57-0630 P:6 *You might have a confession, your name on the book, and living a righteous life, and you're still a sinner. **You got to be borned again**, not with a mental mind, but by something that's happened **in your heart.** See? It's got to be, friends. Don't never let the devil blindfold you to that. It doesn't come by intellectual conception; **it comes by birth.** And your life copes right with that. You must have it.*

JOHN 1:12 *But as many as received him, (The Greek word for received here is Lambano and it means to have experienced, or to have taken to one's self. And it is these that truly experienced Him, they are the one's He says,) **to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:** So these are believers, predestined from the beginning to believe and receive Him. And He is the Word. They Believe His word, and they believe in His Name. And to them He gives power to become sons... Now the word power used here, is not the Greek word dunamis, which speaks of great miraculous power, but rather the Greek word "exousia", which means the power of choice, or the power to make a right decision.*

And the word **to become** was translated from the Greek word Ginomai and it means to generate, or to come forth into manifestation. Therefore, to them that experience Him and openly receive Him, to them are given an ability to make a right decision and to become what they were meant to be in the beginning. Paul said in, **Galatians 4: 6** *And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.*

Therefore if a man is left up to his own choosing, he will go in the ways of death. But God has given him, or has granted him the ability to know and to understand. And this ability to make a right decision concerning the doctrine of Christ is not for everyone. For Jesus told Nicodemus, these ones... **13 were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.** So He is talking about the new birth and the importance of that new birth is that God gives him an ability to know and to understand the kingdom of God and what it is all about. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: The prophet of God confirmed the same by many outstanding statements which are in opposition to the teachings of Wm Branham in the Church Age Book. His teachings were based on the scriptures above but Wm. Branham's error was strictly based upon Pentecostalism and Baptist doctrine. No wonder why he had to force-fit such erroneous doctrine into the message.

The prophet emphatically stated that he did not believe nor teach that doctrine, that it is wrong and that he can prove that the new birth and baptism of the holy Ghost are two, separate, different experiences. I believe him. Dr. Vayle teaching is contrary to the truth as preached by Brother Branham can be clearly seen from the following quotations.

YOU'RE BORN OF THE SPIRIT AND THEN BAPTIZED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

Quote W.M.B.: 35 ...*I teach and believe, and believe can sufficiently prove by the Scripture, that you're borned of the Spirit and then baptized into the Body by the Holy Spirit. (You Must Be Born Again 61-123).*

I DON'T BELIEVE THAT BEING BORN AGAIN IS THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST

Quote W.M.B.: 117 ... *I don't believe in being born again is the baptism of the Holy Ghost. It is not the baptism of the Holy Ghost; it's being reborn again. We're reborn by the Blood. Blood cell comes from the...life cell comes from the Blood. You're baptized by the Holy Ghost into the body, but you're born by the Blood. (Influence Of Another 62-1013).* **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

Brother Kocourek Response: By the Life in the blood which life is Spirit. Now, I will admit here that I was having trouble with what brother Branham is saying here, because it seemed a bit confusing, because when you look at the entire quote he is speaking against what the Jesus only believe, and they believe in being baptized unto regeneration, and then brother Branham talks about the blood cell but then He carries it over to the life that is in the blood, and life has got to be Spirit which is Life. So I believe what he is saying here is the baptism for power is not the new birth and I think we all agree on that. But I found another quote from after the seals were preached that reads a lot clearer than this one.

Sign of this time 63-1113 P:54 Notice like this. When a baby is born, there is three things that constitutes its birth. The first thing in normal birth... You adults listen close now; the young children will never catch it. But, let's see, the first thing in a normal birth is water, then blood, then life. See? Now, that's the same thing that constitutes the new birth; water, Blood, Spirit. The elements that came from His body is what makes His Body. See? It come from His body, is the material that takes to make His Bride. Because Adam had his bride taken from his body. Christ has His Bride taken from the body. And when Christ died, there was three elements that came from His body: water, Blood, Spirit; justification through believing, water; sanctification through the Blood; the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Now, this last great step must come into the perfection, that the Holy Spirit has to live in that Church so perfectly, it'll make the Head and the Body unite together. See, see? That's the Body. He is the Head in the Body. Now, we find that He promised in these last days, that that would be done. We find it.

Now, that ought to settle it right there. Not birth by blood only but by water blood and spirit. I can spill my blood and that isn't a birth. But neither can I have birth without blood. But if I have not spirit then what life have I got? None at all. Just blood and water. Seems to me when water turned into blood in the plagues of Egypt it brought death not life. So without spirit there is not new birth. And let me tells you that all the quotes our brother gave were before brother Branham preached the seals and brought clarity to the various points of the doctrine. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: THE NEW BIRTH IS NOT THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST

Quote W.M.B.: 114 ... *And born again does not necessarily mean now that you got the Holy Ghost. Now, many teach that. "I don't know anybody that teaches it like this," ... But new birth is not the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Scripture doesn't support it, I don't think (See?), to my way of seeing it. (Key To The Door 62-1007).*

End of Foreign Pastor statement:

And of course this is a very true statement, because you can be born again of a corruptible seed, and that means by man's doctrine and not the Doctrine of Christ as Peter states in **1 Peter 1:23** *Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*

Foreign Pastor statement:Quote: 129 Remember, I believe that Martin Luther had the Holy Spirit. Absolutely. Maybe not in the portion It is today, 'cause It wasn't given out... I never thought there was a person believed that like me till this morning, I heard Charles Fuller as I was going down. He believes too, that **the new birth is not the baptism** of the Holy Ghost. The new birth is being born. The Holy Ghost is the baptism. See? Uh-huh. All right. (Why Against Organized Religion 62-1111E). **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

Brother Kocourek Response: From his sermon **Token the 63-1128E P:74** brother Branham said, ...*When God has give you **the true baptism of the Holy Spirit**, then the Life of Jesus Christ is within you. Now, that's true; every theologian will have to admit that to be the truth; **it's the new birth**. You're borned anew, of the Holy Ghost...*

Br Branham clearly states here when God gives you **the True baptism of the Holy Spirit**, then (When? at the time of the true Baptism of the Holy Spirit) *the very Life of Jesus Christ is within you*, and he calls it **"the new birth"**. These are the same words that he uses in the Church Age Book, so these are not inconsistent with his own teaching. So let's say all that the prophet says, my brother. Let's not pick and choose what best fits your own theology.

Again Br. Branham says in his sermon, **Hear recognize act on word 60-0221 P:61** ...*Now, anyone knows that the Seal of God is the birthright, the baptism of the Holy Ghost. **Ephesians 4:30**, says, "Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby you're sealed till the day of your redemption." When they were born again, they were filled with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the new birth, we know that. You're begotten of the Spirit; I'll admit that. But until you're born...*

Now, I don't believe we have a prophet of God that is so confused that he is arguing with himself. So let me read the rest of his discourse and then we will settle this with a few more quotes from brother Branham. So let me read the rest of this brothers statements, and put this one to rest. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

End of Foreign Pastor statement: THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST IS A DIFFERENT ACT FROM THE NEW BIRTH

Quote W.M.B.: 269-Q-60 ...*At the time we receive the new birth, this takes place... Is this the baptism of the Holy Spirit, or is there a later baptism, or is it a filling? Now, there is quite a question... No, when you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, you then have the new birth. When you believe on the Lord, you receive a new thought, a new life, but **it isn't the baptism of the Holy Ghost**. See? You've got the new birth when you believe; you've got Eternal Life. It's a gift of God that's give to you through sovereign grace by accepting the gift that God is giving to you. See? "He that heareth My Words and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath Eternal Life, has Everlasting Life"; that's the **new birth**. You're converted; it means you're turned around.*

*But the baptism of the Holy Spirit puts you into the body of Christ, subject to the gifts for service. It doesn't make you any more of a Christian; it just puts you into the body of gifts. See? "Now, by one Spirit (**1 Corinthians 12**) we're all baptized into one body. Now," says Paul, "there are different gifts, and in this body is nine spiritual gifts." And in this body... **You have to be baptized into the body to possess one of these gifts**. They come with the body.*

But now, as far as having Eternal Life and being a Christian, you are a Christian the moment you believe. Now, that's not make-believe; that's truly believe on the Lord Jesus and accept Him as your personal Saviour, you're born again right there, and have Eternal Life. God comes into you.

*...See? **The baptism of the Holy Ghost is a different act from the new birth. One is a birth; one is a baptism**. One brings you Eternal Life; the other one gives you power. It gives power into Eternal Life (See?) to operate. Now, you got it? Okay, all right. (Q&A Hebrews Part 2 COD 57-1002).*

ETERNAL LIFE, THEN BAPTISM

Quote W.M.B.: 111 You say, "What about the Holy Ghost, Brother Branham?" The Holy Ghost baptizes you into the Body, for service, but you believe unto Eternal Life. "He that heareth My Words and believeth on Him that sent Me, has Eternal Life." Then you're baptized by the Holy Spirit into the Body for manifestations of the gifts, and so forth, but you believe to Eternal Life. (You Must Be Born Again 61-123).

PYRAMID TEACHING- BORN AGAIN SEPARATED FROM BAPTISM

The prophet's teaching on the pyramid should dissolve every doubt on the subject of the new birth in relation to the baptism of the Holy Ghost. A picture is worth a thousand words. He taught his revelation and depicted it in the form of the pyramid, placing the **born again** faith at the bottom of the pyramid, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost at the top of the pyramid. **The virtues divide's** both experiences. If a man is ignorant after knowing the truth of that message, then he is willingly ignorant.

BORN AGAIN BY FAITH

Quote: 18-2 Notice: you must be borned again. And when you're born again, you **can't be born again without having faith...** Faith is the foundation of all of it. (Stature Of A Perfect Man 62-1014M)

Quote: 22-1 First you must be borned again. And then when you're borned again, you have faith; you believe the Word... borned again, it produces faith... Then after you get faith, this right here: f-a-i-t-h faith, then you're just in position of growing. (Stature Of A Perfect Man 62-1014M)

THEN THE HOLY GHOST COMES UPON YOU IN THE TRUE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST

Quote: 48-1 Then Peter here says first (seven things) faith, virtue (See, coming up), knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly love, and brotherly kindness and then the love of God, the Holy Ghost. Christ in the Person of the Holy Ghost comes upon you in the true baptism of the Holy Ghost, and you got all these virtues sealed in you, then God lives in a tabernacle called the building, the living Tabernacle of the living God's dwelling place. (Stature Of A Perfect Man 62-1014M).

Quote: 48-2 When a man possesses these kind of things, then the Holy Ghost comes upon him. (Stature Of A Perfect Man 62-1014M)

MUST BE BORN AGAIN THEN FILLED WITH THE HOLY GHOST

Quote: E-71 You must be borned again, and when you're borned again, **then you must be filled** with the Holy Ghost. (Door In A Door 63-0223).

BORN AGAIN; THEN A CANDIDATE TO BE BAPTIZED WITH HOLY GHOST

Quote: E-70 You come because you have been warned of God; you've accepted it. And you when you come here, and bow your heads, and surrender to God, and repent of your sins, you are **born again**. You're a candidate then to be baptized into the Church by the Holy Ghost, into the Body of Christ. There's only one baptism; that's Holy Ghost baptism. "By one Spirit we are all baptized into one body."

You become a believer, are born again when you believe. "He heareth My words, believeth on Him that sent Me, hath Everlasting Life," right now. But God baptizes you into the Body and puts you into the service by the Holy Ghost. This is what you do for God; that's what God does for you. There's the difference. You repent and accept what God has done; then God gives you the **next, which is the baptism** of the Holy Ghost. These people are born again. They believed on the Lord Jesus Christ and accepted Him as personal Saviour... Now, they want the baptism of the Holy Ghost to be co-workers with us together, out here in this great field. (Then Jesus Came 57-0302).

Quote: E-38 Now, Father receive them into Thy Kingdom, believing that each one raised their hand is now **borned again**. And I pray God for them that You will **give them the baptism** of the Holy Spirit, and on **this new heart and new spirit** that they have just received, place that teeny little Holy Spirit in there to setting that body in order. Give to them the great gift and let them see the signs of the time. Grant it, Lord. (What Think Ye Of Christ 57-0303E).

Brother Kocourek Response: Now, that we have read his quotes, let's read a few more from Brother Branham *Position in Christ 60-0522M P:40* *And then God gave His children new birth by the baptism of the Holy Spirit. They came right near It when they cleansed themselves up through Nazarene, Pilgrim Holiness. Then come into the experience of Pentecost, of the baptism of the Holy Ghost, the restoration of the gifts. They went forth speaking with tongues and interpret tongues, and given gifts of healings and miracles; and signs and wonders begin to accompany them. Now, they're children; they're God's children. They're positionally in Christ; they become children by birth. And the new birth and the conversion Itself is the Holy Ghost. You're not even converted till you get the Holy Ghost. That's what the Scripture said. Jesus told Peter. Ask anyone; read your Scripture. He was justified by believing on the Lord Jesus, become a follower, an apostle. Jesus gave him the keys to the Kingdom. And John 17:17, He sanctified and give them power, sent them out, cast out devils and things, sanctified them. "Sanctify them, Father, through Thy Truth. Thy Word is the Truth. I sanctify Myself because of them."*

Now, is this a confused prophet speaking about two different baptisms of the Holy Ghost or is he speaking on one hand the true baptism which is the New birth and then a baptism for power and service? You see being baptized in the Holy Ghost is not a one time experience. If it was then why would this prophet of God say you could be baptized with the Holy Ghost every hour of your life and still go to hell. When Jesus said the rain that falls on the just falls also on the unjust, he is not speaking of a one time rainfall that falls on both. Rain occurs quite regularly. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: Pastor Kocourek, I trust that in your response you would be guided by your published policy and stay with the Word and message of the prophet as you promised.

I will appreciate that you answer me in a scriptural manner and an orderly fashion. Wm. Branham's writings and presentation are very unique. I expect that you would imitate this pattern, since you are deputed to act on his behalf: answering questions, visiting all the continents of the world and addressing large groups of ministers. May I admonish you as a brother and fellow minister to carefully and prayerfully consider these objections and respond only according to your established policy, the Word and the message. You would be honoured by your multitude of ministers if you chose to let them read this seven church age discourse in the future. **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

End Brother Kocourek Response: Now, my brother, I will not place it up sometime in the future, but now, since I am very confident that we have exposed your errors to the world as you tried in vain to expose the Church Age Book as a tool of Brother Vayle' when in fact it was authored by William Branham, and edited by William Branham. Therefore, I have already posted this on the website for the brethren in 183 countries to see so they will not be as confused on these issues, and so that they will not be caught up into the lie that says the "Church Age Book" was brother Vayle's, therefore we don't have to reconcile it to the other things Wm. Branham taught. But We have already proven by his own words that William Branham is the author of the Church Age Book, and it's chief editor as well. You're argument that says because Lee Vayle typed the pages that he is the author, and that is the same lie that says that the Books in the Bible were written only by Scribes and men, and therefore it is not the Word of God and God is not the author of the Bible. And your assertion is that because it was written by mere men, therefore it can not be God's Word. But mind you my brother, you are in danger of fighting God with your attitude concerning the Church Age Book.

You would do well, if you would check your facts first before you publish your mean spirited lies against a man who has laboured under the burden of doing the work of a scribe commissioned by William Branham Himself, and subjected himself to every word written under the scrutiny of the prophet himself in direct communication with the Prophet. You yourself never knew the prophet nor anyone who personally sat at his feet. **End Brother Kocourek Response:**

Foreign Pastor statement: If you keep your promise of your establish policy, you cannot deny such exposition of errors as set forth in this discourse.

Please do not quote to me a bunch of quotations about the prophet's commendation of Dr. Vayle. I am familiar with such and appreciate them. I was reminded of it in your first reply letter to me on the subject of the seventh seal/seven thunders, which will make up the continuation of this discourse.

Such quotations would not defend my refutations of errors injected into the C.A.B. by Dr. Vayle.

II TIMOTHY 2:15 <Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.>

Luke 14:11 <For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.>
Amen.

Please be advised that the third part of this seven church age discourse will be completed in due course of time. I would appreciate a reply as soon as possible. I know that you are a busy servant of God with an international ministry, but I think that this is most important to message believers internationally. **End of Foreign Pastor statement:**

Brother Kocourek Response: I agree that it is important to stop the mouths of them that would profess lies about the authenticity of the Church Age Book, and I hope this discourse will do just that...

Finally I would like to say that all the quotes our precious brother gave us to qualify his arguments came from pre-Seals sermons. Now, I am not one that says you don't have to believe anything before the seals. That is ludicrous to even think such. However, that does not do away with the fact that if brother Branham taught a certain thing a certain way after the seals which was different than before the seals, then we should take note and teach the same as he taught. Therefore, I do believe that we must qualify pre-Seals quote with Post Seals quotes where there seems to be conflict. If brother Branham taught something and changed his teaching then we had best change ours as well.

As an example, brother Branham in early years taught that the evidence of the new birth was love. And in fact he and Br. Vayle spoke for 4 hours about that, because Br. Vayle thought it was something else. Brother Branham showed lee where he was wrong, and then the Holy Ghost showed brother Branham where he was also wrong.

Broken cisterns 64-0726E P:37 *Today I was talking with my good friend Dr. Lee Vayle, who's present now. And he's a, quite a theologian. And so we usually have some, have some pretty good discussions on the Scripture. Very smart, and he asked me one time what I thought about the initial evidence of the Holy Ghost, was it speaking in tongues? (It's been many years ago.) I said, "No, can't see that." He said, "Neither do I," said, "though I've been taught that." He said, "What would you think would be a evidence?" I said, "The most perfect evidence I can think of is love." And so we got to talking on that. And then I thought, "That sounded pretty good." So I just held that: If a man's got love. But one day the Lord in a vision straightened me out, and He said that the evidence of the Spirit was those who could receive the Word, neither love nor speaking in tongues, but it's receiving the Word.*

So with this in mind, I hope Foreign Pastor, that you and I can still love one another although we have gone nose to nose in our discourse. And if it is possible for even the prophet of God to teach wrong concerning this subject and hold to it for a period until the Lord straightened him out, then why call people names just because they might not say it like you think it should be said. And thus said, I am asking you to take all the derogatory remarks you have made about Br. Vayle and others from your website and do as the Scriptures teaches us to do.

Finally an admonition to all who might read this discourse.

Shalom 64-0119 P:103 *If I can't disagree with a man sharply, and still love him... Because if I disagree with him, just to be disagreeing, I'm a hypocrite; I ain't fit to stand up here. But if I disagreed with him because of fellowship and love and understanding, no matter what he does, he's still my precious brother. I stand with him. Yes, indeedy. That's exactly right. If that isn't in my heart, then God take me out of this pulpit; I'm not fit to be here. That's right.*

*Questions and answers COD 64-0823M P:42 But on regeneration, now there's where I differ with the oneness brethren. And you oneness brethren who hear this tape of questions, if it would fall into your office, or your house, or among you people that's oneness people, don't misunderstand me, now, that just, 'cause we disagree. Me and my wife disagree; sure we do. **I tell her I love her, and she says I don't believe,** but I do. So then we certainly disagree, but I'm telling you that we sure get along all right. Now, notice. Maybe I don't show enough signs to her that'd do it... I'm out preaching, then come in home and get my fishing rod and go fishing. See? **But down in my heart I love her;***

Where I think Pentecost failed 55-1111 P:60** If it ever gets to a place that I couldn't put my arm around any brother that's working for the Kingdom of God, and recognize him as my brother, I feel I'm backslid. Amen. Sure. **I'd be a scared to stand on the platform and face evil spirits, to know that I had envy in my heart against any brother, no matter who he is,** that's trying to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ or live a Christian life. If we disagree a million miles upon theology, **if he loves the Lord Jesus, he's my brother,** and it's my sister. And we've drawn those lines. "And **if you can't love your brother who you have seen, how can you love God Who you can't, have never seen?**" And brother, when love goes out, God goes with it, for God is love. And you can never get anywhere without Divine love. And as you love one another, you love God. **End Brother Kocourek Response:

Amen!