

Unveiling of God no 6

"If our Gospel be hid"

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Brother Branham read from **2 Corinthians 3:6** up through **2 Corinthians 4:3** as part of his text for his sermon **Unveiling of God**. So far in our study of this sermon of His, we have read up through **2 Corinthians 4** and verse **2**.

This morning we will take the last verse he read which is verse 3, and we will use this single verse for our text.

2 Corinthians 4:3 *"But if our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them which are lost:"*

Let us bow our heads in prayer. Dear Gracious Father we come to you this morning in the most precious name we know t say, that name you gave your son, which is your name, the Lord Jesus Christ. And we come to Thee very humbly this morning asking you to open to us an understanding of your word that will help us to live a life more worthy of the Gospel that we claim to believe. Help us Lord, this day to die out to ourselves and yield ourselves to Your Holy Spirit that your life might live our life for us.

Father, I believe I am speaking for your children here when I say that our desire is to be Christ like, to be so much like your Son Jesus that people would actually think we were him. But we still have these bodies to deal with that did not come by the spoken Word as your son came, but our bodies came by the act of the flesh, the desires of our parents for each other, and thus all *"were born in sin, shaped in iniquity and came forth to the world speaking lies."* And as your servant the Apostle Paul said, *"who can deliver me from the body of this death, but I thank God through Jesus Christ who giveth me the victory."*

So we realize Father what you have done for us, by shedding the blood of the innocent one, our eldest brother Jesus, and therefore, we ask that you would help us to show the proper gratitude, respect and thankfulness for that act which was made on our behalf.

We know Father, there are some who have an exalted opinion of themselves as your bride, but Father, we do not. We are thankful for your predestined plan for our lives, but as your servant Paul said, *"That we should not think more highly than we ought to think."*, and we are grateful that you are working in us both to will and then to do. Knowing thi we can understand how you who have begun the good work in us shall also perform it. Then help us Father to just let go and let You have your perfect will in our life for we ask it in Jesus Christ's name, your beloved first born. Amen.

Now, this morning we will examine this thought that brother Branham read from the Apostle Paul in **2 Corinthians 4:3** where he said, *"if our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them which are lost."*

Now, those are most notable words the Apostle Paul used here because he's talking about the purpose for the Gospel being hidden is to keep it from those who are lost. Just think about that. God hides His Gospel His good news from those who are lost, but He reveals it to those such as would learn, which means those who are lost have no desire to learn.

In paragraph 13 of **The Unveiling of God** brother Branham says after finishing his reading of **2 Corinthians 4:3** *"May the Lord add His blessings to the reading of His Word. Now, **my subject this morning**, I trust that God will reveal this. And each time, if you who take the tapes and listen, and I hope and trust that you have had a spiritual understanding of what that God has been in trying to get over to the church **without saying it right out**. See? It's a thing sometime... **We have to say things in such a way, that it might thin down, it might bring some to go out, some to leave, and some to ponder over**. But **that's done purposely. It must be done that way**."*

Notice those words, he says God has us preach in such a way as to **"bring some to go out"**, Make **some to leave, and some to ponder over**. This word ponder means to to consider something *deeply and thoroughly; meditate 2. to weigh carefully in the mind; consider thoughtfully*:

Notice brother Branham is telling us that the Word of God is given out in such a way that it should never be just a casual manner, but it should be given in all sincerity and with all seriousness that some will hear and leave, because it is too hard for them, but those same words will cause others to deeply meditate upon the severity of the Word of God.

And then brother Branham adds, *But **that's done purposely. It must be done that way***.

In **2 Timothy 4:2** The Apostle Paul said, *"**Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine***.

Now, we could take an entire sermon on just this verse of Scripture, but we don't have time, so let me just break it down quickly here, because this is how we are to preach and the motive for preaching.

First he said we must **Preach the Word**, that is number one, get the Word into the ears of the people, for it will save some and cause others to walk out. And then he said we **"should be instant in season"**. This word **"instant"** means to take our stand upon it, and then he adds, whether it is in season or out of season.

In other words we are to stand with the entire Word of God no matter if it is in part or in whole. Therefore it matters not season it was sent for. God's Word is His Word, whether it directly applies to this age or another age.

You might say, well the message of Noah wouldn't work for Moses, and that is only if you are looking at the means of salvation which was the ark. But if you are looking at the message of salvation it was also preached by Moses in his hour. So they both preached a message of salvation, which was a coming out of and an entering into.

Moses did not deny the Word for Noah's hour, in fact we would not even know of it had it not been for Moses writing it down for all to read. The word for Luther's hour Justification, and Wesley's hour Sanctification is still good for this hour, but it is not enough for the hour in which we live, because we must also be instant in the hour we live in which is to receive the Holy Ghost. Noah, and Moses, and Luther, and Wesley were not equipped for this hour and this Revelation, yet woe to us if we turn down the revelation that was given to them. Because they had it in part but we have it as a whole.

And you cannot have the whole without having all the parts. Therefore you cannot have the "Whole Message" for the hour if you throw out pre 1963 sermons. Brother Branham said, "Say what is on the tapes and only what is on the tapes."

Then the Apostle Paul said, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

The word **Reprove** means to show the people where they err. and then after you show them where they err, you are to rebuke, which means to show them how they have missed the mark, or where the value they have set for themselves is not the value that God has given us. And this should be our constant daily measuring of ourselves against the standard that God has set for us.

When God says in **Hebrews 10:25** *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.* Then why do we stay home when we should come together even more so as we see the day approaching. Now you might not think it is important to be in church when the doors are open but then why did the Apostle Paul says right after this... **26** *For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.* **27** *But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.* **28** *He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:* **29** *Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden underfoot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?*

And so what is despite? It means to count the Word of God as a common thing.

Hebrews 12:25 See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. *For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:* **26** *Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.* **27** *And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.* **28** *Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:* **29** *For our God is a consuming fire.*

So are we serving God with reverence and Godly fear, or do we bicker and complain because we think the preaching is too rough. Let me tell you brothers and sisters, God knows your every thought, and you cannot run from Him. He knows your attitudes and your motives and your objectives.

And then the apostle Paul says we are to exhort with all longsuffering... and this word exhort means urge and to caution and then he adds and with doctrine. And we know the word Doctrine mean to teach. So every sermon should be bringing knowledge to the people that they might grow in grace and truth. There is nothing worse than coming to a service where the preacher hasn't studied himself and he just goes up to the pulpit and opens his mouth and starts to talk.

Br. Vayle always told me a minister gets his inspiration in his study. That is why I have always since I began to preach even before I came here to Cincinnati in 1982, years before that I made a vow to the Lord I would enter my study no later than 7:30 pm Saturday night and I promised Him I would not leave it until I had met with him and write down what he placed on my heart to say to the people the next day. Sometimes not leaving my study until 3 or 4 in the morning.

And it has never mattered whether I was sick or not, whether I had a stomach condition, or even if I had double pneumonia. I preached anyway. And God has blessed me, and has poured His Word out to me, and for that I am grateful. Because you reap what you sow. And if you don't feel like going to church, you go anyway and you know you will be blessed.

Man running from presence 65-0217 P:33 *And when you see then in this day now when the Word of God has made these promises of things that we see happening now, then we've got the responsibility to either face up to it or get away from it. You have... You just can't stay neutral; you've got to do something about it. Said... Some move's got to be made. You can't come in that church door and go out the same person you come in. You're either further away or closer to God every time you come in or go out there. Oh, how easy it is for people to shirk these things. And I want us to think of these when we start into the official services tomorrow night, that I want you to notice when something is confronted, if there's a question about it... **If there's a question about it, there's got to be an answer.***

Questions and answers COD 64-0823M P:120 *If you can't go... **If you can't come here at the Tabernacle, get some church somewhere; go to it.** You don't have to take all they do. What part of the bread they're serving, you serve the bread. When they got the garlic, why, you just leave it alone. See? That's right. I can't make them...?... that's exact... Sure, you go to church. Wherever the church door opens, you take off as hard as you can go.*

Leadership 65-1207 P:113 *Now, just examine yourself by the Word, by the Message. Examine what a real Christian should be: rugged, loving, not one of this modern Christianity. Why, it's soft, flexible, half dead, rotten, interbred. See? It's not the real Christianity; live any kind of a way, and belong to church. Don't you want that sweet fellowship with Christ, the Holy Spirit, that you're, the conformity of your own heart to the Word? Move right up into Christ. If you want that, and would desire God to see your stand tonight right in this group of people, if you'll just do it...You say, "Will that mean anything, Brother Branham?"Oh, yes. Sure, it does. **"If you're ashamed of Me before men, I'll be ashamed of you before My Father and the holy Angels. But he that will confess Me and stand for Me in this land, I'll stand for him in that land. I'll confess him before My Father."***

So we see that brother Branham is saying the same thing as the apostle Paul here, that being a Christian is being rugged yet loving, but taking a stand for the Word and letting ourselves die to self and allowing the holy Spirit to live our lives for us.

pp. 14 Then it might be that some would say, "You mean God would purposely do a thing like that?" **He certainly did. He does yet.** He said one day, when He had thousands around Him; He said, "**Except you eat of the flesh of the Son of God, Son of man, and drink His Blood, you have no Life in you.**" What kind of a statement do you think that a medical doctor or a nurse, or any fine intellectual person would think of a statement like that, for a Man that had a ministry like He had? Why, he would say, "**Eat the flesh? That's cannibal. To drink human blood, it's a vampire. In other words, He wants us to be cannibals and vampires.**" And **the whole audience walked away from Him.**

Let's just turn in the scriptures to see for ourselves what br. Branham is talking about here. In **John** chapter **6** we see the background what brother Branham is referring to.

John 6:30 They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe Thee? what dost thou work? **31** Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, **He gave them bread from heaven to eat.** **32** Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but **my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.** **33** For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and **giveth life** unto the world. **34** Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. **35** And Jesus said unto them, **I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.** **36** But I said unto you, That **ye also have seen me, and believe not.** **37** All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. **38** For I came down from heaven, **not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.** **39** And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. **40** And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. **41** The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, **I am the bread which came down from heaven.** **42** And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven? **43** Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, **Murmur not among yourselves.** **44** **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. **45** It is written in the prophets, **And they shall be all taught of God.** Every man therefore that hath heard, **and hath learned of the Father,** cometh unto me. **46** Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father. **47** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. **48** **I am that bread of life.** **49** Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. **50** This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. **51** **I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.** **52** The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, **How can this man give us his flesh to eat?**

Notice this is what brother Branham was talking about. Jesus never explained it, he said what God told him to say and that was all. But look at their reaction to what he said. These people understood not a lick what vindication is. They heard him say something they did not understand why he said it and they couldn't take it and left. And you know, when Jesus heard them griping, he didn't back down, he said it again, and I think even louder this time.

53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. **54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.** **55 For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.** **56 He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.** **57 As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.** **58 This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.** **59 These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum.** **60 Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?** **61 When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?** **62 What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?** **63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.**

Notice, brother Branham in describing this altercation with the seventy disciples says, **15 And there was a ministerial association with Him, of seventy that had been chosen.** **And He turned to them, and He said, "What will you think when you see the Son of man ascending up from where He came from?"** Now, **He didn't explain that. He never explained how.** Paul did that later on. He just said it. See? And then when this... He said, **"What will you say to these ministers when you see the Son of man ascending up from where He come from?"** No doubt them men said, "Now, just a moment. Oh, we eat with Him. We fish with Him. We sleep with Him. We know where He was born. We seen the cradle that He was rocked in. And how does this Man... This is a hard saying." **And the Bible said they didn't walk with Him any more;** they left Him.

64 But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.

Now, you think that Jesus knew from the beginning those who did not believe because of the sign of Messiah, but let me tell you something. Any man of God filled with the Spirit of God knows a make believer from a genuine believer within three minutes of meeting that person.

Brother Branham said in his sermon, **What is the Holy Ghost 59-1216 P:20 "You let me talk to a man two minutes; I can tell you whether he's received the Holy Ghost or not. So can you. It separates them; It's a Mark; It's a Sign. And the Holy Spirit is a Sign. And it's... Any child that refused circumcision in the Old Testament, which was a foreshadow of the Holy Ghost, was cut off from amongst the people. He could not have**

fellowship with the rest of the congregation if he refused to be circumcised. Now, pattern that to today. A person that would refuse to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost can have no fellowship among those that has the Holy Ghost. You just can't do it. You have to be a nature. Like, it's... My mother there used to say, "Birds of a feather flock together." Well, it's an old proverb, but it's a true one. You don't see doves and crows fellowshiping. Their diets are different; their habits are different; their desires are different. And that's the way it is with the world and with a Christian when you have been circumcised by the Holy Spirit, which means to cut off a flesh.

Influence 63-1114 P:17 I believe it was Abraham Lincoln never owned a book in his life, till he was of age, but the Bible and... I think it was either the Foxe's "Book Of Martyrs"... I might not; it might've been another book. I think it was "Pilgrim's Progress," to be right. It was "Pilgrim's Progress," and the Bible. You see what kind of a character that molded? Just let me go in your house and see what kind of pictures you got on your wall. Let me go to your home or your office, and let's see what kind of music's playing. See? What you read, what you look at, I can pretty well tell you what's on the inside of you (See?), because it feeds on that. See? And, oh, to a home, if we made a home more lovely, children wouldn't want to run away. Make things more for them, where they feel welcome and nice and comfortable at home; where, home, they can't hardly wait till they get there. And that's the way home should be.

Now, getting back to what Jesus said in verse **65** *And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.* **66** From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. **67** *Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?* **68** *Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go?* thou hast the words of eternal life. **69** *And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.* **70** *Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?* **71** *He spake of Judas Iscariot the son of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve.*

16 *Then He had twelve left. He chose twelve, and one of them was a devil, He said.* So He turned to them. And there's no one could explain what He had just said. "How are they going *to eat His flesh and drink His Blood?*" And how did He come down when He was born right here on earth?" See? They couldn't understand it. And then He turned to the apostles and He said, "*Do you want to go also?*" And that's when the Apostle Peter made that great statement, "*Lord, to whom would we go?*" (See?) *For we are satisfied. We know assuredly that You and You alone have the Word of Life at this hour. (See?) And we're satisfied of that.*" See, they could not explain it. They... You can't explain faith. It's something that you believe, and it's so solid that there's nothing else will take its place. Therefore, they knowed that the Word that was written for that age that they were living in, the Messianic age, that He fit that place exactly. And what could they do to go back in them cold, formal churches that they come out of? Said, "Where would we go to?" (See?) *We are fully persuaded that You have the Word of Life.*" See? And they couldn't explain it, but they believed it. See?

Now, compare that to this hour when we have so many leaving this Message because of things brother Branham said that are hard to understand. "*Oh, he's a liar they say,*" "*Oh this vision and that vision failed so he is not 100%, and thus a deceiver*" others say.

I'm sure that is the same thing they said of *Isaiah* and *Jeremiah*, and *Ezekiel* in their days as well. Like when Isaiah said "*a virgin shall conceive*", yet it didn't happen for another 740 years, and when it did happen how many people actually knew about it?

But notice that brother Branham tells us that God has his anointed men to speak His Word in such a way that he says weeds down the crowd because it is not for everyone. It is only for His elect.

17a *And Jesus said that to weed down His crowd (See?), till He could get the group together. And out of all those people, they, only eleven of them then understood actually Who He was. They knowed that He was God and God alone.*

Notice, seventy left him leaving 12, that means 82 ministers had been walking with him daily, and then he got tough with the Word and didn't bother to explain it, and so seventy left leaving twelve, and one of them was a devil, John tells us. so up to this point brother Branham is only giving us a back drop or back ground to set the scene for his sermon which he will be speaking on the Unveiling of God.

Listen to his next words here. 17b "*Now, my subject this morning is to reveal or unveil that God. God has always, in every age, has hid behind a veil: all ages. But He's been God all the time. See? But He's kept Himself hid from the world, and reveals Himself to His elected, like the apostles at that day. Now, that was God speaking in Christ. Now, man has always; it's been the nature of man; he sought to see physically that God. He's always wanted to see It. Man has made creatures that look like Him, they think of The Indians worship the sun. And we find in Africa different forms of animals and so forth. And up at the totem poles in Alaska and different forms that they think this God is in. As Paul spoke there at Athens that time on Mars' hill and told them that they were superstitious concerning this unknown God, that they knowed He was there but yet they didn't know Him.*

So we see brother Branham laying out the back ground of this sermon, showing us that God veils himself in a certain way that man will never be able to see him. That is why brother Vayle always told me, "*Brian, get your eyes off the vessel, don't ever look at the vessel, keep your eyes on the God that's using the vessel.*" and that is sound advice, because it is always the vessel that blinds the people. IT is always the vessel that veils God from the people. But always remember, God is the Word, and the Vessel that is full of God's Word is veiling God to the people, never forget that.

In John chapter **3** Jesus is speaking to Nicodemus, who just couldn't understand who Jesus was. he knew he had to be from God because he did see the vindication or God's presence with Jesus, but the vessel is what got him all confused.

John 3:11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness. **12** If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? **13** And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but **he that came down from heaven**, even the Son of man which is in heaven. **14** And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: **15** That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. **16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. **17** For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. **18** **He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already**, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. **19** And **this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light**, (in other words, men loved darkness in a greater measure than they loved light.) *because their deeds were evil.*

Now it is very interesting that this word deeds was translated from the very same word "**ergon**" that the word "**works**" was translated in **John 14:12** where Jesus said, "**He that believeth in me, the works that I do shall He do also**"... *the ergon that I do shall you do also*"

20 For **every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light**, lest his deeds should be **reproved**. Look, you can't put it any better than Jesus said here, "**they won't come to the light because they cannot take correction of the Word**. **21** But **he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God**."

From his sermon **Book of Exodus 2 55-1006E P:43** brother Branham said, "*And when Moses stood still to see the salvation of God, **the great Pillar of Fire that was hanging before them**, had led them into this trap, moved, went over, and stood between Israel and Pharaoh's army. And **they had rejected the light**. And **any man who rejects the Light, receives the same thing they did**. It become midnight blackness to them. **The same Light that made a light for the children of Israel to walk by, blinded the eyes of Pharaoh and his army**. And the same Holy Ghost Gospel that you call nonsense, that'll carry the Church to glory, darkens the eyes of the modern theologian tonight.*

Now, let's read what the apostle Paul says about this in **Ephesians 4: 17** *This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, **18** Having **the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart**: **19** Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. **20** But ye have not so learned Christ;*

Notice in **Ephesians 4:18** this thought that the Apostle Paul tells us here is of utmost importance for us to understand. He said, *Having their understanding darkened, they become alienated from the life of God How/ through the willfull ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:* Remember, heart always mans understanding, so their understanding is blinded.

So we see here that the darkening of their understanding means their understanding goes further and further away from light as time goes on, and through this process they begin to alienate which means to separate themselves from the very Life of God. Why? Because God dwells in the Light. Now, why is this possible? Because they are walking away from the light instead of into it. And **1 John 1:7** tells us "*if you walk in the Light as He is in the Light, you have fellowship with one another and the Blood of Jesus Christ cleanses you from all sin.*" So to walk from the light throws you into **utter darkness** and there is not blood to cleanse you. And further more it shows you are trying to hide something.

Just as we see Cain was trying to hide his sin by walking out of the presence of God in **Genesis** chapter **4:8** *And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. 9 And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?* And right there he lied to God. Can you imagine that? knowingly lying to the God who knows the hearts of all men? **10** *And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.* In other words, I know exactly where you buried him. You can't hide your sin from me. **11** *And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand; 12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth. 13 And Cain said unto the LORD, My punishment is greater than I can bear. 14 Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me. 15 And the LORD said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.*

Now, for those who think the mark of the beast is some computer chip placed in a man's hand and head, then do you believe that God placed a computer chip in Cain? The mark of Cain was the mark of the beast, because that is who his daddy was.

And notice what Cain did, **16** *And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.*

And in this hour we see the stage set again for a repeat of make believers going out from the presence of the Lord.

2 Thessalonians 1:6-10 *Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when **the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels**, (There's your picture right there) **8 In flaming fire** (There's your Pillar of Fire) **taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction out from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 10 When he shall come to be glorified **in** his saints**, This is the hour when the doxa of God expresses or manifests in the life of his saints. *and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.**

Now, remember in **Ephesians 4:17-18** *This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart.* Notice how it says that these other people walk... ***In the vanity of their own minds.***

So this tells you that **they are not governed by the Word of God**, and neither is God's Word in their minds. But **what governs them and directs them is their own thinking**. And of Course we know what God thinks of that. In the Book of Proverbs we read, *"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the way thereof is the way of death."*

But now we see here in **Ephesians 4** that these men ***walk by their own choosing***, by their own mindset or as Jesus said in **John 8** they ***do what they understand*** which is ***what their father (The Devil did before them)*** and notice this is because ***their understanding has become darkened*** which means it has literally been covered so as to prevent it from seeing or knowing and thus understanding. And because their understanding has become closed off to the understanding of God, they thus become alienated or separated from the God Life in the Word.

Now, in closing never forget these words. Jesus taught us ***"My words are Spirit and they are life"***. When you cut yourself off from fresh manna is when the life begins to leave.

Anointed ones at end time 65-0725M P:168 *think that Life would ever talk--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. "And the thorns and thistles which is nigh unto rejection, whose end is to be burned..."*

World again falling apart 63-1127 P:49 *But the church sets spiritually dead, gone, the hour's passed them. They're in a slump and hardly know what to do, one running this way and one that way. And here every promise that God made in the Bible, every one of them is laying there just as good as they ever was. It's the hour. What makes the church like this? We're in the age of the Laodicea, when she has to come this way. This is the hour for it.*

Let us pray...