

## What the Holy Ghost was Given for no 27

### *Resurrection - The Alpha Convocation*

Brian Kocourek, Pastor - March 18, 2015

**Genesis 1:14** *And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: 15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. 16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. 17 And **God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,** 18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and **to divide the light from the darkness:** and God saw that it was good. 19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.*

Let us pray...

This evening we will begin a look at the season of the resurrection since this Friday is the 20th of March, 2015 or 29th Day of Adar in the Jewish calendar. It is also the day that a complete solar eclipse is forecasted upon the earth. Even though it is called a total solar eclipse it will only be total in certain parts of the earth, but it will be a partial in other places. It is called a total if it happens anywhere on earth.

Even though a total solar eclipse is a noteworthy event, March 20 will be extra special because it is also the **March Equinox!** On that date there will be a total solar eclipse that will coincide with Northern Hemisphere's Spring Equinox and Southern Hemisphere's Autumn or Fall Equinox, and this has not happened since **1662** and it will not happen again until March 20, 2034. If it goes three hours like some are predicting, then it will mean definitely mean something very special.

Total eclipses of the Sun happen when a new Moon comes between the Sun and the Earth covering the entire Sun. On March 20, 12 hours before the eclipse begins, the moon will be at its point closest to the earth on its orbit around it. This makes the Moon of March 20, 2015 a Super New Moon.

Two weeks after March 20, 2015, on April 4, 2015, a lunar eclipse will take place. This eclipse is the third in a series of 4 lunar eclipses that form the Blood Moon tetrad, all falling on Jewish High Holy Days. It will be visible from parts of North America, South America, Asia and Australia.

I do not know the significance, However the next day is day one of the Jewish Calendar, it is Nissan one. God commanded Moses in the Book of Exodus to make a new calendar. We are going to read from the Book of Exodus and always remember, in any Exodus there is a coming our from and a going into. never forget that. And this book of exodus is very important for us to know, because there are many things that were done, and commanded By God to be done that represent the time of the Resurrection and Rapture of the church. That is why we will pick up tonight at 12. By the study of the Book of Exodus we should get a good view into the time and season of the resurrection.

**Exodus 12:1** *And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, 2 **This month shall be unto you the beginning of months:** it shall be **the first month of the year to you.** 3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In **the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb,** according to the house of their fathers, **a lamb for an house:** 4 And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: 6 And ye shall keep it up **until the fourteenth day of the same month:***

To digest what we have just read, God is telling Moses that on the 10th day of the first Month of the New calendar, the children of Israel are to set aside a lamb for a house, and they are not to allow it to fall asleep for 4 days, and then at evening time on that 14th day of the month they are to slay it and eat it and leave nothing until the morning, and whatever they do not eat they must burn before the morning.) *the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.* (notice the significance, 2 x 7 days and then they will kill it at the evening time.) 7 *And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses,* (notice this is the sign of a cross signifying how the Lamb of God will die.) *wherein they shall eat it. 8 And they shall eat the flesh in that night,...*

Notice this is not a morning or noon time event, it is to be done at the evening time, with the eating to commence when it turns dark or night sets in. This is the way brother Branham set forth for the communion to be taken at His tabernacle and brother Vayle did the same. We have followed in accordance with that tradition in this church since our inception 33 years ago.)

*roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. 9 Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof. 10 And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.*

This is why we have the deacons make sure there is no bread or wine left over after the communion service is complete. Other wise if there is, then the deacons are commanded to burn what is left before the morning, to fulfill the Scripture.

*11 And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD'S Passover.*

This is the first : where God actually gives us a definitive name for the event. It is the Lords Passover, which the Lord begins in the next : to describe what is to take place on that event.

*12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, (the night of the Passover feast, the night of the communion, so to speak, the 14th day of Nissan,) and I will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.* Notice then that the Passover speaks of the time of God's judgment upon the unbelieving world.

*13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.*

Now, this is the first place where we see that not only is this ceremony a time when men were to reflect upon the judgments of God in the earth, but it was a promise from God Himself that if He saw evidence of the Passover Lamb slain and consumed by each house, that it would mean deliverance from those judgments for those house where the Token was applied.

*14 And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.*

The word memorial means something that is created or done to honor a person **who has died** or to **remind people of an event in which many people died**. So memorial speaks of a reminder of death. And notice it is to be kept throughout all generations, that means even to this day.

*15 Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread;* (These seven days represent the seven church ages) *even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses:* (notice "even the first day, and the Apostle Paul made it quite clear that to add to what he taught or take away, you would be cursed. So from the first Age until the seventh to add to or take away from the Pure Word will bring the curse.) *for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.*

Now, leaven represents doctrine of man that is added to the pure Word. Jesus tells us this in Matthew 16.

**Matthew 16:6** *Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees. 7 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have taken no bread. 8 Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread? 9 Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? 10 Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? 11 How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees? 12 Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.*

Now, back to exodus 12:16 *And in the first day there shall be an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you;*

Now, I want you to notice that in the first and seventh Age there is to be a Holy convocation or gathering. And during the time of this gathering there is to be no work done.

*No manner of work shall be done in them, save that which every man must eat, that only may be done of you.* So during the time of this convocation there will be no activity but eating. Now, the word convocation means a gathering, and this will be a Holy Gathering.

**Future home 64-0802 P:114** *You don't come by laws, and rituals, and orders; you come by predestination. Amen. There's the genuine holy convocation. See, and we're ending the seventh church age, church age, the Pentecostal age. Do you see it? We're entering the holy convocation. We are entering into that real, genuine eternity, where the Church is called, not to some station, some denomination, but into eternity with their eternal King. See? We don't have it at all. There's no such a thing as days and things and times. You passed into Eternity, where you come from. You was there to begin with.*

Now, I would like to stop here for a moment and review what we are looking at. He said in the first and seventh there would be a Holy Convocation, and we already established that this means a Holy Gathering.

Jesus spoke of such a gathering in **Matthew 18:20** *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*

And we see the Saints had gathered together to receive the Holy Ghost in **Acts 2:1** *And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.* (as the song says, "They were gathered in the upper room all praying in his name, they were baptized with the Holy Ghost and power for service came." So they were gathered. There was a Holy Convocation.) **2** *And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

Now, I want to show you how there has already been one Holy Convocation on the day of Pentecost where they were gathered in the upper room, and this led to the climax of the Old Testament saints gathering together in the first Age as well.

**Matthew 27:45** *Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. 46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? 47 Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said, This man calleth for Elias. 48 And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. 49 The rest said, Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save him. 50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. 51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; 52 And the graves were opened; and many (Polus, many, much, a great deal of) bodies of the saints which slept arose, 53 And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many, (a great deal of people)*

O, what a time that must have been. many Old Testament saints came out of the grave and appeared also to many. Now, Paul tells us that there were seen by as many as 500 people who witnessed Jesus resurrection, and that is no small witness, brother.

**Ephesians 4:8** *Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.*

**Rapture the 65-1204 P:98** *David said over there, "Lift up, ye everlasting gates, and be ye lifted up." He led captivity captive and give gifts unto men. When the Old Testament saints went in with Him, they said, "Who is this King of righteousness?" "The Lord of glory, mighty in host--mighty host." Here they come in, marching. Jesus led captivity captive. And here He comes with the Old Testament saints, and went into the new gates up there, and said, "Lift up, ye everlasting gates, and be ye lifted up, and let the King of glory come in." The voice come from the inside, said, "Who is the King of glory?" "The Lord, mighty in battle." The gates flew open. And Jesus the Conqueror led captivity captive them that had believed on Him, and the Word had come to them. There the Old Testament saints laying in there waiting. He led captivity captive, ascended on high, took the Old Testament saints, and went in. There's one rapture already passed. The next rapture takes place is II Thessalonians for the church, the Bride, to be resurrected to be raptured into glory. "We which are alive and remain (That's the body that's left on earth.) will not prevent or hinder them which are asleep; for the trumpet of God shall sound first, and the dead in Christ shall rise. (See?) And we which are alive and remain shall caught up together with them."*

**Entombment 57-0420 P:44** *Caiaphas standing there, saying, "You know what? There was something happened the other day, just look at this mess this temple's in. There's... We're going to have to get someone to sew that curtain up. Look at those, sacrifice box turned over. What happened? Was that guy an astrologer? Was He a witch? Or, what happened? Say, come here, Josephus, who is that young couple standing there? "Abraham said, "Sarah, we're recognized. We better get out." "Appeared to many." That wasn't all of it. In closing, watch. One day when after He had, they'd visit: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all of them had visit the homeland. When Jesus ascended up... You say, "Brother Branham, is that mythical?" No, sir. I'll show you the Scriptures in a minute. When He begin to go up, they only seen Him, but the Old Testament saints went with Him, for the Bible said that He led captivity captive and give gifts unto men. And I can see Him as He goes up, and joins with His church.*

**How can I overcome 63-0825M P:95** *If we suffer for Christ and His Word, we will reign with Him; for He is the Word. Remember, if we suffer for Him and His Word, we'll reign with Him in His Word. Notice, He, our Example, overcome and then ascended up after He conquered death, hell, sickness, grave, everything He conquered, then He ascended up, and led captivity captive, give gifts unto men. That was with the Old Testament saints that had overcome.*

Now, let's go to **1 Corinthians 15** and read from a chapter that deals primarily concerning the resurrection and change of the body.

In **1 Corinthians 15** The apostle Paul also tells us of this event that occurred at the conclusion of the Alpha ministry of Jesus Christ. Now, the first 22 verses deals specifically with the first resurrection, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Verse 23 through the end of the chapter deals with the second half of the first resurrection which is scheduled for this hour.

**1 Corinthians 15:1.** *Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 By which also ye are*

saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: 5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: 6 **After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once;** of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. 7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. 8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. 11 Therefore whether it were I or they, so we preach, and so ye believed. 12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: 14 And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. 15 Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. 16 For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: 17 And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. 18 Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. 19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. 20 **But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept.** 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Now, we will skip the rest for now, because that pertains to the next half of the resurrection which is set forth for this the seventh day, the next Holy Convocation, which I believe we are in that season for it at any moment now.

I would like to pick up our reading from Brother Branham's sermon, "**What the Holy Ghost was Given for**" and we will begin reading at paragraph **82** for our thoughts tonight.

**82.** One more Scripture, if you want to write it down: **John 12:24.** Let me quote it to you right quick. Jesus said, "If a corn of wheat falls into the ground, except it die, it cannot bring forth another life." Now, look. One closing remark now. And remember then, it is absolutely, now, to you people, **It's absolutely essential, and necessary, and compelling, and compulsory that you receive the Holy Ghost now, for if you don't, you can't come in the resurrection.** Now, watch. **God cannot break His laws;** we know that. He follows His laws. Now, a grain of wheat, or corn, we'll take, like Jesus said there. 'Course a corn in the Bible (I was just reading it today.) refers to flax, or any kind of a seed, but... Wheat, barley, maize, or anything, it's a corn. But when a corn of wheat falls into the ground... Now, there's... All of us here has seen, know this happens. A corn of wheat, or a grain of corn can look as perfect as it can be. And you put it in the ground, and if that corn... It has perpetual life; it'll go down today, reproduce itself in a stalk, and come back down, and go up again, and come back down. **It's perpetual life. If that corn hasn't got the germ of life in it, no matter how beautiful it looks, it'll never raise. It'll go to the ground**

*and rot, and that's it. Part of it (the materials) can be used for fertilize and things in the ground. But as far as it ever living again, it'll never live unless it's got perpetual life in it. Anyone knows that. You just can't.*

Let's just turn to this scripture and read for ourselves for a moment before we continue.

**John 12:24** *Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.*

Now, the Apostle Paul said in **Romans 8:11** *But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.*

And I hope you can see from our reading tonight where brother Branham makes it very apparent that without having the same Spirit that was in Jesus you will never partake of this next Holy Convocation.

**83** *There can be two men, both of them just alike. One of them can be a good man; he could do good works; he could do so forth; but except that man has **Eternal Life in him**, he'll never rise in the resurrection. He can't do it; there's nothing there to raise. There's nothing to bring him up; there's no life. So you see, my dear brother, my dear sister, except a man be borned again, he can in no wise come back into this Kingdom. He can't. "Except **this Corn of wheat falls into the ground and dies...**" He's talking of **Himself**. But He had, not perpetual life; **He had Eternal Life**. And the Life He gave to you, **that you might have the same kind of Life...**Now, if you've just got human life, enough to move you around, lust... "**She that liveth in pleasure is dead while she is alive.**" You can't rise. You might be the most popular girl in school. You might be the most popular girl at the card game of your society. You might be the best dressed woman in the country. You might be the prettiest. You might be the best built. You might be a idol to your husband. You might be all these things, which that's wonderful. But, sister, **unless you have the Holy Ghost in you, which is Eternal Life, at the end of this road you are finished.** And I don't care what you look like, or how these things are, or how unpopular, or popular you are, how pretty, or how ugly; **if you've got Eternal Life, you'll live forever and forever.***

Therefore, this evening we are examining this scene as brother Branham speaks of here in What the Holy Ghost was Given for and he tells us that if we are not born again and filled with the Spirit of God, you will miss this event called the Resurrection. And as I have already pointed out this evening it is the Holy Convocation or gathering for the resurrection we are looking at here.

We know the first half of this event has already taken place back when Jesus arose from the dead, as we saw in **Matthew 27**.

But now, we have a promise of another Holy Convocation, another Holy Gathering that I wouldn't want to miss for the world.

**I Thessalonians 4:13** ¶ *But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus **will***

**God bring with him** (or Himself) So you see it is God that is coming at this time with a shout. *15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming* (That word is Parousia or Presence) *of the Lord* (WHICH Lord? The One True Lord God, and Paul is talking about the presence of that One Lord, the Lord God Himself.) *that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent* (or come before) *them which are asleep. 16 For The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout*(A message), *with the voice of the archangel* (That's the resurrection), *and with the trump of God* (That's the catching away): *and* (then) *the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then* (after that), *we which are alive and remain* (or have survived) *shall be caught up together with them* (together with who? The living with those who had already passed away and have rose from the dead) *shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these word*

Now, as we have read of the first Holy Convocation where the Entire Old testament saints were raised from the dead, and were seen by many witnesses in the Alpha resurrection we now will focus on the Omega Resurrection, and the Omega Holy Convocation. So then there has to be Scripture speaking of such a Holy Gathering in the seventh age as well. But I'm going to leave that for Sunday morning,

God bless you.

Let's bow our heads in prayer.