The Spoken Word is The Original Seed
(A Trial)

1 Peter 4:12-13
12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the **fiery trial which is to try you**, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

God says this church of the Laodicean Age is **"wretched."** That word comes from two Greek words which mean **"endure"** and **"trial."** And it has

nothing to do with the **trials** that come to a true Christian for God describes a Christian in trial as **"blessed"** and his attitude one of **joy** whereas this

description is phrased as "wretched and miserable." How strange. In this age of plenty, in this age of progress, in this age of abundance, how can there

be trials? Well now, it is strange; but in this age of plenty and opportunity, when everyone has so much and there is so much more to be had, what with all

the inventions to do our work and so many things to give us pleasure, SUDDENLY, we find mental illness taking such a toll as to alarm the nation. When

everybody ought to be happy, with really nothing to be unhappy about, millions are taking sedatives at night, pep pills in the morning, rushing to doctors,

entering institutions, and trying to drown out unknown fears by alcohol. Yes, this age boasts of its tremendous stores of worldly goods, but the people

are less happy than ever. This age boasts of its spiritual attainments, but the people are less sure of themselves than ever. This age boasts of better

moral values and it is more corrupt than any age since the flood. It talks about its knowledge and science, but it is fighting a losing battle in all fields,

for the human mind and soul and spirit cannot comprehend or keep abreast with all the changes that have come upon the earth. In one generation

we have gone all the way from the horse and buggy age to the space age, and we are proud and boastful about it; but inside is a dark void cavern that

is crying out in torment, and WITHOUT A KNOWN REASON men's hearts are failing for fear and the world is so darkened that this age could well be

called the age of neurotics. It boasts, but it cannot back it up. It cries peace, and there is no peace. It cries that it has a great amplitude of all things, but it

keeps burning with desire like an unsatisfied fire! "There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked."
An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - 9 - The Laodicean Church Age

Revelation 3:18-19, "I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that

the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent."

The counsel of God is terse. It is to the point. He directs this last day church to one hope. That hope is HIMSELF. He says, "Come to Me and buy."

It is evident from this phrase "buy of Me" that the Laodicean church is not at all dealing with Jesus for the Spiritual products of the Kingdom of God.

Their transactions **cannot be Spiritual.** They may think that they are Spiritual, but how can they be? The works in their midst are definitely not as Paul

would say, "God in you willing and doing of His own good pleasure," Philippians 2:13. Thus what about all these churches, schools, hospitals, missionary

ventures, etcetera? God is not in them as long as they are denominational **seed** and **spirit**, and not the Seed and Spirit of God. "Buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that you may be rich." Now these people had plenty of gold, but it was the wrong kind. It was

that gold that bought men's lives and destroyed them. It was the gold that warped and twisted human character, for its **love** was the root of all evil.

Revelation 18:1-14, “And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his

glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of

every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the

earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another

voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have

reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her

works: in the cup which she hath filled, fill to her double. How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give

her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning,

and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God Who judgeth her. And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication

and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, standing afar off for the fear of her torment,

saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come. And the merchants of the earth shall weep and

mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: the merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and

fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of

brass, and iron, and marble, and cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and

sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men. And the fruits that thy soul lusteth after are departed from thee, and all things which were

dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all." **This is exactly the organized churches of the last day,** for it says in

verse 4, "Come out of her, MY PEOPLE." The rapture has not yet taken place. The bride is not yet gone when these terrible conditions in this rich, false

church exist. But, there is a gold of God. I Peter 1:7, "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth."

The gold of God is a **Christlike character** produced in the fiery furnace of affliction. That is the right kind of gold. But what kind of gold does the church have

today? It has but the worldly gold that will perish. It is rich. It is complacent. It has made affluence the major criterion of spirituality. The evidence of God's

blessing and the correctness of doctrine, etcetera, is now based upon how many rich folks are involved in it. “You had better come before it is too late,” saith

the Lord, “and buy of Me gold tried in the fire, and then you will be truly rich.” Are we getting it? Listen to me, “Naked (physically) we came into the world,

but naked (spiritually) we will NOT leave it.” Oh no, we are going to take **something** with us. What that something is, is ALL we can take with us, nothing

less and nothing more. So we had better be real careful now to see that we take something that will make us right before God. So, then, what will we

take with us? We will take our CHARACTER, brother, that is what we will take with us. Now what kind of character will you take with you? Will it be

like HIS Whose character was moulded by **suffering in the fiery furnace of affliction,** or will it be the softness of this characterless Laodicean people?

It is up to each one of us, for in that day every man will bear his own burden. Now, I said that the city of Laodicea was a wealthy city. It minted gold coins

with inscriptions on both sides. Gold coins characterized the age — a flourishing commerce existed because of it. Today, the two-headed gold

coin is with us. We buy ourselves out and we buy ourselves in. In the church, we attempt to accomplish the same. We buy ourselves out of sin

and buy ourselves into heaven — or so we say. But God does not say that. The church owns such phenomenal wealth, that at any given time she can

take over the entire world system of commerce, and indeed a leader in the World Council of Churches has openly prophesied that the church in the

foreseeable future should, could, and will do just that. But their golden tower of Babel shall fall. Only the gold tried in the fire shall endure. And that is

what the church has constantly done through the ages. She has left the Word of God and taken her own creeds and dogmas; she has organized and

joined herself to the world. Thus is she naked, and God is judging her lewdness. The only way she can get out of this dread situation is by obeying the Lord

to come back to His Word. Revelation 18:4, “Come out of her, My people.” II Corinthians 6:14-18, “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for

what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with

Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as

God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye

separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters,

saith the Lord Almighty." There is a price to pay for those garments, and that is the price of separation. "And anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou

mightest see." He does not say that you have to buy this eyesalve. Oh no. There is no price tag on the Holy Spirit. "Received ye the Spirit by the works of

the law, or by the hearing of faith?" Galatians 3:2. Without the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, you can never have your eyes opened to a true Spiritual

revelation of the Word. A man without the Spirit is **blind** to God and His truth. When I think of this eyesalve opening people's eyes, I can't help but

recall when I was a little boy in Kentucky. My brother and I slept in the attic on a straw pallet. The cracks in the house would let the drafts blow through.

Sometimes in the winter it would get so cold we would wake up in the morning with such colds in our eyes that our eyes would be shut tight with

inflammation. We would cry out to mother, and up she would come with some hot coon grease and rub our eyes until the hardened matter was gone, and

then we could see. You know there have been some awful cold drafts blowing on the church in this generation, and I'm afraid her eyes have sort of

frozen shut and she is blind to what God has for her. She needs some hot oil of the Spirit of God to open her eyes. Unless she receives the Spirit of God she

will go on substituting program for power and creed for Word. She counts numbers for success, rather than to look for fruit. The doctors of theology have

shut the door to faith and forbade all to enter. They neither go in, nor let anyone else go in. Their theology comes out of a text book on psychology

written by some unbeliever. There is a text book on psychology, one we all need; **it is the Bible.** It is written by God and contains God's psychology.

You don't need any doctor to explain it to you. Receive ye the Holy Spirit and let Him do the explaining. He wrote the Book and He can tell you

what is in it and what it means. I Corinthians 2:9-16, “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. But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the

deep things of God. 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. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us

of God. 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. 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. But he that is Spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may

instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ." Now if all the things that the Spirit is crying out against are true of this age, we need someone to come on the

scene as did John the Baptist and challenge the church as never before. And that is exactly what is coming to our age. Another John the Baptist is

coming and he will cry out exactly as did the first forerunner. We know that he will because of what the next verse says. "As many as I love, I rebuke

and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent." Revelation 3:19. This is the same message that John had as he cried out in that religious wilderness

of Pharisees, Sadducees, and heathen, "REPENT!" There was no other course then; there is no other course now. There was no other way to get back to

God then, and there is no other way now. It is REPENT. Change your mind. Turn around. REPENT, for why will ye die? Let us examine the

first phrase, “as many as I love.” In the Greek the emphasis is upon the personal pronoun “I.” He does not say as many would feel He should say,

“as many as love ME.” No sir. We must never try to make Jesus the OBJECT of **human** love in this verse. No! It is the MANY that are the LOVED ONES

of God. It is HIS love, in question, NOT ours. So once again we find ourselves glorying in His salvation, His **purpose** and His **plan**, and we are

confirmed even more strongly in the truth of the doctrine of the Sovereignty of God. Even as He said in Romans 9:13, “Jacob have I loved.” Does it now

obtain that since He loved ONLY the MANY, is He therefore in a state of complacency, awaiting the love of those who have not drawn nigh Him? By no

means is this so, for He declared also in Romans 9:13, “Esau have I hated.” And in verse 11 the Spirit boldly calls out, “For the children not being born,

neither having done any good or evil, THAT THE PURPOSE OF GOD ACCORDING TO ELECTION MIGHT STAND, not of works, but of Him that

calleth." This love is **"Elective Love."** It is His love for His elect. And His love for them is apart from HUMAN MERIT for it says that the purpose of God

stands in election which is exactly opposite to works or anything man has in himself. Because "BEFORE THE CHILDREN WERE BORN" He had ALREADY

said, "Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated." And now He says to His own, "As many as I love, I REBUKE AND CHASTEN." To rebuke is to reprove.

To reprove is to "expose with a view to correction." Chasten does not mean to punish. It means to **"discipline because the subject's amendment is**

in mind." This is exactly what we find in Hebrews 12:5-11, "And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son,

despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him: for whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son

whom He receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the Father chasteneth not? But if ye be

without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us,

and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us

after their own pleasure; but He for our profit, that we might be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but

grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby." Herein is now set forth the

love of God. He desired in love a family of His own, a family of sons — sons like Himself. There before Him lies all mankind as ONE lump of clay. Out of

that same lump He will now make vessels unto honor and unto dishonor. The CHOOSING will be His own choosing. Then those chosen **ones,** born of

His Spirit will be **trained** to conform to His image in their walk. He REPROVES with all long-suffering and gentleness and mercy. He CHASTENS with nail

scarred hands. Sometimes this Potter must take the vessel He is working on and thoroughly break it down in order that He may rebuild it exactly as He

desires it. BUT IT IS LOVE. THAT IS HIS LOVE. ANOTHER WAY OF HIS LOVE THERE IS NOT. THERE CANNOT BE. Oh, little flock, do not fear.

This age is fast closing. As it does those tares will be bound together, and as a three-fold cord is not easily broken, they will have a tremendous three-fold

strength of political, physical, and spiritual (Satanical) power, and they will seek to destroy the bride of Christ. She **will suffer**, but she will endure.

Fear not those things that are coming upon the earth, for He "Who loved His own, loveth them unto the end." John 13:1. "Be zealous and repent." Now

this false church has zeal; make no mistake about that. Her zeal has literally been that of the Jews, John 2:17, “The zeal of thine house hath eaten Me

up.” But it is a wrong zeal. It is for the house of their own building. It is for their own creeds, dogmas, organizations, their own righteousness. They have

put the Word out for their own ideas. They deposed the Holy Ghost and made men into leaders. They have put aside Eternal Life as a Person, and make it

good works, or even church conformity rather than good works. But God is calling for another zeal. It is the zeal to cry “I AM WRONG.” Now who is going to

say that he is wrong? What is it that all these denominations are based upon? — the claim to originality, and that of God, — the claim that they are

right. Now they ALL cannot be right. In fact NOT ONE of them is right. They are whited sepulchres, full of dead men’s bones. They have no life. They

have no vindication. God has never made Himself known in any organization. They say they are right because they are the ones that are saying it, but

saying it does not make it so. They need the vindicated “Thus saith the Lord” of God, and they don’t have it. Now let me say this here. I don’t

believe that God is calling only to the false church to repent. In this verse He is talking to His elect. They have some repenting to do, too. Many of His

children are still in those false churches. They are those of whom it speaks in Ephesians 5:14, “Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and

Christ shall give thee light.” To be asleep is not to be dead. These are sleeping amongst the dead. They are out there in the dead denominations. They are

floating along with them. God cries out, “WAKE UP! Repent of your folly.” Here they are lending their influence, giving their time and their money, actually

their very lives to these antichrist organizations, and all the while thinking it is all right. They need to repent. They must repent. They need to have a

change of mind and turn toward truth. Yes, this is the age that **most** needs to repent. But will it? Will it bring back the Word? Will it again **enthrone** the Holy

Spirit in men's lives? Will it again revere Jesus as the ONLY Saviour? I say not, for the next verse reveals the astounding and shocking truth of the

close of this age.

Revelation 3:10, "Because thou hast **kept** the word of My patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to

try them that dwell upon the earth." What does He mean by the "word of My patience"? Hebrews 6:13-15, "For when God made promise to Abraham,

because He could swear by no greater, He sware by Himself, saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee. And so, after he had

patiently endured, he obtained the promise." You see the Spirit is speaking about the Word of God which is given to us. To wait for the fulfilment of that

Word required patience even as it did in the case of Abraham. He endured as seeing Him Who is invisible. He was patient and then the Word finally

was fulfilled. This is the way God teaches His people patience. Why, if He fulfilled His Word in physical manifestations the very instant you prayed, you

would never learn patience, but would become even more impatient with life. Let me show you this truth even more fully set forth. Hebrews 11:17, “By faith

Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises (the Word of God) offered up his only begotten son.” There it is:

Abraham was tried AFTER he received the Word of Promise. Most think that as soon as we pray in Jesus’ Name over the good promises of God that

there could not be a trial. But here it says that Abraham was tried after he received the promise. That is exactly correct according to the Psalmist

referring to Joseph, 105:19, “Until the time that his word came: the Word of the Lord tried him.” God gives us exceeding great and precious promises. He

has promised to fulfill them. He will. But from the time we pray until the time we get the answer we must learn to receive patience into our souls for only

in patience do we possess life. May God help us to learn this lesson even as we know the people of this sixth age learned patience. We read the history of

the lives of these great Christians; what a contrast we see between their lives and ours for they were so patient and quiet, and today we are all but overcome

in over-impatience and haste. He goes on to say to them, “Because you have taken my Word and lived it, and thereby become patient, I will keep you from

the hour of temptation, which shall come upon the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.” Now here again we see the overlapping of the two ages;

for this promise has to do with the end of the Gentile period which culminates in the Great Tribulation. “I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation,

which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." This verse is not a declaration that the true church will go into and through the

tribulation. If it meant that it would have said that. But it said, "I will keep thee from the hour of temptation." This temptation is exactly like the

temptation in Eden. It will be a very inviting proposition held up in direct opposition to God's commanded Word, and yet from the standpoint of

human reasoning it will be so very right, so enlightening and life-giving as to fool the world. Only the very elect will **not** be fooled. The temptation will

come as follows. The ecumenical move that has started on what seems such a beautiful and blessed principle (fulfilling Christ's prayer that we all might be

one) becomes so strong politically that she bears pressure upon the government to cause all to join with her either directly or through adherence to

principles enacted into law so that no people will be recognized as actual churches unless under direct

or indirect domination of this council. Little groups will lose charters, privileges, etcetera, until they lose all property and spiritual rights with the people. For example, right now unless the local ministerial

association approves in many, if not most cities, one cannot rent a building for religious services. To become chaplains in the armed services, hospitals,

etcetera, it is now almost mandatory to be recognized as acceptable to the trinitarian ecumenical groups. As this pressure increases, **and**

it will, it will be harder to resist, for to resist is to lose privilege. And so many will be tempted to go along, for they will feel it is better to serve God publicly in

the framework of this organization than not to serve God at all publicly. But they err. To believe the devil's lie is to serve Satan, even though you may want to

call him Jehovah. But the elect will not be deceived. Furthermore, the elect will not only be **kept**, but as this move becomes the "IMAGE ERECTED TO THE

BEAST," the saints will be gone in the rapture. And this little delightful, winsome movement that started

out in fellowship at Ephesus will become the monster of Satan that defiles and deceives the whole world. For the church system of the Roman Catholic and the Protestant in coming **together** will

control the whole **wealth** of the world system and force the whole earth into its religious trap, or will kill them, by refusing them the privilege of buying and

selling whereby they would make a living. This will be accomplished simply, for the harlot's daughters are all but gone back to her. In the meantime, Rome

has acquired nearly all the supplies of gold. The Jews have the bonds and all the paper. At the right time, the harlot will destroy the present day money

system by calling in all the paper, and demanding gold. With no gold, the system falls. The Jews will be trapped and come into the alliance, and the harlot

church will take over the **whole world.**

An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - 8 - The Philadelphian Church Age

"I know your faith." Now he does not say here as He did to the church in Pergamos, "you hold MY faith."

He is not talking about His faith now, but He is commending them for their **faithfulness**. And as He does He also mentions their "patience." Now faithfulness and patience go together. In fact

patience is the outcome of faithfulness, for it says in James 1:3, "The trying of your faith worketh patience." There is absolutely no other way in which

to gain patience. It has to come by the **trial of our faith**. Romans 5:3, "Tribulation worketh patience." How highly God regards this outworking of our

patience is seen in James 1:4, "But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, lacking nothing." God's will for us is

Perfection. And that perfection is patience — waiting **on** God and waiting **for** God. This is the process of character development. How highly God has

commended these saints of the Dark Ages. Patient as lambs led to the slaughter, lovingly, faithfully they served God. That is all they wanted out of life, just

service to their Lord. How great was to be their reward.

67 But Abraham didn't stagger anywhere at all, of unbelief. He believed that God was able to perform that which He had promised, that God would prove

His Word, no matter how **long** it took. But instead of getting weaker each time, like we are prone to do, he got stronger all the time. "If it didn't happen today,

tomorrow it will be a greater miracle, 'cause it's one day older." That was God, that was God in Abraham, for he knowed that God proved all of His Words to

be so. If His children will only take His Word, so He can prove **It by you**! That's the only way He can prove His Word. He doesn't prove It to unbelievers.

They can't be proved; they are unbelievers. But, It's not **to** unbelievers. It's not **for** unbelievers.

68 <u>It's to him that believe.</u> And if He can find somebody who will believe His Word, He will prove His Word by **you.** And sometimes **sickness** and

things happen to us that way, that God can prove Himself. Do you remember the blind man that Jesus found? They said, "Who sinned, he or his father, his mother?"

69 He said, "In this case, neither, but that the works of God might be made known." See, it happened to the boy so that Jesus could be glorified. Sometimes

sickness is not a curse, it's a blessing, that we can stick our faith out there and call those things which are not, as though they were. God said so, and He'll prove it's so if you'll just not **weaken** under the test.

70 He could prove Job, one time, that he wouldn't curse Him to His face. Look at the trial that Job went through. But down in the very jaws of death, he yet

said, "The Lord gave, the Lord taken away, blessed be the Name of the Lord!" He certainly believed it. God proved His Word to Job. He proved it to Abraham. He proved it so.

71 Also He proved it by Moses. And when Moses, when the difficulty was so against him, Moses had it in his mind, that perhaps, to be a deliverer, that his mother had probably told him he was born a proper

child. She—she was his tutor that raised him up in Pharaoh's palace, no doubt had told him, "Son, we have prayed that we'd be delivered, and we believe

that you are that child that God will use to deliver." And then when he…

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98 God said, "I'm the Lord heals all thy diseases. I am God and I change not." Amen! And God is Word. And if God don't change, how is the Word going to

change? See? "I am God, and I change not." The Scriptures says that. God said it, Himself. And if He cannot change, then He is the Word.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." The unchangeable Word! "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us." Amen! Yes, sir.

99 God raised up bodies, all down through; Moses, and Ezekiel, and Jeremiah, and Isaiah, and Elijah's, all down, where His Word temporarily come. But the

full Word was made manifest in this Man Jesus Christ. Which, He was God in the—God in the

fulness of the Godhead bodily. There He was made flesh. I believe that, every Word. Job, another believer.

100 Sometimes, believers put to the **test**. Not sometimes; **every time**! "For every son that cometh to God must be chastened, tried, child-trained."

Remember, the **trials**, the dusty roads, the hot sun of persecution, but the loyalty of your heart beats that material till she is ready to go into the mold.

God's children is made up correctly on His Word, for they are living examples, and the Word of God living through them. See? The trial comes to shake you, to

put you to the very bottom, to see where you'll stand. They tested, try every son that cometh to God.

101 Job went through the trials and the tests. His children taken; everything else taken. The church members come, accused him of being a secret

sinner, and tried to say everything against him, but yet he wouldn't listen to any of it. He knowed he had met God's requirements. He knowed there's no need

of Satan trying to tempt him. He knowed it was the devil. And as long as Satan can make him believe that his sickness was his God doing it, **he had Job**

whipped. But when Job once struck that revelation, that it was **not God**! He was only going through his trials to make him something. It wasn't God doing it. It was Satan doing it.

102 And same thing today. He'll try to tell **you** these **trials** and thing is your God trying to put punishment upon you. **It isn't so**. No, sir. It's Satan doing that,

and God permitting it, to **temper** you; to make you see if you're—you are tied to this earth, by the earth cares, or whether your treasures is in Heaven.

"For wherever your treasures is, there you are also." That's right. Your heart is where your treasures are.

103 Job, tried, yet he said, "I know my Redeemer liveth; at the last days He'll stand upon the earth. Though after my skin worms destroys my body…"

104 Did you notice? The skin worms was already in him. Your skin worms is in you. You're in a sealed-up casket without any air in it, or any how, but the skin

worms are already there. They're right in you, and they're ready to be called to duty at any time. Remember Caesar, he cankered right in the street.

The skin worms eat him up, right in the street, his own skin worms. They're right there, ready.

105 "Though after my skin worms destroys this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." Amen! You cannot annihilate it. Though the skin worms eat it up, it still

will come back again. "Whom I shall see for myself. Mine eyes shall behold, and not another." He said it, Job. Why? **He was a believer.** In trials he was a

believer. In persecution, he was a believer. He was a genuine believer.

106 Joseph, another believer, he couldn't help being what he was. He was a prophet. God made him a prophet. He didn't want to be different from his

brothers, but he was different. God made him what he is. Nobody else could take his place.

107 Nobody can take your place, no matter how little. You say, **"I'm just a housewife."** Nobody can

take your place. God, in His great economy, has so set so, **the Body of Christ,** in order, till there is no one can take your place. How I would like to take

Billy Graham's place, any of us ministers, but we can't do it; but, just remember, Billy can't take our place. See, we all have a place, some of us are

evangelists, some prophets, some teachers, some pastors, whatever we are; some housewives, some mechanics, some farmers, whatever it is, God has set you in your place. See?

63-1124E - Three Kinds Of Believers

91 And they walked right up. And, you know, we're the one that gets nervous. What about you, accepts your healing night after night? Well, you think, "Oh,"

tomorrow, "I—I'm—I'm still coughing. My hand is still crippled." That don't have one thing to do with it. When you have really, honestly, from the depths of

your heart accepted that as a finished work that Christ did for you, it's finished, that's all of it. Yes, sir. Just stay right with it. Now, they kept walking,

I can imagine Shadrach looked over to Meshach, said, “You’re sure we’re prayed up?” “Oh, yeah.”

92 Walked right on, furnace getting hotter and hotter, till almost the skin coming off of their face. Even the Bible said that the men that throwed them in there,

the intense heat of that furnace killed the men that throwed them in. Looked like it was the darkest hour, they was walked right up to the edge of the furnace.

93 But, you know, it sometimes God lets it get that way to **try you**. You can never…Abraham would have never possessed the gate of the enemy until

he was **tried first**. And you’ll never possess the gate of the enemy until you go through the **trials.** “Some through the waters, some through the flood, some

through deep trials, but all through the Blood.” God leads his children. See, you must first be tried.

94 Oh, then the illegitimate falls in the trial, but the true child of God stands true. He knows where his possession lays, he knows where he’s standing, he

knows what's happened to him, he knows that he's passed from death unto Life, and he knows that God answers prayer.

95 Now, we see them going up, just this one step from going into the fiery furnace, looked like that they were completely defeated.
61-0213 - And Thy Seed Shall Possess The Gate Of His Enemies

78 Now, let's take some of the men who was the **Seed of Abraham**, and see if they possessed the gate of the enemy. Let's take for instance, now, let's

speak a moment upon the, when the children of Israel had been carried away captive down into Babylon. There come a time, first, that there had to

come a trial. There's always trials, it's always darkest before day in—in nature, and you'll always have trials before you have victory; if there's no war, then there's no victory.

79 And now, the Hebrew children down there had been brought on to a spot where the king had made a—a declaration, that anybody would not bow down to this image would be throwed into a fire of furnace,

furnace of fire, rather. And then when they…That purposed in their heart, that they was not going to defile themselves, they were going to live close to

God. Now, the three Hebrew children, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, they were the Seed of Abraham, **they had the promise of God that his Seed would possess the enemies' gates.**

80 Now, I'd imagine when a trial come up…What's the first thing a child of God has for a refuge when a trial comes? The greatest weapon, was ever put in

the hands of mankind, **prayer**. It even changes everything, it even changed the mind of God one time. God told His prophet go up and tell the king he

was going to die. And the king turned his face to the wall, and said, "Lord, I beseech You to consider me, I have walked before You with a perfect heart. I need

fifteen years longer." And God spared his life fifteen years longer. **Prayer changes things.**

81 Then we notice then when these Hebrew children come to a prayer meeting that night, "What are we going to do?" There had to be a—a gathering, and a

decision had to be made. No doubt they prayed all night long, and the decision was unanimously, because they were deciding that they could not afford to go back on God in the **time of trial**.

82 Wouldn't that be good for the whole church now? When the decision is made, "Shall I turn to the things of the world? Shall I go like the rest of them

go?" **That decision comes to every Christian**, it comes to you **daily.** How are we going to do it? You've got to make your decision.

83 And they made their decision that, regardless of what taken place, they wasn't going to turn away from God, that's right, because they had the promise

of God that they were Abraham's Seed, and they **knowed** their position, and knowed where they were standing. And they told the king… They said, "Now,"

they said, "we're going to throw you into this fiery furnace if you do not bow down to this god."

84 And he said, "King, live forever. Our God is able to deliver us from that fiery furnace, He's able to do it, but if He doesn't, we're still not going to bow down

to that image. We've made up our minds, we've took the way with the Lord's despised few, and we're going to stand true to it." Oh my! **That's what the Church needs.**

85 Now, you must take that same initiative when it comes to **Divine healing**. When it comes to anything that God has promised, take the initiative

and stand there, God made the promise. He's obligated to His promise, as long as you're Abraham's Seed, He's got to answer. Now, don't get

any doubts in your mind, keep them doubts away. Just stay right straight on the cross now, look right straight to the One Who made the promise.

86 I've never seen Him fail yet, and I've never read of Him failing, and you never will, because He can't fail, He's God. He made the promise, He made it

way back here in Genesis, that's the seed chapter, "And your Seed shall possess the gate of the enemies." Not a enemy, the enemies, every one of them, **all of them.**

61-0213 - And Thy Seed Shall Possess The Gate Of His Enemies

254 Who did it? God. When did He do it? Before the foundation of the world. Then if we come in an illegitimate birth through Eve's corruption, making us

all her children and subject to death, then the sovereign God has to make a way to **redeem** His children. "And all the Father hath given Me will come

to Me. And no man can come unless My Father draws him." Oh, my! Now where's your great big thing you done? You never done nothing. You ought

to be ashamed. It's God Who done all things! The wheel is working just right.

255 Someone come, the other day, said somebody said something bad about me, and—and accusing me of something that was wrong. And I said, "Oh,

forget it." Said, "How can you take it like that? That involves your family, that."

256 I said, "Oh, my!" I said, **"That was predestinated before the foundation of the world, to give me a trial."** I said, "Oh, my, my, my! Sure.

So that's all right." Said, "How do you do it?" I said, "If I looked right down this way, I'd be falling all the time."

62-0318 - The Spoken Word Is The Original Seed

178 Now, remember. When…God has counted you **worthy** when you have a test. Now, don't fail this, to get this. When you have a trial or a test, **it shows**

the grace of God has found, you found favor with God, and God believes that you'll stand the test. You remember, He did the same thing by Job.

63-0421 - Victory Day Brother Billy

183 When looks like everything has gone wrong, God is giving you a trial. **He's got confidence in you**. He don't have to baby you around. You're not a

hotbed plant, a hybrid. You're a real Christian. God is giving you a test, see what you'll do about it. Amen. No wonder Peter said, "These fiery trials,

why, count it a joy. It's—it's more precious to you than gold."

184 And many times we hem and haw, "Oh, well, if I just…" Well, that, well, that's something God give

you, to overcome. He—He—He knows you'll do it. He, He's—**He's put His trust in you**.

185 And He believed Abraham…Abraham believed God, rather. And God said, no doubt, told Satan, "I can just prove you, he loves Me." Said, "I'm…He

believes that promise, because I told him that." So he took his own son up, the top of the mountain, tied his hands behind him, that, the day God said so.

186 Little Isaac got suspicious, you know. He said, Genesis 22, he said—he said, "Father?" He said, "Here am I, my son."

187 He said, "Here is the wood, and here is the—the—the altar, and everything. But—but—but where is the lamb," see, "for—for the—the—the sacrifice?" He

begin to feel kind of funny. "What—what's this all about? We, we've left off something."

63-0421 - Victory Day

1 Corinthians 10:13
13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but

will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Amen,