

#138 The Word of God is for the Elect, not the world

1 This morning I'd like to continue with several paragraphs of the Spoken Word is the original seed as we have only to this point examined up to paragraph 116. There is so much in this message that it just wouldn't do it justice to quickly breeze right through it. I believe this sermon is to the elect and our series so far is really helping us to know our relationship with our Father much better and to learn to get out of the way and let Him have the preeminence to work through us. So, this morning we'll read beginning at paragraph 117.

2 117...Let's go to Ephesians now, over to the book of Ephesians, and we're going to start at the 1st chapter of Ephesians. And then we'll read a little bit here and just see what God has to say about this subject. Now, listen. Paul, now, watch the way he address this now. Everybody on your feet now, on your lookout. We got just a few minutes now, about forty-five minutes, something, then we'll dismiss for lunch. Now, look. Paul, an apostle... (What is "apostle?" "One sent.")... Paul, a sent one of Jesus Christ... (Is that right? "By the will of the Sanhedrin?" I misread that, didn't I? "By the will of the Luther... or the a..." Well, anyhow...) Paul, a sent one of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints... (Who is it? To everybody? No, sir. Everybody can't take it. That's right.)... to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

3 118Them that's already in there, that's what I hope I'm talking to in this congregation this morning: those that are already in Christ Jesus. Now, that's where this is advantage,... See, you can't tell those babies out there about it. They can't eat meat; they have to drink milk. They're stunted. See? So remember, they can't eat strong meat. Now, "to the faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ". (All right.) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us... (Now, he's talking to the church now. This is not the outside; this is church)... with all spiritual... (spiritual)... blessings in heavenly places... (like this morning, those who love it is just eating it up. See?)... heavenly places in Christ:

4 Now, I would like to stop here for just a minute and have you notice that brother Branham was quoting Scripture, here and I want you to notice that Paul was an Apostle, which means, "one who is sent", and if he is one who is sent, then we must know who sent Him? And he tells us that He was sent by the will of God.

5 Now, this is very important to know who sends the man because if he is sent by his church, or by an organization, or if his preacher sends him, or some other man sends him, then he is not an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ sent by the will of God.

6 From his Message, Ephesians parallels Joshua 60-0515E P:36 Brother Branham said, "Now, the Book of Ephesians placed us positionally in Christ, what they was in the holy land. We are placed not in the holy land, but in the Holy Ghost. Now, let us read just a Word, see how perfect the church is. Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God,...Oh, I like that. God made him an apostle. No elders laid hands on him, no bishops sent him anywhere, but God called him and made him an apostle. Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints... (sanctified ones)... which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Jesus Christ: Watch how he addresses this. This is not to the unbelievers. This is to the church. It's called to the called-out ones, the sanctified and called ones that are in Christ Jesus.

7 So you can't expect unbelievers to understand this Bible, because it's not for them. It's for the Saints, the sanctified ones who have been called out. That's why I don't get excited when I hear some politician quote the Bible, or some person on the radio or television who quotes this Bible. It's not theirs to quote. It's not for them, so

they are not going to understand what they are quoting even if they do quote it anyway.

8 Brother Branham said in his sermon, Shalom preached in 01-19-1964, PP 92, all the New Testament speaks of this hour. So unless you can quote it to me and tell me how it apply for this hour, forget it, I'm not interested.

9 So all the politicians like to quote the Bible, but so does the devil but it won't do them any good. The devil quoted it to Jesus but he didn't understand what he was quoting because it wasn't for him, so all they can do is quote it, but it will never quicken them because it is not meant for them, just like it was not meant for the devil to understand, and his own seed will never understand it either. But this is our Love letter from our Father to his children, our God, not theirs. It's not for them. It's not a love letter to them. It's a historical book to some of them, and to others it's just a book of laws, things to do and don't do, a book of conduct.

10 Therefore, Paul let's us know that it is not only important to know who sent him but to whom also he was sent to? Jesus said the same thing. So, we need to know who was he sent to? Because many people think the Apostle is someone who goes overseas and starts churches? Or someone who takes a Bible overseas and lives amongst the natives and converts the savage heathen? Or someone who goes out to the world to convert the unbeliever? Or even someone who will go to the nominal Christians to bring them into the Message? But that's not the duty of an Apostle. Brother Branham told us that an Apostle is one who sets things in order.

11 From his sermon, WARNING THEN JUDGMENT 63-0724 51 Brother Branham said, "And then we find out the apostle is a special man. He's a setter-in-order. He's a man that's sent from God to set the things in order."

12 And another thing is that an Apostle is not someone who goes to a country and lives there for years. An Apostle is one who comes and goes, in order to set things in order. And you don't set the heathen in order, you set the church in order. You can not set the unbeliever in order, he has no tie post. You set the church in order by the Word which is The tie post.

13 In fact brother Branham said that in his sermon, Uncertain Sound 60-1218 P:170 he said, "Let me tell you something. I'm a missionary, you know. And now, I believe a missionary is a guy that goes and comes. That's a missionary. If you go over there to stay, they call that a missionary; but that's a homesteader; you just changed your residence. See? That's not a missionary. A missionary, he, Paul was a missionary; he didn't stay; he just kept going and going and going, a missionary: not change residence; just keep going, a missionary.

14 So Paul was the pattern for what an Apostle is, And John followed in that pattern, and so did Peter. And we find these went to the Jews who were looking for the coming of the Lord, and they established them in the doctrine of Christ. Paul then went into the gentile Cities where he met up with fellow Jews who were believers, and together they were used by God to establish churches in those cities. Then the gentiles could come to the church where the Word of God was established in the hearts of the people, but there never was any mass movement from heathen to believer. Show me the scripture for it, if you can?

15 You say, what about on the day of Pentecost? What about the 3,000? Those were Jews who had come to Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost which was a Jewish feast of harvest. And has is called by many names in the Bible (ie: the Feast of Weeks, the Feast of Harvest, and the Latter First-fruits). It was celebrated on the fiftieth day after Passover, It was traditionally a joyous time of giving thanks and presenting offerings for the new grain of the summer wheat harvest in Israel. That is why they thought the Disciples were perhaps drunk with New wine. The name "Feast of Weeks" was given because God commanded the Jews in Leviticus 23:15-16, to count seven full weeks (or 49 days) beginning on the second day of Passover, and then present offerings of new grain to the Lord as a lasting ordinance.

16 The first feast (Passover) was observed in the first month, and the third feast (Tabernacles) was observed in the seventh month. This second feast (Harvest or Pentecost) had no set date as it was dependant upon the time of the first-fruits of the crop to appear. This Harvest, or Feast of Weeks, is better known as Pentecost (Greek "50") to Christians familiar with Acts chapter two. So these were sanctified people already, believers in the Scriptures, and were looking to the coming of Christ. And so they were open to the Good News that was given them by Peter on the Day of Pentecost.

17 But many of the churches Paul established there were already Jews who believed the report, and together with Gentiles who were ordained to Life, they established works from one city to another. They taught the people who already were sanctified and only a few who were not, but who believed the report, and Paul taught them the deeper truths of the Word of God. To give them greater light for the hour in which they lived.

18 It is the evangelist that goes to the heathen and unbelieving world to convert the sinner. Look at Billy Graham, and Billy Sunday, and even the work of William Branham who said he was doing the work of an evangelist. But the Apostle is a person who is sent to set in order. So let's not mix our roles up.

19 I know churches that tell their people that anyone who wants to go on a mission trip is an apostle, and they get the people to go with them to Africa and South America, and build churches and hold rallies and other things, and some of these guys married two and three times, and they call themselves missionaries, which is Apostles? I don't think so. Religious maybe, James said in, James 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. So they may be religious, and that is fine, but to call yourself an Apostle because you attend a meeting overseas? no way. What are they setting in order?

20 I was talking to a friend of mine, back in Minnesota who told me of his niece who was going on a mission trip to Spain with another person and needed to raise \$200,000 dollars for the trip. Sounded like an expensive vacation to me, but certainly not a mission trip. And a lot or people like to go and visit others in foreign lands, which is a nice thing to do if you have the funds to do so, but certainly that is not a mission trip. That's a holiday or vacation.

21 So I want you to notice the Epistles of these Apostles, (their writings), their sermons in print form, were not written to or for the heathen, nor were they addressed to or for the unbelievers. That would be like casting pearls before swine. But all their epistles were addressed to the sanctified ones, to the Elect, to those of like precious Faith. Those believers who were already saints, sanctified and called out ones, who were set apart for the service of God.

22 Again notice what Br. Branham says of the apostle Paul in his sermon, Christ is the mystery 63-0728 P:95 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God... (Now, watch, it's not addressed to the world, but)... to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

23 And what about Peter? Look how he addressed his epistles... In 1 Peter 1:1 we read, Peter, an apostle (one who is sent) of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia (Now, who are these Strangers or foreigners he is addressing? These are certainly not unbelievers or heathens? Because he says,) 2Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

24 Again let's turn to 2 Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like-precious-faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

25 So we see Peter didn't write to the unbelievers but he was addressing his epistles to those of like precious faith.

26 And then he tells them how that they may have Grace and peace multiplied unto them. Notice what he says in verse 2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you (How?) through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord. So it is not just the knowledge of God but there must also be knowledge of The Son of God as well, so that you can understand His relationship with the Father and therefore understand your relationship with the Father.

27 Now, in getting back to "The Spoken Word is the Original Seed", let's pick up at paragraph 119 and continue reading, According as he hath chosen us... Did we choose Him? Huh? "Oh, Brother Branham, I beg your pardon, I did." No, According to the Word, you didn't. Jesus said, "You never chose Me; I chose you." Oh, yeah. When did He choose it? When did Jesus say He chose His church? Before the foundation of the world. According as he hath chosen us in him... (at the last revival that doctor So-and-so had? No, no. You might read that in the creed, a text book, but not in this One. See?)... According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world,...

28 (When were we chosen? At the last revival? The night we got saved? Why, when there wasn't no world, wasn't no stars, there was no atoms, no molecules, that's when we were chosen. Amen. Oh, don't let me start preaching on that now. I'm just trying to explain something here. All right.)... before the foundation of the world, that we should be... (What? Members. "No, we should... Oh, after we are saved we just do as you want to." Hmm.)... we should be holy and without blame before him in... (Membership? Oh, no. It's love ain't it? That's right. All right.)... in love... (Excuse me, I'm just cutting up I guess now. I shouldn't do it, All right.)... in love. Having... (What? P-r-e-d-e-s-t-i-n-a-t-e-d... Oh,)... predestinated us unto the adoption of children... (the seed from the beginning... See?)... of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

29 120 Who did it? God. When did He do it? Before the foundation of the world. Then if we come in a 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. God, Who done all things... The wheel's a working just right. Someone come the other day, said somebody had said something bad about me and accused 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..." I said, "Oh, my." I said, "That was predestinated before the foundation of the world to give me a trial." I said, "Why, 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."

30 121 That's the way with the people today. "If I accept the Truth of God's Word, Brother Branham, they'd kick me out." Why, what are you looking here for? Look out here at the end of the road. See, a man who looks like this, he don't know where he's going. He's looking this way. But if you look out yonder, you don't care what's going on now; you know where you're going. See? That's it. Look where you're going. Stay lined up with the Word.

31 And if that isn't a lesson we all need to learn. Get your eyes off the present conditions, or you will become obsessed by what's going on all around you. Instead, get focused on the promise for this hour which is the translation of the body and the catching away before the tribulation sets in. That's what you want to be focusing on, not the everyday distractions like it was in the days of Noah and in the days of Lot, when they builded and planted and married and gave in marriage.

32 Luke 6:47 Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: 48 He is like a man which built an house, and dug deep, and laid the foundation on a rock:(now remember

that a rock represent revelation, so this man built his house upon revelation)and when the flood arose,(And remember the Bible tells us that the devil will come in like a flood)the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.⁴⁹But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great. Now, notice that the only difference is that one heard and dug into what he heard, he applied what he knew to the day and the hour he lived, and the other also heard but did nothing about what he heard. Thus the revelation that the one had was to step into what was revealed to him and the revelation of the other was that he didn't think it was necessary to enter into what he had been shown so he did absolutely nothing about it.

33 What saved Noah and his household? His believing God that it was going to rain? Or His stepping into that revelation and applying what was revealed to him, and preparing his family for what he was shown that was to come. In other words, his doing what God had instructed him to do and that was to build the ark. And we have been commanded to apply the token, and I just do not understand how people can think that that means to simply believe it. If I told you to apply the paint you would find a roller or a paint brush and something to open the can if you are going to apply it. And brother Branham said we must apply it.

34 THE TOKEN 63-0901M34-9 You should love one another. Believers should separate themselves from the world. Don't just take it now, lightly. And then, you people that's listening to this on tape, you women, you men, you listen a minute. If you ever believed me, you believe it now. It's time to quit fussing with one another. Believe the message of the Bible. Believe Jesus Christ; and love, and honor, and respect one another. Men respect your wives; you respect your home. Bring your home together, because, you remember, this Lamb was for the home, not just one. The whole home too had to be brought; everything had to be brought in. We should love each other, and believers should separate themselves from the world.

35 35-3 Notice, they were not just yet come together to talk about the message. They come together to apply the blood, to apply the token. That's what you must do. Pastor Neville, and to this congregation, trustees, deacons, to you brethren, it's time that we laid aside all the foolishness of the world, time we laid aside everything else. We've seen enough now, that we're positive, sure, and the Token must be applied. Without it, (without what? Without applying the token) you're going to perish; you must perish. That is the only thing. Oh, don't come together, say, "I believe it." Get beneath it. Get into it. How to do it? By one Spirit we're baptized into the Body of Jesus Christ. Everybody believe with all your heart. See? He was not responsible for any out from beneath it.

36 If you just come to church because you know you should, watch out? The rain is falling, and the next thing will come is the waters of separation! Then you will find out where your home was built upon. If you have received the revelation of Jesus Christ you will be tested to see whether you have it or not. That's the trial of your faith, which is the trial of your revelation. And that revelation will do you no good until you step into it and claim every step you take into it.

37 Matthew 7:26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

38 Now, paragraph 122 All right. Predestinated us now unto the adoption... Now, do you believe we were predestinated? Now, was Jesus predestinated? He was the Lamb of God already slain before there was a light, before there was a meteor, before there was a molecule, atom, anything. He was the Son of God slain. Oh, the greatness of God. Then these little peanut brains out of some little manufactured supernatural incubator over here tries to debate that and say it's not right. That's a shame. Who are you? Even some of them saying there is no hell, and you're setting on a pot of it everyday: eight thousand miles thick just below you, volcanic, and then look up

and defy God and His Word. When you defy the Word, you defy God. Sure. Oh, my, how great Thou art, Lord. How thankful we should be.

39 123 All right. So believers of the Word and Spirit must be One. You get it? Believers, the Word, and the Spirit are absolutely One. You don't do your own thinking; you don't use your own mind. Isn't that wonderful? The mind that's in Christ is in you. See? The mind's in Christ in you will take the Word just like He did, 'cause He was the Word. And the mind of Christ in you, you are the Word. You're God's living Word, representatives of Him here on earth (That's right.), continuing the work. The church should be that way. And when so, the Bible is manifested again like in the early days of the disciples, just like the disciples. The Bible is living again in you.

40 That is why I believe that we are at a juncture when we should be stepping into who we are and Who God ordained us to be. When Christ was ordained before the foundations of the world to be the bleeding dying lamb, we were at that same time ordained and predestinated unto the adoption of sons. And to be adopted we must have the mind of the Father and be about our father's business. And when the son is ready for adoption the Father will take him to a high place and before all cloth him in a robe of glory, and hand him the checkbook.

41 From Hear ye Him 07-12 -1960 pp. 58 Now, we find out then, what if this boy was a fine boy? Oh, how the tutor must've enjoyed walk up before the Father and say, "Father, I am so glad to tell you. You know, that boy of Yours is just exactly like You are. You know, he will read Your Word, and he will say, 'That's just exactly the Truth. That's what my Father said. My Father can't lie. I believe it just the way He said it.'" Oh, how the Father must say, "That's My boy." See? Now, that's what God wants to do to us.

42 59 Now, if that boy was born (now listen), if that boy was born in the home as a son, but he did not become a right boy, would not follow his father's instructions, would not be about his father's business, that boy was always a son. But he never did have any inheritance. Did you know that? He never got any inheritance. He was just a castaway. He was always a son. And when you get the Holy Ghost, you're God's son or God's daughter. That's true enough. But if you don't obey God, walk in the Light, walk in the Word, believe God, then you won't have any inheritance. Well, that's just exactly the way God does it yet

43 60 Now, notice this. Now, what if the boy was a righteous gentleman? He just loved his father. He loved to be about his father's business. He liked to see all the vineyards straightened up just right, every man at his post of duty. And he found a man shirking. He walked over to him, and put his arms around him, and said... "The other day, why, father, he walked over there, and he seen this man was shirking on the job. So he walked over and put his hand on his shoulder and said, 'Sir, you are my father's servant. See?' And Just like you would've done." Oh, father say, "You know, I really like that boy. That's my son." As we call it in America, the chip off the block, you know? "He's my boy. I'm proud of him." 61 You know what happened then when that boy become a certain age? That boy was adopted into the family. Now, what did they do? They took him out in a public place, put a special robe on him, and had a ceremony. And all the people of the city gathered around and looked. And then they looked upon this boy, and the father had a ceremony of adoption. Oh, don't miss this. After that son was adopted, his name on the checkbook was just as good as his daddy's. There's where God's trying to get His Church. Just say to this mountain, "Be moved" and it will move: Authority, sons of God... The whole creation's groaning, waiting for the manifestations of the sons of God, waiting to a spot to where that the sickness will be "Arise!" and it will be that way. The blind will receive their sight. Deaf and dumb, we pray for them now, but then you'll command it. Didn't say, "These signs shall follow them that believe, they shall pray for the sick." He said, "They shall cast out devils." Not, "I will": "They will." "If you say to this mountain (not if I say). If you say to this mountain, 'Be moved,' and don't doubt in your heart. What we need is adoption. Sons and daughters needs adoption.

44 62 But how can the church, the Pentecostal church, and the Methodist and Baptist churches be adopted

until they come to discipline? We've got to be disciplined first. God could not trust this power with the church. It's hard to tell what you would do. How could a father trust his business with a boy that might simply pollute his whole inheritance? He couldn't do it. The church has got to come to a place to where it's disciplined. God's on that work right now: discipline.

45 63 Now, he took that son out, and he made a ceremony. And he said, "This is my son, and I adopt him into my family. Whatever he says, I say it, too." Now, God was doing the same thing there to Jesus. He was doing just exactly what He required them to do. He, Jesus had pleased Him. And He took Him up and took three earthy witnesses, Peter, James and John (Hope, Faith, and Charity), brought Moses and Elijah down to witness this great adoption. And what was He done? The Bible said that He was transfigured. And His raiment shined like the sun, a special robe... Amen. A special robe, a special anointing... And when they looked up, they saw Him shining in the glory of God. And a voice said, "This is My beloved Son; Here ye Him." Oh, my.

46 64 What God wants to do with the Church tonight, wants to do with an individual, is find somebody. The Holy Spirit is searching to find men. He can take him out to a certain place, speak to that person, anoint them and give them something special, great powers and gifts to work His will and to do His will. But how can He do it, when He's constantly has to come and say, "Oh, it's terrible. They just, They just run after this. They run after error. They won't go to church. They,. It's..." Look what a condition the church is in. So, if God can't do it to the body, He will pick out individuals and do it. God's able of the stones to rise children unto Abraham.

47 Notice he said, if He can't find a church to do it, then he will find individuals to do it. O for God's sake and your own sake, get focused, Too much fussing and focusing on things, instead of who you are and who your Father is. Let us pray....