

#186 The Spirit of Organization is a competitive spirit

1 Genesis 4:2b Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. 3 In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. 4 But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, 5 but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. 6 Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? 7 If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it." 8 Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." [d] And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

2 From The Spoken Word is the Original Seed pp.40 Brother Branham said, "The Baptists wants to outdo the Methodists. The Methodists wants to outdo the Lutheran. The Lutherans want to outdo the Catholic. They're every one wants to outdo somebody. See, that's the... That's the spirit of the organization. Jesus said, "But few there'll be that will be saved. Strait is the gate and narrow is the way, but few there'll be that'll find it." Just a few. If He said few, that's the Word of God, that Seed, there'll be a few. Won't be no tens of billions and billions. It'll just be a few that'll find it. Them that's predestinated to it, they hear it. The former rain has went forth now."

3 And from his sermon, Does God change His mind 65-0418E P:41 Brother Branham also said, "And now, we find always that when these natural and spiritual spirits of churches and organizations meet, there's always a clash. It's never failed to be so; it always clashes. Because we find that in there is a jealousy, and there... In this jealousy it causes carnal comparisons, impersonations. And we find it in today as it was then; when God does something for an individual, everybody tries to copy just like God did for that person. See, it causes a competition, and it makes carnality. And then, if they cannot (the other side) get the spiritual results, then they take it by a political power or they substitute something to upset the people's mind to draw disciples after themselves. That's exactly what took place at the very beginning. As Cain and Abel, both boys here on earth; and when Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, and God vindicated Abel by coming down and receiving his sacrifice, it caused jealousy with Cain; because he was jealous of his brother, and slew his brother. "

4 And again in his message A Deceived Church by the World 59-0628M P:32 he said, "And one is the majority in God. And today in the healing evangelists out on the fields, there's such competing, competitors. One says, "Well, bless God, I have so many thousand. I got a bigger meeting than you have." What difference does that make? If we have one or one million, what difference does it make? Are we true to God? Are we true to His Word? Do we stand under the test of the Holy Spirit? Is it true? That's the main thing."

5 Now, I want you to notice that when ever God blesses one of His own, then those He did not bless, if they're carnal, they get jealous and cause trouble for the One God does bless. It has always been that way. We saw it in the beginning when God blessed Abel and not Cain. God said He had respect for Abel's offering but He did not have respect for Cain's offering.

6 Now in a close examination of these two offerings, we see that both of them are scriptural.

7 In fact the Apostle Paul said in Hebrews 11:4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

- 8** Notice the Apostle Paul called Abel's sacrifice a more excellent sacrifice than Cain's. Now, if it is a more excellent sacrifice that is because both of them were excellent. And how is it that possible if God had respect unto one of them and not respect unto the other?
- 9** Well, first of all let's look at Cain's sacrifice.
- 10** The Septuagint which is the Greek text tells us in verse 7 reveals some striking words. The Septuagint translates verse seven as, "Thou hast rightly offered, but thou hast not rightly divided."
- 11** He did offer rightly the first fruit of the land which is the sacrifice that is required by God in Deuteronomy 26. But he did not rightly divide the word of God.
- 12** Deuteronomy 26:10 And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land, which thou, O LORD, hast given me. And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God, and worship before the LORD thy God:
- 13** But not only do we see the first-fruit offering required by God as spoken of in Deuteronomy 26, but we see it also in the Book of Leviticus 2: 12 As for the oblation of the firstfruits, ye shall offer them unto the LORD: but they shall not be burnt on the altar for a sweet savour.
- 14** And again in Leviticus 23: 10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:
- 15** And we also see it in practice in the book of Exodus 23: 16 And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.
- 16** Exodus 23: 19 The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk.
- 17** Exodus 34: 22 And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the year's end.
- 18** Now, then why was Abel's sacrifice accepted and not Cain's? Well, the Apostle John gives us a clue in 1 John 3:7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness (right-wise-ness) is righteous (rightly-wise), even as he (God) is righteous (rightly-wise). 8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. 9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin (does not initiate sin, and remember that sin is unbelief. So he that is born of God can not initiate an act of unbelief.); for his (God's) seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.
- 19** 10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness (he that doesn't do what is right) is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother. 11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. 12 Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, (so he is telling us that Cain was definitely not of God but of the devil, serpent seed.) and he slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.
- 20** So what do you suppose those works were that were evil? John is not say here the act of slaying his brother was evil although we know it was, but he is telling us something preceded that act of killing his own brother.

That work which preceded the killing of his brother is what initiated the killing of his brother.

21 And if we examine the Scriptures very closely it was the fact that Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice and it was accepted by God but when Cain also offered to God an excellent sacrifice, although not as excellent as Abel's God rejected his sacrifice and told him what he offered was not right, it was not correct.

22 Now, how can that be, because God's own Word calls for a first-fruit sacrifice, so how can doing what God requires be wrong?

23 Well I have heard two thoughts on that. One is that what he offered was out of season and therefore out of the perfect will for God at that time. Remember, we are commanded to rightly divide the Word of God.

24 The Apostle Paul said in 2 Timothy 2: 15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. So there must be a right division of the Word, and as brother Branham said, Christ revealed in His own Word 65-0822M P:53 Now, in order to study the Scripture... Paul told Timothy, "Study It, rightly dividing the Word of God which is Truth." Then there's three musts in the Scripture. In using God's Word, there are three things that you must not do. Now, let's study those for the next ten minutes: Three things that you must not do... And all out in the land wherever you are across the nation, be sure to put these down in your mind if you haven't got a pencil. You must not do these things. We tell you all the time how you must do; now, I'm going to tell you what you must not do. Now, you must not misinterpret the Word. You say, "Well, I believe It means this." It means just what it says. It needs no interpreter. And you must not misplace the Word. And you must not dislocate the Word. And if we would do either of these, it throws the whole Bible into confusion and in a chaos.

25 Now, let's take a quick look at what these three words mean that he said we must not do:

26 #1) He said we must not Misinterpret: 1. To interpret inaccurately. 2. To explain inaccurately.

27 #2) He said we must not Misplace: To put into a wrong place: b. To mislay, set it aside ie: to loose it 2. To bestow confidence on an improper, unsuitable, or unworthy person or idea.

28 #3) He said we must not Dislocate: To put out of usual or proper place, position, or relationship. 2. To displace (a body part), especially to displace a bone from its normal position. 3. To throw into confusion or disorder; disrupt: a

29 Now, in order for Cain's sacrifice which was perfectly Biblical, there had to be a reason for God rejecting it. He had to either misinterpret what God said, or misplace the Word of God in performing his sacrifice, or he had to dislocate the Word some how.

30 First of all I do not think he misinterpreted God's Word for had he done so, he would not have offered an excellent sacrifice. Secondly he did not set the Word aside, he actually acted upon it. Therefore he didn't misplace it. That leaves just one reason for what he did to be construed by God as evil, as John said it was that his works were evil.

31 But finally, I believe what he did was that he dislocated the Word of God, and that means that he put it out of it's usual or proper place. You see the Word of God also says, without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sin.

32 In Matthew 26: 28 Jesus explained that the wine represented the shedding of His blood which was to be shed

for the remission of sins. "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

33 And in Hebrews 9: 22 Paul expounds on this thought by saying, "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission of sin."

34 Now, we've established Cain was out of sink with the plan of God, so much so that he totally dislocated the Word of God that called for a first-fruit offering. He basically took the Word out of season because there had to be remission of sin by the shedding of Blood first. That is what God called for, and Cain thought his sacrifice would be accepted because it was prettier than Abel's bloody sacrifice. And let's face it, piling up and arranging all those fruits had to look pretty beautiful, and much more pleasant to the eyes than a butchered lamb that lay there all bloody.

35 So God did not have respect unto Cain's sacrifice because it dislocated God's timing and season for His Word. And what did Cain do when his sacrifice was rejected? He sought out his brother and killed him because of petty jealousy.

36 Now, in getting back to brother Branham's message, The Spoken Word is the Original Seed pp.40 Brother Branham said, "The Baptists wants to outdo the Methodists. The Methodists wants to outdo the Lutheran. The Lutherans want to outdo the Catholic. They're every one wants to outdo somebody. See, that's the... That's the spirit of the organization.

37 So that is the spirit of the carnal believer.

38 Does God change His mind 65-0418E P:44 Notice, Abel by faith in God offered a more excellent sacrifice. And the carnal believer thought that it was the works of his own hands and his fruits and his beautiful offering that he brought, that God would recognize, and it made a clash. We find that Abraham and Lot had to clash. We find that Moses and Dathan, Korah had the same clash. Moses, being a ordained prophet with the Word of the Lord, vindicated that he was chosen to be their leader of the hour, and that Abraham had promised all these things, and here Moses did exactly what God said it would take place. And Korah, being carnal, wanted to raise up an organization among them. He wanted to make a group of men, and God doesn't deal with people like that. It shows right there in that Scripture a type of the journey today that organization is not what God ordains. For as soon as Korah done it, he said to Moses, "You take too much upon yourself." In other words, "The whole congregation's holy; why, you say you're the only holy man. You have no right to do any such as that. You try to make yourself somebody big. We're all holy; we're all God's children." And Moses just turned his head and walked away. He said, "Lord, what will I do?" God said, "Separate yourself from him; I've had enough of it." And He swallowed him up in the earth.

39 Now, what brother Branham said here is a lesson for anyone who desires to be conformed to the image of the first born son, because Moses was a type of Christ in Measure. And brother Branham said, Moses just walked away when they wanted to fuss. And when he did then God took over and swallowed up those who opposed him. You see how God works? If Moses would have entered into the fussing, then God would have just stood back and let him fight it out himself, and nothing would have been accomplished. But when Moses stepped back and went to the Lord, then God took over the fight and it was finished in a hurry.

40 He learned his lesson the hard way. When he was yo9ung, and not yet trained in the backside of the dessert, he slew an Egyptian. And all he got from that was one stinking dead Egyptian. But he must have sat in that desert for those 40 years and thought a lot about that, because now when they wished to oppose him, he turned it over to God. What an example for all of us, especially those in the ministry. Just let go and let God.

41 Again from his message, Hear recognize act on word 60-0221 P:34 Esau was a very good type of the carnal believer today, never able to overcome the world. He don't overcome the things of the world. They still like their carousing, their dancing, their manicure makeups, and, the women, on their faces, and cutting their hair and wearing little old short clothes; and men likes to go out to the poolrooms, and smoke cigarettes, and tell little dirty jokes; and still belong to the church. They're never able to overcome those things: neither could Esau. But yet, to be religious, he had to settle down to an intellectual conception. That's the same thing the church does today. " We'll become an organization. We'll put ourself together. We'll make a clan, or a clique, or something like that." And that's the way the church moves today, the spiritual and the carnal, still the same. It hasn't changed and never will change.

42 So you see in every revival there is always twins.

43 Blind Bartimaeus 61-0124 P:49 Every revival produces twins. The two sons of Isaac is well represented. Every time there's a revival, there's a Esau born and a Jacob born. One religious man of the world gets starchy, and takes some seminary experience; and the other one wants that birthright regardless of how he has to get it. If he has to be a holy-roller, or anything else, he wants the birthright, I don't care. That's what's the matter with the people today. They're afraid of that birthright. Oh, how that they hate that. But it produces twins. The men of the world, very religious inclined, do good alms and things, but cares nothing about the birthright... Those two great factions has been fighting since the world begin. And they're about ready to come to a head right now, where something that Jesus said, "they'd be so close alike they'd deceive the very elected if it was possible." It's true. You see what a deceiving hour that we're living in. Stay with the Word, brother. Don't leave that Word. That's right. The Word will speak for Itself.

44 Mark of the beast 61-0217 P:31 Now, therefore the great church making itself ready. We find out that Esau and Jacob, before either child was born, God said He loved one and hated the other. And remember, they were twins: same mother, same father. Get it? Twins. Every revival produces twins. Certainly does. There's twins born in natural man and the spiritual man. It was back in the garden of Eden, Cain and Abel, the same thing. Started from there, just keeps coming on down. And look at the church, Jesus the Pastor, Judas the treasurer, brothers, out of the same tribe, so forth, right in the same group, same church. One the Pastor, and the other one the treasurer. One a devil and one God. That's the way it goes. Jesus said, "In the last days the two spirits would be so close it would deceive the very elected if it was possible." Amen. If it was possible, but it isn't. And it... They'll never do it.

45 POWER OF TRANSFORMATION 65-1031M 135 There's always twins. And that's the reason... Don't forget this, little flock. The church in the last days is going to be twins, so close that'd deceive the elected: Matthew 24:24. See? The church is going... It's a Pentecostal move. It's so much like the real thing, till it would deceive the very elected if it was possible. And a little later on, if I get the chance, I want to explain what, how that election comes. See, it's going to deceive them, because it's almost like the same thing. See, just two fathers, that's all; same mother, same church, same movement, same thing. The bedding ground is the same, where the Word falls; but one of them, like here, is perverted. You understand? Say "amen" if you did see. See, one of them is a perversion, because it's the wrong father. Which, I will prove someday, if God will let me, that denomination is the mark of the beast. See, it's a wrong father. He's steering people to an organization instead of to the Word. See? It's the wrong father. It's a Cain move.

46 So in getting back to what brother Branham was telling us in The Spoken Word is the Original Seed pp.40 Brother Branham said, " The Baptists wants to outdo the Methodists. The Methodists wants to outdo the Lutheran. The Lutherans want to outdo the Catholic. They're every one wants to outdo somebody. See, that's the... That's the spirit of the organization.

47 So then what does it mean to outdo? Well, in plain English it means: To do more or to do better than in performance or action. And if to do more or better than then it is speaking of a competitive nature. To more than who? To do better than what? So what is the standard they wish to do better than? And to do more than who? That is the question, and it all comes down to motives and objectives. They want to do more or have more than God wants them to have, and they want to do better than what God's Word requires.

48 Then in their actions they are limiting the word of God, and saying the value they have is greater than the value God has, and their opinion is better than the opinion of God. In other words, they do not want to have the mind of Christ, they want to do better than that.

49 Then brother Branham continues by quoting Jesus when he says, "Jesus said, "But few there'll be that will be saved. Strait is the gate and narrow is the way, but few there'll be that'll find it." (That's what we preached on Wednesday night, just a few are going to make it. Then brother Branham continues...)

50 "Just a few. If He said "few", that's the Word of God, that Seed, there'll be a few. Won't be no tens of billions and billions. It'll just be a few that'll find it. Them that's predestinated to it, they hear it. The former rain has went forth now.

51 So then why would they say something like "a million more in 54?" Because they think God wants numbers. They are not satisfied to know that God knows them that are His. They think that more is better when the Bible clearly says, "many more are the children of the harlot than she which has a husband."

52 Paul explains their motives in Romans 1:22 when he says, "professing themselves to be wise they become fools." Martin Luther commented on this by saying, "Those who really regard themselves as fools, namely the truly pious and humble believers, are truly wise. Conversely, those who boast of their being mighty, influential and noble, are weak, deformed, and ignoble before God. even though in the eyes of men they might boast of such gifts and this because they glory in their gifts and good qualities.

53 And so the Bible continues in 1:23, "they changed the Glory of an un-corruptible God into an image made like unto corruptible man". In other words, they did not honor God as God really is, but rather they substituted their own notion of what and Who God is.

54 Now, this is the most probable interpretation of what Paul is saying here because even the Children of Israel gave divine honor to Baal and golden calves, though without a doubt, I am sure they thought they were worshipping the True God by using those forms and images. But the True God had forbidden them to do so. So it boils down to this: They chose to not believe the Word of the True God, but chose rather their own interpretation to His Word.

55 The sins of omitting that which is good leads to the sins of committing that which is positively evil. That is what Cain did. God said if you had done right you would have been accepted, so by dislocating a part of the Word of God that demanded timing as a part of how to rightly divide the Word, he chose to do it in his own timing rather than in the timing that God had set before them, namely that there had to be blood shed to remit the sin before any first fruit could be offered and accepted.

56 That is why the apostle Paul shows us how they omitted worship of the One true God first and then they committed worship of the creature as a result. The human mind is so inclined by nature that as it turns from the one, it of necessity becomes addicted to the other. He who rejects the creator, needs must worship the creature. And notice that in so doing they as Cain dishonored God and His Word. They know God is spirit and thus they substituted something created to worship over that which is Spirit, namely God the Creator.

57 So you see how their nature always reverts to the natural and carnal to express themselves. In their mind they changed the Glory of God into an image, or a figment of their own mind, and in doing so they turn from God who is The Word, and in turning away from what God so demands by His Word, they choose rather to worship him via the works which they have chosen for themselves, thinking that He follows them and their wishes, just as though he is different from the way in which he has revealed Himself in His Word. For this reason, God even to this day, gives up many to their own vain minds and their own corrupt hearts

58 That is why you can show them Scripture after Scripture and quote after quote of a vindicated prophet and they will still choose their oneness theology against the soundness of Scripture and Vindication.

59 Notice in Paul's text we see the steps or stages of the heathen perversion of Scripture.

60 #1) The first step of their idolatry is ingratitude: Paul said they were not thankful. And we know that pertains to the Shout in this hour, for they are not grateful that God Himself came down and vindicate one man, so they like satan before them exalt themselves above the stars of God...That's sons. They exalt themselves above the sons of God like satan did before them. The Bible teaches us that satan showed himself ungrateful against His creator before he fell. It says, he got lifted up in pride. Pride is an ungrateful spirit. Whoever enjoys God's gifts as though he had not graciously received them, forgetting the Giver of the gifts, will soon find himself filled with self complacency.

61 Did not Paul warn us in Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

62 In other words, the Apostle Paul said "what do you have that was not given to you? And if it was given to you, then why do you boast as though you haven't received it?"

63 He also said in Romans 3: 27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what, the law? By works? Nay: but by faith. 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. And If by faith then it is something that has been revealed which means uncovered. So who revealed it? That only comes from God. So where is boasting then?

64 He also said in 1 Corinthians 14:36 What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only? So if it came unto you only then it is a gift. Then how can you boast when it was not by your own merits that you received it.

65 Now, he also said in 1 Corinthians 1:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God knoweth. So unless God has given you of His Spirit you have nothing.

66 So whether you have or whether you do not have, it all goes back to what God has done. And then if you have anything it is because God gave it, so how can you be so proud that you could boast when you had nothing to do with it in the first place except you are just a vessel that God has chosen to place His Word in.

67 So we see the first step towards idolatry is a lack of gratitude for what God has given us.

68 #2) The second step towards idolatry is vanity: Paul said, "they became vain in their own imaginations." In this stage men delight in themselves, you see it all over, we call them the bride boys. All they talk about is the Bride, the Bride, the Bride, as though there is no groom they should be lifting up. In this stage they enjoy what

has become profitable to them. Thus they become vain in their imaginations, that is, in all their plans, efforts and endeavors, In and through them they seek whatever they desire, nevertheless, all their efforts remain vain, since they seek only themselves; their glory, their satisfaction, their benefit. When in actuality, eternal life is living for others, and not for self. In this they have completely missed the mark and have failed to receive the true prize.

69 #3) The third step is blindness; for deprived of truth, and steeped in vanity, man of necessity becomes blind in his whole feeling and thinking, since now he is turned entirely away from God. That is why they think they are rich, they think they are increased with good, but do not recognize that he is on the outside trying to get in, while they are actually blind, miserable and naked, and they do not know it.

70 As the Apostle Paul said in Ephesians 4: 18 Having the understanding darkened, they become alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: So their blindness of their own condition leads them away from God and God-life and takes them plumb into the darkness of ignorance.

71 #4) The fourth step or stage is their total departure from God, and He is the Word. Now, this of course is the worst stage to be in, for when he has lost God there remains nothing else for God to do than to give him up to the imaginations of his own heart and all manner of shame and vice according to the will of satan.

72 In the same way also, man sinks into spiritual idolatry of a finer kind, which today is spread far and wide. Ingratitude and love of vanity of one's own wisdom, or righteousness, or as it is commonly called, "one's good intentions", pervert man so thoroughly that he refuses to be reproved, for now he thinks that his conduct is good and pleasing to God. He now imagines he is worshipping a merciful God, wherein reality he has none; indeed, he worships his own figment of reason more devoutly than the living God. oh how great that first step into idolatry and depravity "ingratitude" is. It produces desires for vain things, and this again produces blindness, and blindness produces idolatry, and idolatry leads to a whole deluge of vices. Conversely, gratitude preserves love for God and respect and reverence for His Word, and thus the grateful heart willingly remains attached to God and His Word, and becomes enlightened by it.

73 Filled with Light, he worships only the One true God, and filled with such light and life his body, soul and spirit can't help but to manifest the light and life in them by a whole host of virtues.

74 So I hope this morning you can see the difference between a life that is surrendered to God verses a life that is motivated by that competitive organizational spirit.

75 Flee it my brother, flee it my sister, and learn to be content in whatever state you are in. Check your motives and objectives, and take an inventory of what is motivating your life. Come to Christ and surrender your body soul and spirit to God.

76 In closing let's turn to Matthew 22: 34 and mark this in Our Bibles to live as Jesus tells us here how to live. For it is very basic and simple. Verse 34 But when the Pharisees had heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together. 35 Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, 36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law? 37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

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78 Let us pray, Dear Father we thank you for your Word this morning, and we realize that there is just so much life in the sermons of your prophet William Branham and we are so grateful Father for all you have done for us by way of Your coming to us with a Shout, a Message in this hour, and we ask you Father to help us to continually die to self that the Life you placed in your son, and in which you have also baptized us into that same body, may that Life, Your Life, Your God-Life, may it so manifest in us until the Life of Your first born son may be seen in this vast family of sons, and may it manifest Thy Glory, Thy opinion, and Thy values in our mortal beings, Oh God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we ask this in his lovely name, amen!!!

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