

#252 "Correctly dedicated to the Word"

1 In Paragraph 192 of the Spoken Word is the Original Seed afternoon message, brother Branham speaks of the dedication of the prophet that is to come in this last days. But he speaks of more than mere dedication, he says this one will be correctly dedicated to the Word of God.

2 Let's read it as we turn to paragraph 192 He will be correctly dedicated to the Word as they have always been; indicated by God's Word--and a-vindicated. God will vindicate what he preaches to be the Truth as He did Elijah; for it is Elijah coming, making ready for the Mount Zion rapture. Jesus said in the last days it would be like Lot's time. His preaching will be with the Spirit and straight line of God's Word. Because so much has been called God's Truth, many will misunderstand this true messenger. (I've got wrote here p-r-o-p-h-e-c-y, prophecy.) Because--because so much has been called God's Truth by fakers, many true ministers will misunderstand that messenger.

3 Now, I would like to take our thoughts this morning to this thought he said here, He will be correctly dedicated to the Word as they have always been; indicated by God's Word--and a-vindicated.

4 Notice in speaking of this prophet he said he will not only be indicated, which means that the Scriptures will plainly speak of this ministry, but he says, he will also be vindicated which means God will back up this ministry by His very presence.

5 Now, that would be a very nice study to take on that subject alone, but for this morning, let's focus our thoughts on the fact of this one being dedicated correctly to the Word of God.

6 Now, for us to understand this first let's look at the definition of the word dedicated as in dedicate or dedication.

7 ded-i-cat-ed (dɪd"i-kət"ɪd) adj. 1. Wholly committed (that means committed 100%, or as Jesus said, with your whole heart soul, and strength) to a particular course of thought or action; devoted:

8 Now, compare this to the word con-se-crate, v. tr. con-se-crat-ed con-se-crat-ing con-se-crates 1. To declare or set apart as sacred:

9 We find brother Branham speaking on this in his sermon, The Hour And Message Of Preparation P:4 5-6 29 Now, in the old Tabernacle, there might not be one person present this morning that was there the day of the dedication, when Major Ulrich played the music, and I stood behind three crosses here to dedicate the place. I would not permit anybody... The ushers stood at the door to see that nobody talked. When you done your talking outside, you come in. If you desired to, silently you come to the altar and prayed silently. You walked back to your seat, opened up the Bible. What your neighbor done, that was up to him. You had nothing to say. If you want to talk to him, say, "I'll see him outside. I'm in here to worship the Lord." You read His Word or set quietly. 6-1 30 And then the music--Sister Gertie, I don't know whether she's here this morning or not, Sister Gibbs. The old piano, I believe, set back in this corner the best of my remembrance. And she would play softly, "Down at the cross where my Savior died," some real sweet soft music, and then until it come time for the service, and the song leader got up and led a couple of congregational songs, and then if they had some outstanding solo, they sang it, but never just a bunch of carrying on. And then the music continually played, and then when I heard that, I

knowed it was my time to come out. When a minister walks into a congregation of people praying in the anointing of the Spirit, you're bound to hear from heaven. That's just all. There's no way to keep from it. But if you walk into confusion, then you're so confused, the Spirit's grieved. We don't want that, no. We want to come here to worship. We have lovely homes that I'm going to speak about just in a minute and so forth at home, where we visit our friends and take them. This is the house of the Lord.

10 Again from his sermon, Love Is The Life Expressed P:13 Now, there is nothing wrong in boasting about Christ. Or what God has done for you. Or even boasting about others. That is a good thing. The apostle Paul said, in 2 Corinthians 9: 2 For I know the forwardness of your mind, for which I boast of you to them of Macedonia, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal hath provoked very many. And again the Apostle Paul said, 2 Corinthians 8: 24 Wherefore shew ye to them, and before the churches, the proof of your love, and of our boasting on your behalf. So the Apostle Paul did boast about his converts to Christ and their lives and dedication to the Message. But of himself, never. And in fact the opposite is true. He abased Himself. 2 Corinthians 11: 7 Have I committed an offence in abasing myself that ye might be exalted, because I have preached to you the gospel of God freely? And again in Philippians 4: 12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

11 Now, the reason I chose to study this thought of Brother Branham's concerning what he said in our text this morning, "He will be correctly dedicated to the Word as they have always been; indicated by God's Word--and a-vindicated" is because just being dedicated and consecrated is not what he was talking about. He said correctly being dedicated, so if there is a correct dedication to the Word of God, then there must be an incorrect dedication to the Word of God.

12 As an example, the Pharisees were men whose lives were dedicated to knowing and understanding the scriptures. But they were also very legalistic. They took their religion very seriously, and didn't make time for the pleasures of life. They believed in the resurrection of the dead, they believed that Messiah was to come, and they were even looking for Him to come in their day. And most importantly, these were a group that took the Scriptures so seriously, that they studied every jot and tittle of the Scriptures, and claimed to believe every word the prophets had spoken or written. Yet when the Very Messiah they claimed to be looking for did come, they missed Him because they had so engrained their thinking to believe he would come in a certain way that they thought he was to come, and so when he did not come that way they missed it altogether.

13 You see, they studied the Scriptures, but Paul calls it the hidden wisdom of God and so it is. It takes the Holy Spirit to reveal it to man. It doesn't come by just memorizing it, and studying it. It must come by God personally revealing it to you.

14 God in simplicity 63-0317M P:65 God will hide Himself in something so simple that'll cause the wise to miss it a million miles and then turn right back around in that, some simple thing in the simplicity of His way of working and reveal Hissself right out again. I thought it made a text that we might study this before we go into the great teachings of the Seven Seals. Many miss Him by the way He reveals Himself. Now, man has their own ideas of what God ought to be and what God is going to do; and as I have made the old statement many times that man still remains man. Man is always giving God praise for what He did do, and always looking forward to what He will do, and ignoring what He's doing. See, see?

15 So you see the Pharisses were dedicated but not correctly dedicated to the Word of God for although they claimed to believe every jot and tittle, yet they showed that they believed it their own way when Jesus Actually came according to the way the Scriptures said he would come.

16 But they were so sure of how He was to come, that when He did come, they did not recognize Him. But they

were sure, but there being so sure found them at war with God when He came in His Son.

17 Yet He came right according to the very Scriptures they claimed to believe, yet they missed Him because he did not come the way they had been taught that He would come, for he did not come according to their understanding and He did not come according to the way their traditions had spoken of how He was to come. And let's face it, because He did not come to them, to their group, they couldn't accept it the way He did come.

18 And that is what it really boils down to. They were so sure they had it all right, that anything contrary to their understanding they had to refuse, because if they didn't, then it called them into question on their entire understanding.

19 Now, these traditions were not just the current thinking for the times but they had evolved over the centuries, and they had been handed down from generation to generation until, and through the process of time they began to read into Scripture what was not there, and bypass in their minds what was there, until they had a different Gospel than what was actually written. And we have seen the same thing in this day.

20 Jesus Christ the same 61-0519 P:34 But the strange thing, when He arrived, they were so stooped in other things, till they failed to recognize Him to be the Messiah. They was so organized, so tight amongst that... disassociating themselves from one another, Pharisees and Sadducees and so forth, just as it is today. So the very sign that that Messiah was supposed to show that He was the God-sent Messiah, they failed to see it, because of their their association with their denomination. May I say this with reverence and brotherly love? It's about the same today.

21 Water from the rock 55-0224 P:24 When Martin Luther built the first camp, he organized it so tight he just couldn't be nothing else but a Lutheran. God come right along, moved the Pillar of Fire out, the children followed it. Wesley brought the message. And the first thing you know, Wesley organized so tight, till he couldn't move. Then the first thing, the Pillar of Fire moved out, and here come the Pentecostals going right on with it. The Pentecostals organized so tight till they're fussing whether they're oneness, twoness, threeness, or one hump camel, two hump camel, three hump camel, this way, that way, that way, God's moving right on out, leaving them. That's right. The Holy Spirit's moving on, children's a following It.

22 Israel in the homeland 53-0329 P:46 Then they couldn't move, so John Wesley saw the Pillar of Fire and he moved after It. And he pulled a great... He saved the nations. About three or four nations was in moral decay, and John Wesley saw the Pillar of Fire and started the Wesley revival that swept around the world, and come over here, him and Asbury and them, and saved the day. That's right. And then the first thing you know, John Wesley organized so tight, the Pillar of Fire begin to move again. Wesley couldn't move because he was organized. And the Pentecostal people saw It, and away they went. That's right, left Wesley setting in the shade; God laid him up on the shelf with Luther. All right. Now, the first thing you know, they had a great revival, a Pentecostal revival, restoration of the gifts and so forth. And now, the first thing you know, the Pillar of Fire has begin to move again. But Pentecost is so organized, it can't go...?... when pure...?... It was so organized, crystallized until it can't go. That's right. That's true. But the Pillar of Fire is moving out, brother, and there's people that's going with It. Hallelujah. We're bound for the promised land.

23 We would see Jesus 58-0612 P:34 Martin Luther found It. He said, "The just shall live by faith." But what did he do? Built an organization under it. God isn't in organizations, so He just moved out. And when He did, left Luther with his organization. And then John Wesley saw it, and away he went: sanctification, second definite work of grace. And the first thing, he organized hisself: made the Methodists. God just moved right on out. The Pentecostals saw it in the baptism of the Holy Ghost, but now you're organized so tight, God's just moving right on out and leaving you. That's right. God is not bound to any denomination or any barriers. He's only duty bound

to His Word. That's all. And He does it, and He keeps His Word. He must do it. Now, you say, "Brother Branham, you fight organization." Who thinks that is not reading my thoughts. I do not. I think there's grand and glorious men in every organization. But when you think that you're the only pebble on the beach, you're wrong. That's right. You Methodists, Baptist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Pentecostals, Assemblies of God, Church of God, whatever you are, you got great men in every one of them. You got great people in them. But don't you never get the idea that you're not going to fellowship with the other one, and remain that way. You'll never do it.

24 Deceived church by the world 59-0628M P:50 But as Israel was bound by their kings, that they could not follow the real King, and the real King, when He came, they didn't recognize Him, so is it today, O Lord, the King of glory has appeared in the form of the Holy Ghost, and, Lord, they don't know it. They don't recognize it. They're so organized so tight, that they do not understand it, because it's not in their organization. Lord, this is a work of the Devil that's done this to the people. May the Samson of God, may the true in heart, those who are longing and crying, and pleading and holding on, may they stay with it, Lord, until this new crop grows out, until there comes forth again a joy in Zion, and there comes forth a group that can recognize and understand, that can see the Messiah and the hidden power that's hid from the world, that they will not understand now. Grant, Lord, that they'll see this. For we ask it in Jesus' Name. Amen.

25 And in his sermon What does thou here 59-0301E P:54 brother Branham is praying to God and he says, "I've crossed the nation and around the world, preaching, and crying, and persuading. And You've been faithful to throw out that sign of the Messiah to show that it's You, Lord, that's a doing it and not a man. I'm thankful for that. But, Lord, I'm under the juniper tree tonight. I'm wondering, why don't they repent? Why can't this America see it, Lord? Has her senses so dull, is the church so organized so tight... And they won't cooperate. They won't do nothing but criticize. But I'm just as sure tonight, as it was by Elijah under the tree; You've got seven thousand yet that hasn't bowed their knee to Baalim. You've got many saints in the earth today waiting for the coming of the Lord. O Lord, have mercy on us. Try us and put us into Your measuring scales. And if we see we've been found wanting, O Lord, cleanse us then from our sins, and make us what You'd have us to be. Grant that to every individual in this church, for we ask it in Jesus' Name. Amen."

26 So you see, you can be dedicated to the Word, but unless you are correctly dedicated to the Word you will miss what God has yet to reveal to you. So true or correct dedication to God's Word is to receive it the way he gave it, and to stay humble and small in your own eyes, lest there be something that you will miss.

27 Even the Apostle Paul said, Hebrews 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

28 Philippians 2:16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither labored in vain.

29 Galatians 5:7 Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?

30 Hebrews 4:1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

31 MESSAGE OF GRACE 61-0827 65 It takes the simplicity of believing God to make His Word speak out to show that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Takes a humble heart dedicated to God, bring Jesus Christ unto present tense. Amen. If it taken theology, what would the Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Catholic, and so forth, we wouldn't have a chance us poor unlearned people. But it doesn't take knowledge. "Not by power or by might, but by My Spirit," saith God, "I'll unfold this mystery." And he'll cry to it, "Grace, grace,

with shoutings and cryings." That's what it is today: God's amazing grace to His people. How He takes the illiterate, the unlearned, shows that Jesus is the same.

32 GOD IN SIMPLICITY 63-0317M 4-4 25 So now, now in the building I think that we ought to have in this, if it's been dedicated (or going to be dedicated in a few minutes to the worship of God), we should keep it that way. We should never buy or sell in the building. We should never do any business in this auditorium here; it should never be done in here. That is, such as permitting ministers to come in and sell books and everything. No matter what it is, there's other places to do that for... We shouldn't buy and sell in the house of our Lord. It should be a place of--of worship, holy, consecrated for that purpose. See? Now, He's give us a nice place; let's dedicate it to Him and dedicate ourselves with it to Him.5-1 26 And now, this may seem a little rude, but it's not a place to visit; it's a place of worship. We should never even murmur a word inside of here, outside of worship, to one another unless it's absolutely necessary. See? We should never rally around; we should never run through the building or let our children run through the building. And so doing this, feeling not long ago that, of doing this, we constructed it so we could take care of all of it. Now, we have this set here... 'Course many people are strangers. The Tabernacle folks know this, that the building is going to be dedicated to the service of the Almighty.5-3 26 Therefore, dedicating ourselves, let's remember when we enter that sanctuary, keep still to one another and worship God. If we want to visit each other, there's places we may visit each other like that but never walking around where you can't hear yourself think, and some person come in, and they just don't know what to do. See? It's so much noise and things, it's just humanly... And I've seen it in churches until it has made me feel real bad, because we do not come into the sanctuary of the Lord to meet each other; we come here to worship God, then go to our homes. This sanctuary's dedicated to worship. When... Stand outside; talk anything you wish to as long as it's right and holy; go to one another's homes; visit one another in places; but when you enter that door, be quiet. You come here to talk to Him (See?) and let Him talk back to you. The trouble of it is, we do too much talking and don't listen enough. Then when we come in here, wait on Him.

33 THE TOKEN 63-1128E 170 Some people said, "Well, I belong to church. Mother went up there, and I was dedicated there as a baby." You must display the Token. Yes, sir. Move out all the worldly trash, all the things of the world, 'cause you can't love the things of the world. all your unbelief in God's Word... Remember, He promised these things in the last days. Anything in your life that--that's against That, move it out, and get ready, and bring the Token in. Then apply the Token, in prayer with consecration, and be convinced and concerned about it. He said it has to be displayed and the word display means To present or hold up to view. To express, as by gestures or bodily posture: Let this attitude that was in Christ be also in you. And remember, your body posture is the display of your attitude. Therefore, that is what he is talking about when he says we must apply it or display the token.

34 Leviticus 22 NIV 1 "The LORD said to Moses, 2 "Tell Aaron and his sons to treat with respect the sacred offerings the Israelites consecrate to me, so they will not profane my holy name. I am the LORD. And what are the sacred offerings? It is those things, which the people of God have set aside to the Lord. Such as this Tabernacle. The place of Worship. 3 "Say to them: 'For the generations to come, if any of your descendants is ceremonially unclean (or has been tainted with sexual uncleanness), and yet comes near those sacred things that the Israelites have consecrate to the LORD, that person must be cut off from my presence. I am the LORD.'" That is pretty powerful words but I believe that if we do not honor those words, God will not honor us. If it was so important for the High Priest to approach God in such a way as to where he would be stricken dead if he didn't, do you think God will just take you any old way you choose? I think this scripture speaks to us of respect. It speaks of the lack of respect that some have for the house of God and in doing so they are to be cut off from the presence of God. And don't worry, if you don't do it, God surely will. I think we have seen the Word of God manifest itself in a mighty way in this little church because we have respected God and this sanctuary which has been dedicated to him and we have set it aside a sacred place of refuge where we can come and worship him in Spirit and in Truth. That is why we do not speak in here, and we do not pass notes and draw pictures during service. We are

here to worship God and everything else must be kept outside those walls.

35 So as you come forth tonight to take of the emblems I want you to be walking in the shoes that Jesus walked, I want you to be thinking in terms of your own life, your own dedication, your own consecration to the Word. and ask yourself, "Am I walking in His footsteps?" Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free? No, there's a cross for everyone and there's a cross for me. Let us now bow our heads in a word of Prayer as the brothers return thanks for the elements before us now.

36 Romans 5: 1-5 1Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: 2By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; 4And patience, experience; and experience, hope: 5And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

37 Without faith we could never be justified, and if never justified, then how could we be sanctified, and if never sanctified, then how could it ever be possible that God would place His Holy Spirit in an unholy vessel. In fact Brother Branham told us that God will never place His Spirit in an unholy vessel. So we see then this hope maketh us not ashamed. And the reason we are not ashamed is because we have been justified which came by Faith which is a revelation. This revelation opened up to us and gave access to us of the Grace of God, which then brings us into a peaceful relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ who is the Judge. This Peace with God then brings us into a life which is dedicated and consecrated and is sanctified which then opens the door for the indwelling of God's Spirit which is Holy.

38 1 Peter 1: 3-5 3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

39 Now, Martin Luther made a statement which I think bears repeating because it is so very important for us to understand. "we wait for this priceless inheritance, he says, 'in the hope which we have attained through faith', for this is their order of succession: From the Word follows faith, and from faith the new birth, and from the new birth we pass to hope, so that we certainly expect and are assured of the blessing."

40 Malachi 3: 16-18 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. 17And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. 18Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

41 Here we find that our talking the Word brings to our attention the things we are to rightfully discern. If those people who stay home on Wednesday nights to watch their TV shows would be talking the Word, then they would say to themselves, what does the Word say about being in church? Then, they would know what the Word says, and they would do what it says. But they put the Word aside for a purpose, and that is to fulfill their own desires. "There is a way that seemeth right unto man, but the ways thereof are the ways of death."

42 We are told in 2 Timothy 2:15 "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth." And this word study is the Greek word Spoudazo which means to make haste and exert oneself in the process, to be diligent, not dilatory. And so we see that there is an effort that God looks at and if He sees that effort in us He will be pleased. Now this is not the same as doing works, because

in doing this we actually manifest a certain attitude that places the Word above all else in our lives. And that is what the rebuke by Brother Branham is all about when he speaks about those who would stay home from church for any reason other than a death bed situation.