

#32 Knowing of whom you are taught

1 KJV II TIMOTHY 3:13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. 14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of knowing of whom thou hast learned [them] 16 For All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

2 PHILIPPIANS 4:9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

Let's bow our heads in prayer.....

3 This morning I would like to speak on the subject of: The importance of knowing of whom you are taught. As you can see by these two scriptures, it is very important to know who is teaching us, because our eternal destination will be determined by what Word we receive.

4 As you know, we live in a time when deception is one of the keynote attributes of this age. In 2nd John we read,

5 II JOHN 1:7 ¶ For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. 8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. 9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. 10 ¶ If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into [your] house, neither bid him God speed: 11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

6 NIV 2 John 9 Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.

7 WUEST 2 John 9 Everyone who goes beyond the limits of True doctrine, and does not remain in the aforementioned teaching with reference to Christ, does not possess God. The One who remains in the aforementioned teaching, this one possesses both the Father and Son.

8 Therefore, we are in danger of losing everything we have hope in concerning salvation and laying up treasure for the other side, if we receive the wrong teaching. Therefore it is all important to know who it is that is teaching us.

9 In 2 Corinthians Paul tells us that men will come along and they will teach another Jesus, one of a different Nature, and this will bring a different Spirit, one that is not the True Holy Spirit, but one that is of a different nature, and thus many will be deceived thinking they have received the Holy Spirit when they have received the Spirit of Satan.

II CORINTHIANS 11:2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. 3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

10 Notice, Paul not only calls her a virgin which is one which has been kept free from intimate relations with man, One who has been kept clean, but he more specifically calls her a chaste virgin, one who has been set aside, sanctified, and no mingling has taken place at all. VINES Expository definition of Greek words tells us the root word here means to be "free from any admixture altogether". Not even the slightest mixing. She's clean, pure, holy.

11 Yet we see the Apostle Paul tell us that in his day, instead of the people staying pure in doctrine, the people began receiving others who were not right in their teaching. Men entered in among the flock who began to pollute the truth by changing the nature of the Word, thus producing a Gospel of a different nature than what they had been given. Thus the Apostle Paul was upset with the people because when these guys came along, they put up with this other natured Gospel so easily enough. Notice verse ...4 For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough. 5 But I do not think I am in the least inferior to those "super-apostles." 6 I may not be a trained speaker, but I do have knowledge. We have made this perfectly clear to you in every way.

12 We find in the book of Galatians, Paul comes against these false apostles, very hard...Here he let's us know the true nature of what they teach and it's end product. Because after all, Doctrine is a seed. If it is true doctrine it is a True seed that will produce eternal Life, but if not it is an incorrect doctrine, it will produce death, spiritually and physically.

13 GALATIANS 1:6 ¶ I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: (Now this word "another" was translated from the Greek Word "heteros," which means "of a different nature" Paul continues, 7 Which is not another (Here Paul is more specific, by saying, it is not an "Allos," which means a different one altogether, no he is saying it is not a totally different Gospel, but it is a Gospel that has been given a twist which changes it's nature, it is a perverted Gospel) ; Then he adds, but there be some that trouble you, and would "pervert the gospel" of Christ. (Now, this word pervert here was translated from a Greek word "Metastrepho", which means "to turn one's course or to change one's mind".)

14 So we see this other Gospel or this Gospel of a different nature has turns and twists in it that lead you in another direction. Now, let's go to verse 8 to see some very strong words the apostle Paul uses concerning those

who would thus pervert the Gospel and present a Gospel that was of a different nature than the one that he presented. Verse 8, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."

15 Now, brother Branham, Like the Apostle Paul and like any true called, true ordained ministry sent by God, notice they have a certain way in which they approach anything. They don't just jump into things, but they set back and watch to see where these things are going. They watch to see where these things will lead. Because after all, our eternal destination hangs on the direction to where we are led by the teaching.

16 From His sermon, TESTIMONY 63-1128M 014 Brother Branham said, "I'm not a preacher. Anybody knows that. I'm not a preacher. But it's made up in a spiritual form of watching things and seeing things move, and forewarning people of things that's coming to pass. (Notice, not things that will come to pass, but warning of things which are [present tense] coming to pass.) And it's just that's my makeup. I can't help that, no more than you can help your makeup. But God has put us each one in the Body to do certain things. And I watch every little move, every objective, every motive, 'cause everything is governed by spirit. This church was put here for a purpose. There's a spirit behind this church. Certainly. Spirit behind your home, behind every building, behind everything there is a spirit, motive, and objective. This church comes here to greatly exalt some human system or something, then its motives is not right; but if it's put here to try to achieve something for the Kingdom of God, then the motive and objective both is right, if the motives is directed that way.

17 Now, let's turn in our Bibles to KJV II Timothy 3:13 And as we begin to read I want to examine this Scripture word by word and line by line. Notice Paul is speaking of the end-time and he says, But evil men (The word evil was translated from the Greek word "poneros," which means hurtful, i.e. evil (properly, in effect or influence, which indicates degeneracy from original virtue; diseased; but especially (morally) culpable, derelict, vicious, mischief, malice, --bad, evil, grievous, harm, lewd, malicious, wicked.

18 In other words, these men have a wrong nature, full of malice, and a spirit which wishes hurt on others. He also continues by calling them) seducers (which means they are imposters, and they use flatteries to enchant with purpose to deceive. And he tell us these men) shall wax worse and worse, (In other words they shall advance from a mode of thinking which is bad in nature, to a mode of thinking which becomes destructive in nature, like the process of rotting and decay. Then Paul says they are) deceiving, (which means they will be leading others into error) and (he continues all the while they themselves are)being deceived (or being led into error themselves).

19 Now, let's move on to verse 14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned (Don't deviate yourselves, but rather continue in the things which you have come to know and understand) and the things which thou hast been assured of (or fully persuaded of), knowing of whom thou hast learned them.

20 So Paul is talking to the people about how ungodly men, deceivers will come in among the true believers to try to lead off into a Gospel of a different nature, a perverted Gospel, but he says, you must know the ones who are teaching you, because Jesus Himself said, not every one who says Lord Lord shall enter in, but they that do the will of my Father. And that means you must not only look at what they are teaching you, but you must also look at their life to see if they are even worthy of the Gospel they claim to be preaching.

21 When the Apostle Paul says, "knowing of whom thou hast learned them". He is talking about you being discerning, observing, perceiving the person who or teacher who is increasing your knowledge);

22 Then he says in verse 16 For All scripture is given by inspiration of God, (in other words, the word inspiration comes from the root inspire which means to be breathed, so he is telling us the Word of God is God breathed), and since it is God breathed because it has come from the mouth of God, then it is profitable for doctrine (it's useful for teaching), and for reproof (that means convincing), and it is good for correction (correction of what? Correction from errors.), for instruction in righteousness (which is right-wise-ness, or right-doing): 17 That the man of God may be perfect (which means mature or complete), thoroughly furnished (completely equipped) unto (for) all good works.

Now, the Weymouth translation says it this way...3:13 "But bad men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, misleading and being misled. 14 But you must cling to the things which you have learnt and have been taught to believe, knowing who your teachers were, 16 For Every Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for convincing, for correction of error, and for instruction in right doing; 3:17 so that the man of God may himself be complete and may be perfectly equipped for every good work.

23 Now, Why are we telling you it is so important to know of whom you are taught. Because if the wrong person teaches you, you will receive a wrong teaching, and if you receive a wrong teaching, you will receive a wrong spirit. And if you receive a wrong spirit, you receive a wrong life. And if you receive a wrong life, it is not eternal life, then it is temporal which means it will have an end, and therefore it is a spirit of death...

24 Now, this same Apostle Paul who warns us in 2 Timothy, also told us that our salvation comes from hearing the right words from the right ministers.

25 Please turn with me to the Book of Romans and we will read from chapter 10: and verses 13-17 And I want you to mark these thoughts in your Bibles, because I am going to point out just exactly what he is telling us here, because knowing this is very important concerning your salvation. He says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. (Now, notice, he says our calling on the Lord has to do with our salvation. But then notice what he says next.)

26 Now, let's see what he has to say about that. Verse 14, How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! Then he says in verse 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? 17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

27 Now, Martin Luther in his comments on these verses said, "Even though they say they hear, they boast in vain, unless they hear true preachers; for to hear false prophets means as much as not to hear. They hear and they

do not hear. They have ears, but do not hear, nor do they preach The True Word of God. There are four statements which follow one another in such a way that one leads to the other, but so that the last forms the foundation on which the others rest. Thus, 1. It is impossible that those preach who are not sent. 2. It is impossible that those hear who are without a preacher. 3. It is impossible that they believe who do not hear. 4. It is impossible that they call upon Him who do not believe. To these must be added a fifth, it is impossible that they who do not call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. So, then, the entire source and origin of salvation rests on this, that God sends out someone, (a true minister of the Word). If He does not send out any, then they who preach, preach falsely, and their preaching is no preaching at all. In fact, it would be better for them not to preach. Then also, they who hear, hear error, and it would be better for them not to hear. Then also they who believe, would believe false doctrine, and it would be better for them not to call. For such preachers, do not preach; such hearers do not hear; such believers do not believe; such callers do not call; they will be damned because they would be saved by falsehood. As we read in Proverbs 1:28 "Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: for that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord". Then only they can preach with certainty who preach without error."

28 Now, we know what Paul said in Romans 10, and we know what he said in 2 Corinthians 11, and again in the book of Galatians, that if they receive a wrong word, then they will receive a wrong spirit. How then can we think that anyone who sits under a wrong ministry and has a wrong conception of the message has the right spirit, which is the Holy Spirit? A wrong conception is a wrong quickening to life. Conception means to quicken to life.

29 We know Peter said, in 1 Peter 1:23 that "we are born again, not by a corruptible seed, but by an incorruptible seed, by the Word of God which Lives and Abides forever." Jesus told us that the Sower sowed a seed which is the Word of God. And that seed will produce a life according to the law of reproduction, which states, "Every seed must bring forth after its own nature."

30 Then, to receive a wrong Word must produce a wrong spirit or a wrong life. How can it be otherwise. Did you know that brother Branham said we must have a right teaching in order to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit? To receive the Seal of God? And if you don't receive the seal of God there is only one seal left and that is the seal of Satan, which is the mark of the beast.

31 From his sermon, Unity One God One Church 58-1221E 76 042 brother Branham said, "The Scripture says, "All that didn't receive the Seal of God had the mark of the beast." There's only two classes on the earth. One's got the Mark of God, the other one's got the mark of the Devil. And all that didn't receive the Mark of God had the mark of the Devil. That's what the Scripture said. So you're forced to make a decision".

32 And from his sermon, Israel in Egypt 53-0325 141 090 brother Branham said, "What made you a Christian? Because God called you before the foundation of the world to be a Christian, and you become a Christian. Then you got saved, filled with the Holy Spirit; you got Eternal Life. Why did He give you the Holy Spirit? As a Seal of your faith. You had faith first. Now, if you say, "Well, you said awhile ago about Billy Graham and them hollering, 'Well, how many wants to accept Christ as personal Saviour, raise up their hand?' Is that all right? Certainly that's all right. That's good, but that's just beginning. Then if you really believe it, and really have accepted it in your heart, and are taught right, then the Holy Spirit will come as a circumcision, that He give Abraham after his faith, a confirmation.

33 So notice here that he places an emphasis on being taught right. He says, if you really believe it, and really have accepted it in your heart, and are taught right, then the Holy Spirit will come...as a confirmation.

34 Again from his sermon 148-2 Smyraean Church Age - Ch 4 he said, "So you can see right now that very few will ever believe all the way to receiving the Spirit of God."

35 And from Israel at Kadesh Barnea 53-0328 045 he said, "The Holy Ghost is a Gift of God (That's right.) That circumcises the heart, cuts away the surplus flesh, and makes you a new creature in Christ Jesus. Amen. All right. There you are. It's nothing you had to do in yourself; it's a gift of God. And when you believe correctly, God gives It to you. It's by faith. You... Now, faith isn't what It is.

36 And again from his sermon, I Will Restore 54-0620A 029 he said, "Now, what is the circumcision today? Is the Holy Spirit. God circumcises our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Where was done by the flesh with hands in the days gone by, but it's done by the Holy Spirit now. When we believe correctly on the Lord Jesus Christ, God gives the Holy Ghost to us to confirm it, that our faith has been reckoned before Him, and imputed to us for righteousness. Without the Holy Spirit, He's never recognized it yet.

37 And in his sermon, ELIJAH 55-0301 E-51 he said, "You have to believe It yourself. And in believing so, if you correctly believe, God will grant you your request."

38 Again from his sermon, Doctor Moses 55-0114 E-31 031 he said,"God is under obligation to His Word. Peter said on the Day of Pentecost, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." That's the Scripture, just as clear as I know how to read it. If you repented and are baptized, then God's under obligation, if your faith is right towards God to give you the Holy Ghost the minute that you obey His Word. Believe that. God will vindicate it to you. If your heart's really right before God, and you're taught right, and believing it, and walk up there with the assurance, something's going to happen, 'cause God's more willing to give you the Holy Ghost than you are willing to accept It.

39 Again we read from his sermon, Israel in Egypt 53-0325 104 073 "Well, they say, "I don't need anybody to teach me. Glory to God, I got the Holy Ghost." Well then, the Holy Ghost was wrong when It said It set some in the church, teachers. God put them in the church as teachers. That settles it. Why'd He put teachers in there, if the Holy Ghost is going to do all the teaching? See? What people needs is their brains baptized, besides their water. That's right. All right. Excuse that sharp expression, but I like to really let her soak in. We want a revival, and, brother, you got to stir the thing up. Before you can do it, you got to get Satan kicked away. Don't fuss with him, take your grounds and stand there. Had to battle him around the world, and every other Christian that ever stood for God has to battle him. But if you know what you're standing in, what you know is to be the truth, it's THUS SAITH THE LORD, you can stand there.

40 And in his sermon, Demonology 2 Religious 53-0609 "How little you preachers know." I said, "Instead of baptizing your body, you need your brains baptized." That's right. You don't stop to think of things. You don't try to consider it."

41 And from his sermon, Church and its Condition 56-0805 21 "we can't have a better understanding unless it. And if we're going to have a understanding of God, it must come out of God's Word, for the Word is what God gave us to feed our hungry souls. And the Holy Spirit was sent to take the Word of God and to feed us by the Word. You see it? See, we... The Holy Spirit is sent from God to take the Word of God and to give It to us as we have need. Now, I'm so glad that God made a provision like that (Aren't you?), that He would feed us.

42 Now, here is the thing. I believe the job of the five fold ministry is to do one thing. And that is to teach you the Truth of the Word of God. The Five fold ministry can not give you a revelation of the Word of God. Revelation only comes from God. But the reason it is so important that you have the right person teaching you is because the Word is a seed, and If the wrong seed is planted then wrong life will come up. But if the right seed is planted into your minds, then God can anoint that right word and quicken it to you so that you will then grow in that Word, and that Word can then come alive to you and in you and work its way through you.

Now, brother Branham said in his sermon, Blasphemous Names 62-1104M 053 "And the biggest part of our faith is mental faith. By hearing the Word it brings us to a mental recognition of God. But if this coming from above, oh, brother, if it ever strikes this, there is a godly, spiritual faith. Then what does that faith do? That faith recognizes only the Word. No matter what anything else says, it only recognizes the Word, because "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (And the Word's still God.) And the Word was made flesh and dwelled among us." And when the word Itself is pouring into our faith, our mental faith becomes a spiritual revelation. "And upon this foundation I'll build My Church," (See?), not upon a mental conception of church joining, a mental conception of that, but upon the revelation. When them streams of grace has poured into that mental faith that you've got, then upon this, a spiritual revelation, "I'll build My Church and the gates of hell can't prevail against it." See? That shows they would be against it, but it'll never prevail. Oh, what a glorious thing.

43 And again a few paragraphs down from this last one in Blasphemous Names 056 he said, "Number one, coming to you, your mental faith, right here, comes the Holy Spirit, coming down into your mental faith making it a spiritual faith. Then the spiritual faith only recognizes the Word. Now, and number three: Then you'll have spiritual, you'll have the Holy Spirit, and will seal all these things into you, as that Holy Spirit covers this. From your faith up to the Holy Spirit seals you in with Christ; then you become one. Amen. You become one. See, you and Christ live together. "At that day you'll know that I'm in the Father, the Father in Me, I in you, and you in Me." See? Then that's a sealed unit of the Lord God. Now, and then they are vindicated and placed. When that time takes place, they become vindicated sons and daughters of God.

44 So from what he is saying here is this. The ministry of the five fold is to teach your mind, the right Word, so that God can water that right Word, and bring it to the place of a right revelation, which is a quickened Word which has been made alive by the Holy Ghost in you. Then that quickened Word makes you a part of the revelation.

45 From his sermon, Christ is the mystery 63-0728 P:12 brother Branham said, "Look, Christ in you makes Him the center of Life of the revelation. See? Christ's Life in you makes Him the center of the revelation. Christ in the Bible, makes the Bible a complete revelation of Christ". "Christ in you makes you the complete revelation of the whole thing. `See, what God's trying to do? What is the new birth then? You say, "Well, Brother Branham,

what is the new birth?" It is the revelation of Jesus Christ personally to you. Amen. See? Not you joined a church, you shook a hand; you done something different; you said a creed; you promised to live by a code of rules; but Christ, the Bible... He is the Word that was revealed to you. And no matter what anybody says, what takes place, it's Christ. Pastor, priest, whatever it might be... It's Christ in you. That is a--the revelation that the Church was built upon.

46 From his sermon, Hebrews Chapter 3 57-0901M brother Branham said, "And one of them said, "We have down here, Elisha. He poured water on the hands of Elijah." See his associate? In other words, "Here's Elisha who's had associations with Elijah, the Word of the Lord is with him." You get it? He'd been taught right. And he said, "He's here. Let's go down and consult him because his teacher was Elijah, and he's got the teaching of Elijah in him." See what a difference it makes? Sure, we want to be taught."

47 Now, that we understand what right teaching will do for us, and how it prepares us for Divine Revelation from God, to contrast it, let's see what wrong teaching will produce...

48 JAMES 1:13 ¶ Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. 16 Do not err, my beloved brethren. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. 18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first-fruits of his creatures.

49 Now, usually when a minister teaches in error, he uses fear to control the people instead of the Word of God to lead and guide them.

50 Brother Branham said in his sermon, Unpardonable Sin 54-1024 "Think of it: no fear. That's the greatest plague there is in the Christian Church today, is "afraid." And the reason they're afraid is because they're not taught right, and settled right, on the Gospel. So you see these preachers who use fear to cajole the people into submission are teaching wrong. The Apostle Paul said in Romans 8: 15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

51 From his sermon, Does God Change His Mind 172 087 brother Branham said, "But what happened? Balaam. He succeeded in weakening Israel. What did he do? He weakened their camp. God let him go and weaken their camp, and it polluted the whole camp. And when some doctrine starts that's not the Bible truth, it pollutes the whole camp. Somebody raise up with a different idea, like Korah, and say, "Well, this, that, and the other. And I got a different idea," it pollutes the whole camp. And that's what's done the whole church camp today. That's right. Teaching, as he did, weakening the whole camp for Kadesh Barnea, the Word showdown... When they got to Kadesh Barnea, then in the weakening of the camp, they come back, said... Went right after... Remember, they'd eat Angels' food; they had the Word of God every night made manifest, and they eat the food. They drink from the rock. They seen the miracles; they watched Moses and seen his word, seen his prophecies, everything. And then finally when they listened to this false teacher come in among them and teach wrong, he weakened the camp, and prospered by it. He might've built a million dollar buildings; he might've had great denominations; he might've added thousands times thousands, and done great works, and mighty works, and was

a prophet. That's all right, but as long as it's not with the Word of God, you'd better stay away from it. God don't change His mind. Stay right with His Word, 'cause that's what's going to come out in the end: the Word, word by word. "Whosoever shall take one word away from It or add one word to It..." It's got to stay that Word. 174 088
Now, listen closely now. When the Word test came, when they went over and seen the opposition so great, the greatest opposition they ever seen, the Amalekites was ten times their size, they said, "We look like grasshoppers. Their fences are, or their cities are so walled till they can run a chariot race around it, two chariots, as hard as they can go around the walls (See?) of the cities. Why, their spears are way out there, long. And they're giants. Why, we look like grasshoppers. We can't do it." And two men stood on that Word. Caleb and Joshua said, "Wait a minute. You two million people, shut up just a minute; we are more than able to do it. (See?) We are more than a match for them." What was they basing on? God said, "I've given you the land. It's yours." And there they stood. But the people had gotten married off amongst other things and all kinds of creeds and rituals among them, and they just weaky, wishy-washy, didn't know which way to turn and what to do. That's right. There come the Word test.

52 In closing, brother Branham said from his sermon Hebrews Chapter 5 and 6 57-0908M P:24 "Paul, speaking to this Hebrew group, yet scholars he's speaking to now, scholars, well learned. We find that in a few moments, very scholarly. But the deep spiritual mystery, the church is still blinded to it. He said, "When you ought to be teaching others, you're still a babe." Oh, I know there's many rise up, and go out, and say, "Oh, I don't need to go to church anymore. Praise God, the Holy Ghost has come; He's the teacher." When you get that idea, you're just wrong. For why did the Holy Ghost set teachers in the church if He was going to be the teacher? See? There are first apostles, prophets, teachers, evangelists, and pastors. The Holy Spirit set teachers in the church, so He could teach through that teacher. And if it isn't according to the Word, God doesn't confirm it, then it isn't the right kind of teaching. It must compare with the entire Bible, and be just as alive today as It was then. There's the real thing made manifest".

Let us pray,...