

#29 What Controls you fear or faith

1 Tonight we will take our thoughts from paragraph 64 of Brother Branham's sermon, Christ is the Mystery of God revealed. 64 The other day, standing in a hospital room talking... A sister had asked me to explain about denominations, why we was against denominations, with some denominational people. You see, it's got to come back to the Word because the Word is God. See? And Jesus declaring the same here that the Word is Him. You can't make the Scripture contradict Itself. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word... made flesh." See?

2

Now, the word denomination means: 1. A large group of religious congregations united under a common faith and name and organized under a single administrative and legal hierarchy. 2. One of a series of kinds, values, or sizes, as in a system of currency or weights: 3. A name or designation, especially for a class or group.

3

So what you are looking at first is a way to control through the use of an hierarchy, the thoughts and actions of man. That is what the first definition tells us. A large group of religious congregations united under a common faith and name and organized under a single administrative and legal hierarchy.

4

Now, this Message is a large religious group united under a common Faith and name but is not organized under a single administrative hierarchy. But there are many who would wish that upon us. That is why br. Vayle always said, you don't have to listen to me to make it, and yet we have people who say you must listen to Lee Vayle to make it. And there are people who say you must listen to Joe Coleman to make it, and there are people who say you must listen to Ewal Frank to make it, and there are people who believe that you must listen to John Martin, or Pearry Green or Eddie Byskal or Donnie Reagan or Lonnie Jenkins to make it. Now, when you've created a hierarchy for a large group of churches to be organized under you have denominated. I don't care what definition you go by, but that is the definition of denomination. And the word denominate comes from the root to nominate, like when Israel appointed their own leaders, or when the apostles chose their own apostle to take Judas place.

5

God set in the church a five fold ministry for the perfecting or maturing of the church. Man has nothing to do with those Gifts that God has set in the church except to be open in their hearts to hear them and then grow in wisdom and knowledge through those ministries. But no five fold ministry is so important that you must hear them or you will not make it. The bible tells us that if they don't come with thus saith the Lord, you don't have to fear them.

6

Deuteronomy 15 The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken; (now this word hearken means to pay close attention to what he is saying) 16 According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not. (So God sends prophets because that is the way the people wanted to hear from God.) 17 And the LORD said unto me, They have well spoken that which they have spoken. 18 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. 19 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall

Speak in my name, I will require it of him.

7

Look, God is not saying you even got to fear that man, but you do need to pay attention to what he has to say for your own benefit.

8

20 But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. 21 And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? 22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.

9

So all these preachers that use fear to govern and rule, are not doing so with the consent of God, but of their own selves. And brother Branham said that is of the devil. In his sermon, God testifying of His gifts 52-0713E P:49 Brother Branham said, "So don't fear; fear is of the devil. Everything Jesus would say, "Fear not, fear not," constantly, "fear not, fear not." Is that right? Always, "Fear not." Now, God don't want you to fear; He wants you to believe.

10

Brother Branham even preached a Message called Be not afraid 61-0224 P:11 and in it he said, "There's two elements that control the entire human race in the world: One of them is fear; the other is faith. Now, it's either fear or faith controls every nation, every denomination and every individual. You're either fear or faith that controls you."

11

So then I will ask you the question, "what is controlling you tonight?" Are you filled with fear or faith? And if fear, then I would like to ask you why? What man has hindered you.

12

Way to have fellowship 55-1009 P:26 That's the trouble with man tonight; that's what's the trouble with people tonight; you're scared. That's the biggest curse there is on the Full Gospel people, or any other people; is because they are afraid. God has made the provision, but you're afraid to take His Word for it. If you wasn't afraid tonight, why, you would take your healing by faith, and know that God promised it, and the thing would just go plumb away from you. Afraid, scared... And I've noticed it. And that's the reason I'm such a believer in healing. I know that if you can get away from that scare, and get love in its place, something's going to happen. There's only two faculties that govern a human, and one of them is faith, which brings results; and the other is fear, which has no value in it at all. Faith is of God. Fear is of the Devil. Fear makes you weary; fear makes you wonder. And if I was going to die in the morning, what good would it do me to get all stewed up about it? What if I was going to be electrocuted in the morning, and my life had to end tomorrow morning, what good would that do me to worry about it? That is exactly what took place in the early church. Peter went to visit Paul in Galatia and was having a wonderful time among the Gentiles worshipping God with a real liberty in his faith, but when the false brethren came in, those Pharisees who were still under the law, and you know they used the law to control people. You think for one minute those Mullahs don't use the law to control all those Muslims? It's a racket. It's for control. And in this message they do it with fear. Fear of the deacon board. Fear of getting a letter. Hah!!

13

Galatians 2:1 Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also.

2 And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain. 3 But neither Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised: 4 And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage: 5 To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you. 6 But of these who seemed to be somewhat, (whatsoever they were, it maketh no matter to me: God accepteth no man's person:) for they who seemed to be somewhat in conference added nothing to me: 7 But contrariwise, when they saw that the gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me, as the gospel of the circumcision was unto Peter; 8 (For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles:) 9 And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision. 10 Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do. 11 But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. 12 For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.

14

Peter was a hypocrite, and Paul saw what he did. He like a coward when he saw the legalists come, stopped doing what he was doing and started doing what he knew would be pleasing to them. What a hypocrite.

15

13 And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation. 14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?

16

I don't fear any man, and you should either. What can a man do to you? Kill you? That would just get you to your goal of being on the other side just a little bit faster than you planned on, that's all. O you say, I fear getting hurt. Listen you can get hurt getting out of bed in the morning. If you don't think so, just ask anyone with gray hair if they haven't hurt themselves getting out of bed one morning or other. You can fall on your face walking to the bathroom at night.

17 We shouldn't live in fear! How can you enjoy life when you live in fear. Men don't scare me. Preachers don't scare me, so why should they scare you? You can't be cast away and no man can pluck you out of My hand, Jesus said. So why should you fear?

18

And you most certainly should not fear what man could do to you! God won't let anything come your way that you are not able to cope with. I petty the day that a deacon board would call me in and try to run roughshod over me. I pity those men sitting their because they don't know what they would get in return.

19

Luther didn't fear the Roman church. He stood right in it's face and showed them by the Word of God where they had deviated from the Word. Do you realize Joshua commanded the sun to stand still and the moon to stay over the Valley so they could have enough light to finish off the enemy? We are more than conquerors in Christ Jesus.

20

Now, listen, every time the angel of God came to a man or woman in the Bible the first words from his lips were, "Fear not". As brother Branham said, God doesn't want you to fear, he wants you to believe.

21

Even the Apostle Paul said in 2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. Therefore if you are fearful it shows that your mind is not sound. Now, what does that mean? Your thinking is skewed and not normal. Why? Because you have given into the words of someone who has used words to open you up to fear, and when that happens you become a prisoner of that which you fear. And as we have already read from Brother Branham, "fear is of the devil, it is not of God.

22

And that is what the Apostle Paul said in 2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; So then where'd you get it? Not from God! God gives you a sound mind, and God gives you power, and He gives you His Love.

23

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.

24

So if God has not given you this spirit of fear, where did it come from? It comes from man who is inspired of the devil. And when they use any mode of bringing fear upon you, it is inspired of satan.

25

Brother Branham said in God's way made for us 52-0900 P:5 "The worse thing the devil can put upon you is fear. If you even had a cancer and didn't fear, and believed God would heal you, you wouldn't be in too bad a shape. God take care of that; if you were sick, whatever it is, if you didn't fear... So fear is one of the worst things that Satan can place upon the person. Now, this week I've tried to prove by the Scripture, that the man that's born again of the Kingdom of God has nothing to fear. You're absolutely safely secure in Jesus Christ. "All the Father has given Me," He said, "will come to Me. No man can come 'less the Father calls. The Father has got to lead him up to Me; and he that comes to Me, I will in no wise cast out. And No man can pluck them out of My Father's hand; no man is greater than He is. He that heareth My words and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath Everlasting Life; shall not come into condemnation, but has passed from Life... from death unto Life. He that eats My flesh and drinks My blood hath," not will have, "but hath (present tense) Everlasting Life, and I will raise him up at the last day." "Wherefore grieve not the Holy Spirit of God whereby you're sealed until the day of your redemption." There you are. "Sealed away until the day of your redemption." Not just from one revival to another, but till the day of your redemption.

26

Therefore, there are two things that control every person today. You are either controlled by fear or you are controlled by faith. Take your pick, but one of the two is controlling you tonight. So which is it going to be?

27 From his sermon, Expectation 61-0207 P:19 Brother Branham Said, Now, before you can have expectation, there must be faith to accompany that expectation. And there's only two elements in the world that controls the world tonight, that's fear and faith. Russia's trying to get everybody to fear them, and we're trying to get everybody to have faith in God. That's the difference. That two element controls all nations, controls all people, controls all churches, controls individuals, is fear or faith.

28

In fact brother Branham said in his message, Perfect faith 63-0825E P:41 "In the Book of Job It says here, "Job feared." And what he feared, it actually happened. What brought it? His fear. That's what made it happen. His faith would've kept him from it, but his fear brought it to him. He was scared it was going to happen, and it did happen. Now, if he knowed it wouldn't have happened, it wouldn't have happened. See what I mean? If you're afraid when you come by the prayer line, "Maybe I just haven't got the faith sufficient," it'll never happen, don't worry. See? But if you know it's going to happen, it'll happen. See? See, it's a substance of something. Job had a fear that these things would come upon him, and they did. If you have a fear that your disease is won't leave you, it won't. If you have a faith, that it will. You ask any medical doctor. The first thing he will try to get you to do, is to have confidence in the medicine he's giving you. If you haven't got no confidence in it, you'd better leave it alone. See? Sure. What is it then? It's faith that does the healing; it's faith that does it all the time.

29

And brother Branham said in his message Greater than Solomon is here 62-0725 P:77 "if you're determined to know God, you don't know no fear. Faith knows no fear. That right? You don't care what the doctor says, what anybody else says; you believe it. See?"

30

Expectation 61-0207 P:20 Now, fear has no value in it, none whatever. It's perfectly endless, it hasn't got one good thing about it. If I was to be shot in the morning, was going to be shot, what good would it do to have fear? What good would it do me? You say, "Well, what good would faith do you?" Faith could deliver me. But fear won't help me a bit. You just get yourself all worked up and more nervous than ever when it comes time for the gun to fire. So let's have faith. Faith could deliver me, but if it doesn't, what good would fear do anyhow? Just stay right with faith and hold on to it. Take God's promise and remain with God.

31

Look, Shadrack, Meshack, and Abednigo stood there looking in that flaming fire that was heated up seven times hotter, and they said, "we don't know whether God will deliver us, but we believe he can. But even if he doesn't we will not bow down to your idols and compromise our Faith in the One true God." And so they had no fear. Whether he delivers us or not isn't going to change what we believe. And you know what? Their Faith saved them. Because God acts upon our faith, not upon our fears.

32

Now that we understand that either faith or fear controls, how can we come to the place that we have faith and no fear.

33

Well the Scripture tells us how to get rid of fear, we read in 1 John 4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

34

DIAGLOTT: fear has restraint.

35 WUEST: This aforementioned love which exists in it's completed state throws fear outside, because this fear has a penalty, and the one who fears has not been brought to completion in the sphere of this love, and is not in that state at present. 1) to throw fear aside you must first be able to recognize it. 2) fear brings restraint from a lack of trust, unrest.

36

NIV: fear has to do with punishment.

37

Weymouth: Our love will be manifested in all its perfection by our having complete confidence on the day of Judgment; because just what He is, we are in the world. Love has in it no element of fear, but perfect love drives away fear, because fear involves pain, and if a man gives way to fear, there is something imperfect in his love. We love because God first loved us.

38

Now let's look closer at this verse to understand what it is that fear does. John tells us that "fear hath torment". Now, listen close. The Greek word for hath here is echo. Fear echoes torment, fear echoes punishment. Look, when I was a child I feared being spanked, and that fear was worse than the spanking. Then when I was a teenager, dad took the belt and I just told myself I can take it, and when he struck and I didn't even flinch, he quit using the belt after that. Not mind over matter, but Punishment is more psychological than it is anything else. We fear the unknown. But when you realize that you are the son of the King, and that he said personally that he would never leave you nor forsake you, you can count on His word as being true and every man's words a lie when it doesn't say what he said.

39

The boxer that goes into the ring in fear, is the one that is carried out. Why, because The Apostle John said, "because fear hath torment". Fear has a penalty, you freeze up. You stop doing what you were doing. Therefore fear echoes the penalty. And when it echoes the penalty the thoughts of penalty run over and over and over again in your mind, echoing the penalty over and over again. And the penalty of fear is that you freeze up and don't do what you would have done had you not had fear about it.

40

In Hebrews 2: 15 we see that through fear we are made subject to bondage. In fact the very penalty that is spoken of in 1 John 4: 18 that is brought on through fear is bondage. But we have find that fear has a penalty and that penalty is that you stop doing what you set out to do. Joseph feared to take Mary to be his wife, he feared what it would do to his reputation taking a woman to wife who was already pregnant. And so God had to send His Messenger to appease this fear. And when the angel came to him he said, "Joseph, fear not to take mary to be your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost." And so understanding the purpose and plan of God arrests our fears and brings them into conformity to the purpose and plan of God. In the book of Kings and Chronicles people out of fear were forced to worship other Gods. They didn't have to do it but they allowed fear to rule and thus they became in bondage to their fears.

41

1 Kings 18:21 we find the people feared what the King would do to them and so Elijah rebuked them by saying, "how halt ye between two opinions"? "How long will you be lame and stopped in your forward movement?" Amplified Bible "How long will you be halt and limp between two opinions? NIV "How long will you waver between two opinions?" NAS "How long will you hesitate between these two opinions?"

42

Fear causes damage, because when a person is afraid they become bound by their fears. We read in 1 John 4. That perfect or mature Love will cast out fear because fear has a penalty, it has to do with you freezing and crystallizing in your thinking. Joseph began to fear that Mary had not been faithful and so God sent His Angel to tell him not to fear to take Mary as His Wife. What did fear do here? It caused Joseph to doubt and it caused him to stop moving forward with the plan of God for his life.

43

Fellowship 56-0212 P:5 "Faith works great things for us, And you can't have faith till you have love. That's just all there is to it. Perfect love casts out all fear, and As long as you got fear you can't have faith. So you got to have love first. It drives all fear out, and then faith comes in, takes the place of fear. So when you have that you're coming right along. Now, I was thinking of how that Jesus or God said in Psalms 103:3 "I'm the Lord Who healeth all of thy diseases." Well, we look today and we see science and they're doing great things. Doctors are making great operations; and great things are taking place. We see the chiropractics on the up... on the... marching up, and we see the practitioners on the march, and everything that we see is moving upward, and then also the Church of the living God is moving upward. Why, things are happening today that ten, fifteen years ago people thought would've been a perfect impossibility for things to happen, but today we're seeing it happen.

44

Why cry speak 63-0714M P:68 That's the same thing God put before Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. See? By faith you must make your choice. Now, notice, sight led Pharaoh to his death, and to destruction of his city. Moses, with his faith, never did fear Pharaoh. See? He didn't care what Pharaoh said. He cared not about Pharaoh no more than his mother and his daddy cared about the threat. When Moses was confirmed to him that he was that person that was to deliver to lead Israel out of Egypt, he never cared what Pharaoh said. He wasn't scared of him. Amen, amen, amen. You see what I mean? There's no fear in faith. Faith knows about it. Faith as I've always said, has got great big muscles and hairs on the chest. Faith said, "Shut up." And everybody shuts up. That's all. "I know where I'm at." Rest of them say, "Well, maybe he does." See? But you've got to stand up and show your muscles. That's all; faith does it.