

#57 The Word will bear ITS own fruit

1 Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. **2** Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. **3** For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. **4** When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. **5** Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth;

2 Romans 8:10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. **11** But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. **12** Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. **13** For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. **14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

3 This evening we will speak again from paragraph 312 of brother Branham's sermon Christ is the Mystery of God Revealed and we are going to focus on the third statement of the five part statement wherein brother Branham is speaking of the attributes of the apostle Paul.

4 In paragraph 312 brother Branham said in speaking of the apostle Paul (3) he lived the Word so that it expressed It.

5 Now I want you to catch his words very carefully here. Notice he did not say, he lived the Word so that he expressed It. No, no no.

6 He said, "he lived the Word so that IT expressed IT."

7 Let me reword this for you in my own words so that you can better see what he is saying here. He is saying, "Paul so lived the Word so that The Word expressed The Word.

8 Now He is not saying here Paul lived the Word so much until Paul expressed the Word. That is not what the Apostle Paul said. So let's turn in our Bibles to Romans 7 to find out what Paul said about himself.

9 That is contrary to what Paul Himself said, when he said, " Romans 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

10 Here is the first point I want you to understand. The Apostle Paul said that the "Law is spiritual" is that not what he said? Therefore if the Law is spiritual then it can not be satisfied with anything that your flesh or any flesh can produce.

11 That's why I always tell the young men who say "I just can't live it", I tell them of course not no one can. And they say well, then what is the use of trying? And they are missing the whole picture right there, because you say what is the use for ME to try. It's not about you, it's about Him. No man can live it, but one man did and that man when he lived it, he set the standard so high no man can live up t that standard. But He can! And how do I know that? Because He already did.

12 So Paul tells us the Law is spiritual but I am carnal, and not only am I carnal but I am sold under sin which is missing the mark or basically not believing. I'm sown that way to begin with, we are all "born in sin, shaped in iniquity, and come into this world speaking lies", so how do you expect to live it, when you were not made to live it. But He was. Because He was born from above, and He was not born by a sexual act of the flesh, but he was born from above.

13 Therefore, I want for you to get that out of your thinking right now, and don't let that thought hold you down. When the devil whispers in your ear that you can't live it, you tell him, you are absolutely right devil, but I know one who did. And that one who did wants to live it in me as well, so stand back Satan, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ because "I am crucified with Christ, and nevertheless, I know that I am still living, yet it is no longer me that is living, but Christ Himself is living in me", and the Life I am now living in this flesh I am living by the Faith, by the revelation of the son of God, His Faith, His Revelation, because it is Him that is alive in me."

14 Then Paul goes on to explain how that since the law is spiritual, and he is carnal, how that he is not able to live out the Law Himself. **15** For that which I do I allow not: (in other words, the things I seem to do in this flesh, I really didn't plan to do them, they just happen because of my flesh. I mean I don't even have to think to do them, they just happen. It's the human nature to do them. That is why I don't have to allow them, they just happen.

15 And then he says, "for what I would like to do, that do I not do; (In other words the things I allow for), those I don't seem to do, and those things I make no allowance for that is what I seem to be doing.

16 Notice his language here, "but what I hate, that I seem to find myself doing".

17 Now, why would the apostle Paul make such a statement as that? Because he is telling us that it has nothing to do with what I can in this flesh or not do, because it has nothing to do with this flesh because it is spiritual, the law is. He is saying, "I know that all God's commands are spiritual, but I myself am not".

18 Paul is saying, "What I don't understand about myself is that I decide to go one way, but then I act in another way which seems just the opposite of the way I intended to act, doing things I absolutely despise doing. So if I can't be trusted to figure out what is best for myself and then do it, it becomes very obvious that God's commands are necessary".

19 So Paul says in verse 16 "If then I do that which I really don't want to do, or if I find myself doing those things that I never intentionally thought about doing, and I despise the doing of them, then in reality I am agreeing within me that the law that God set up is good for me. **17** Now then if my desire is to do what God has shown to be holy and righteous, but my body doesn't do what I wish it to do concerning what is holy and righteous, then it is not really me doing those things, but sin which is unbelief that dwells in me that causes me to do those things. **18** For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwells no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

20 **19** For the good that I would do, I do not do: but the evil which I would not do, that I find myself doing. **20** Now if I do what I would not do, then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwells in me. **21** I find then this law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. **22** For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

21 **23** But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. **24** O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? **25** I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin

22 Now, what Paul is saying in this is that there is a law called the law of reproduction, or the law of life, and it is operating in this body. And when I delight in the Law of God inwardly, I know that the Law of God is spiritual, because even though I long to do God's will and obey His law, yet this body is not spiritual, and was sown in sin, shaped in iniquity and has come to the world speaking lies.

23 So when we look at the body of flesh, it has a law operating in that body that makes the body to manifest itself according to the nature of the seed that gave birth to that body. But he says there is also another law within me which is spiritual, and this nature as it grows up within me, seem to war against the nature of my flesh. And this nature is spiritual, because it is the nature of the inner man by a new birth. And the two natures war against each other. But since both are tied directly to whatever seed was sown, then hence when I would to do good, there is another nature so in effect the nature of the flesh wars against the nature of the spirit.

24 So here is the problem, I desire to live a life like Christ but my body is not capable of going along with my desire. So what do I do in this case? Am I held accountable for every act that is done in this flesh?

25 Absolutely you are held accountable.

26 Matthew 16:27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

27 So we see that man can not get away from the fact that he is held responsible for every work he does in the flesh, and yet we know the flesh is not capable of doing that which pleases God.

28 Now it doesn't look good for man his ultimate sentencing because even if he wishes to do good, there is a law in the flesh that will not permit him to do that which is good. So now, that we have set forth the case against our bodies being capable of living a sinless life, let's read again what brother Branham said in paragraph 312.

29 In paragraph 312 brother Branham said in speaking of the apostle Paul (3) he lived the Word so that it expressed It.

30 Now I want you to catch his words very carefully here. Notice he did not say, he lived the Word so that he expressed It. No, no no.

31 He said, "he lived the Word so that IT could express ITself." Not Paul expressing it, but the word expressing itself.

32 Let me reword this for you in my own words so that you can better see what he is saying here. He is saying, "Paul so lived the Word so that The Word expressed The Word.

33 Notice, as Paul said in Galatians 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. 17 But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid. 18 For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. 19 For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. 20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ is living in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. 21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

34 Notice then it is not I that am living, but Christ is the one who is now living in me.

35 Now, let's take this a step further as we go to Matthew 13 the parable of the sower.

36 Matthew 13:1 The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side. 2 And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. 3 And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow; 4 And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up: 5 Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: 6 And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. 7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them: 8 But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. 9 Who hath ears to hear, let him hear. 10 And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? 11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. 12 For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. 13 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. 14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: 15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. 16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. 17 For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them. 18 Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower. 19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

37 20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; 21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended. 22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful. 23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

38 Now, I want you to notice that the one who bears fruit is the one who receives the word and because the Word is in good ground he tells us that good ground is to hear and understand what we heard, and when we do it brings forth much fruit.

39 Now, let's examine this parable from one other place in scripture, as we turn over to Mark chapter 4. Notice here in this version, Jesus is now speaking about those who are not with us, but are on the outside looking in, and he says, but unto them that are without, (without means those on the outside, or the outsiders who are in this Message, those whose nature is an outsider) all these things are done in parables (Now, notice there is a purpose for the parables, they are for the purpose of keeping the truth hidden from those it is not meant for to receive it.)¹² That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, (therefore unless you see and perceive and hear and understand you will never be converted. And if you are not converted then your sins remain. and you can never express anything in this body other than what it already is capable of expressing, and that is flesh, or self.) and their sins should be forgiven them. 13 And he said unto them, Know ye not this parable? and how then will ye know all parables?

40 Now, these are those who can not stand the trials God brings along. They come for the Word but when things get a little tough in their life, they want to run away from it all. That is because they have no roots in the Word.

41 And that leads us to the next group which is the Laodicean believer. And these are they which are sown among thorns; (Notice he said among thorns. These are not thorns but the Word was sewn to a people who are among thorns.

42 And these are they such as hear the Word, (Now, these have heard the Word, they understand it, but they allow their focus to drift from the Word, and get strangled by the cares of this life and they loose their focus of why we are here and refocus themselves on what the thorns present to them. Now notice what Jesus describes as the thorns. Number one)

43 And just as Br. Branham said of Paul, he lived the Word so that IT expressed It. I hope you see the same thing Jesus says here. That the Word wants to express itself. It is not you trying to express it, It expresses ITself. It, the Word can only express itself if it has a life to do so. And so we see that brother Branham tells us here that Paul lived in such a way as for the Word to express Itself out from His vessel, and that is the key we are taking about here, and the only way you can do that is to not do it yourself but simply die and get out of the way so God can do it.

44 Too many Christians do not understand this principle and that is why they shipwreck so much. They try and try and try and can't do it, but he never said try, he said die.

45

46 But we allow things to come into the way and thus by altering our focus on things instead of on God's Word and Will for us in this life, we allow that Word which we have received to get choked out. Then the Life of the Word gets choked out.

47 Years ago I was preaching at another church and I was trying to get across the understanding that although there is to be a squeeze that brother Branham tied with the council of churches coming against the Bride, yet I was trying to warn the people that there is something else just as bad and in fact worse for the bride and that was the Cares of this Life choking off the Word and the Word not coming alive in them because they had lost their focus on things. I said the word choke signifies another type of squeeze and this squeeze is far worse than the one coming because the Word can not produce fruit under this squeeze.

48 So you see the Word becomes choked from producing fruit is a far worse squeeze spiritually than the shutting down or persecution of the church.

49 Now, in closing let me read what we heard from Branham say in this paragraph we are studying tonight and see if Jesus is not saying the same thing.

50 "he lived the Word so that IT expressed It."

51 And now from John 15:4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. 6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. 8 Herein is

my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

52 Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. 5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth;

53 Romans 8:10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. 12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. 13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

54 Let us pray...