

#10 What is a So called Christian?

- 1** Wednesday night we read from paragraphs 11 and 12 for our communion service, and this morning we'll pick up at the last half of 11 and read through the first half of 13 for our text.
- 2** 11... God over us, God with us, and now, it's God in us. All God was, come into Christ; all Christ was, come into the church. What is it? God working in you. Anywhere in the world, if He'd want to call on you, you're right there: working in you to do His good will. How we ought to thank God for that. God the Holy Spirit is sent for the purpose of God living in His church, moving through each age, working out His Divine will.
- 3** 12 When men makes fun of you, they're not making fun of you; they're making fun of Him that sent you. So Jesus said, "Blessed are ye when men shall say all manner of evil against you, falsely, for My Name sake. Blessed are you." And again, "All that live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." For when God made Himself known in Christ, they hated Him. Who hated Him worse? The church. The church hated Him worse. They hated Him worse than the drunkard. They hated Him worse than all the other people. It was the church that hated Him. So therefore, when you see Kosmos, the world order... "The world knowed Him not" means the "church (so-called) knew Him not."
- 4** Notice brother Branham shows us that it's the church that hates God the most, and thus they would have to hate the vessels God uses to manifest His God Life through. Jesus said, "if they hate me they will hate you." Notice then his next comment is very important to see. He begins by saying, before we leave this text or thought altogether, I want to bring out a point for you to see, because if you see it by scripture you'll be wiser and know how to deal with it when you see it manifested around you.
- 5** Notice, 13 "fore we leave that text, let's use this."
- 6** Now, this is interesting language God's prophet is using here, because he just made some very strong incriminating statements about the church hating God, and then he says, Now, "before we leave that, let's use this", so he is tying together "that" with "this" next thought. Do you follow me?
- 7** Notice as he ties in with the thought of how the church hates God the most, then he goes on to talk about how Naomi and her husband had been suffering through many kinds of trials and hard times when they were in Israel, so they left Israel and went to Moab.
- 8** Now, let's just read what he says about that.
- 9** 13 In the days of Ruth, in the law of redemption when Naomi had left the country because of trials, hard times, she went into the Moabite land, which were just lukewarm, nominal Christians, because the Moabites come from the daughter of Lot. And they were so-called believers and mixed up.
- 10** And then, her husband died and her two sons died. And on the road home Naomi, Ruth and Naomi on their road home, and one of her daughter-in-laws, Orpah, she said that she would return back to her country, to her gods, and to her church, and to her people.
- 11** Now, let me say this, Orpah had married an Israelite, but now she says she is going to depart from the Faith

and go back to the faith of her people. I believe this story of Ruth is a type of the End Time Bride of Christ. And notice Ruth makes ready, she is steadfast while the other brides are falling away, she stays steadfast until she meets Boaz in the field. Ok, there's your second coming. But noticed there had to be a falling away first.

12 And Naomi tried to get Ruth to go back, but she said, "Your people are my people; your God is my God. Where you die, there I'll die; where you're buried, there I'll be buried. And I'll not turn back." That's when a person's caught a vision. Don't make any difference what her people said. "You're going over there and become a holy-roller or something." That didn't make any difference to Ruth. There was a purpose of God to be fulfilled.

13 Now notice, brother Branham is referring to the story of Ruth here and the decision that Naomi had made to follow her husband away from the true believers in Israel because of certain trials they were going through, and therefore, to avoid those trials, they left Israel and went to where their relatives were, thinking it would be better in that place than with the people of God. And the family were "Moabites", as brother Branham himself labeled them, "so called Christians". Related to the children of Israel but not the people of God.

14 Therefore we can see by reading just one verse of Scripture William Branham, vindicated prophet of God was able to discern the backslidden condition of Naomi and her husband for leaving when the trials came. And as you read on you'll see their decision went from bad to worse as her husband and two sons all died and she was left alone in a strange land.

15 Let's read, Ruth 1:1 Now it came to pass in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land. (and we know this is the same scene as in the end time.) And a certain man of Bethlehemjudah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he, and his wife, and his two sons. 2 And the name of the man was Elimelech, and the name of his wife Naomi, ...

16 The name Elimelech simply means "an Israelite". So the name is not important, because it's not about this man, this Israelite, it was about His wife Naomi, and her decision to go back and where the blessing of God was in the land of promise. By following this man, this "Israelite" she had backslid with him, by leaving Israel. Elimelech had lost his identification with the promises of God in going to Moab, and thus he walked out on God, and The other true believers and in doing so Naomi ended up losing her husband and boys that her husband thought he was saving from the trials and struggles.

17 And we see the same things taking place today. Many women follow their husbands away from God fearing, Holy Ghost filled churches, and they will either go to where sin is not preached or they will just stay home and put on a tape. But usually when they leave they will go to churches where weaker Christians go to avoid the confrontation of the Word which is the reason they leave in the first place. And in doing so they have gone into the land of weakness and unbelief.

18 Questions and answers COD 64-0830E P:113 429. Now, listen, you're supposed to obey your husband; that's the Word. Now, if he tells you and refuses you to read the Bible, go to church, or something like that, you don't have to obey that, because, "He that won't forsake his father, mother, husband, wife, or whatever it is and follow Me, is not worthy of Mine." That right?

19 And by following her husband into Moab she lost her husband her two sons.

20 And today, we see many people leaving the Message and leaving genuine Message believing churches, where Holy Ghost filled pastors preach the word without compromise, and they either just stay home, or they end up getting together with others who also left also because they do not like the sting of the Word, and are not willing to sit under a Holy Ghost anointed pastor who will not compromise on God's Word.

21 They don't stay and sort through their trials they seem to have, but in weakness, Like Elimelech they decide they can't handle the trial, and therefore to avoid the trial, they go to where they think they won't have to face those kind of trials which arise because of their faith or lack of it. Because let's face it, I have proven here by Scripture many times, and especially in the series we did on "The Garden of Your Mind", that all your trials are a result of your own current state of being, and they come on you because God is wanting to take you from that state to a higher state.

22 And that is what Naomi and her family had done. When the times got rough for the believers in Israel, her husband decided he didn't wish to suffer along with the other believers, and so he thought things would be better with the so called Christians because there would be less stress. Naomi just came along to be a submissive wife and because of that she lost her husband and two sons any way. Now, these are not my words, but His, and if you believe this is a vindicated prophet, then you should take heed to what he's telling us here.

23 This message is supposed to help us grow to the place where we recognize our trials are placed upon us by God for our own good. And we should not run from them, but we should face up to them as they come.

24 It seems to me in this Message when people come upon a disagreement with their pastors over something silly, something very trivial, or something someone in the church said or did, instead of being mature enough to say, "as for me and my house we will serve the Lord, they get upset and leave the church.

25 God said, "Come now, and let us reason together" and that's what we are supposed to do, open up the Word of God and find out the whole truth of any matter that comes up. But many would rather run from debate, than to come together and reason it out as the bible says to do. And then once they've done that, they seem to be ever on the run from one church to the next, running from the Presence of the Lord. And they never do settle down again after that. They develop a flight response.

26 It's either that or else they refuse to go to church altogether and they just run and hide in the privacy of their homes, and say, "we'll stay home and listen to a tape".

27 But brother Branham whom they claim to believe said in his sermon, Christ is the Mystery 63-0728 P:45 And now, you've got tapes on that. You've got tapes on what we believe. You got tapes on discipline in the church: how we behave ourself in the church of God, how we got to come here together and set together in heavenly places. Don't stay home. If God is in your heart, you can't hardly wait for them doors to open out yonder to get in here to fellowship with your brothers. If you don't feel that way, then I tell you, it's time you got to praying, 'cause we're in the last days where the Bible exhorted us to much more as we see that day approaching...

28 We would see Jesus 62-0704 P:45 Now, that's a good statement for anybody. Don't stay home and criticize. Don't get up and walk out. Stay and wait, and find out whether it's the Truth or not. See?

29 Be not afraid it is I 60-0720 P:27 That's the best thing to do. Now, just don't stay home and say, "Well, the Joneses said so-and-so." Don't do that. Come, bring your Bible, and search the Scriptures, and see if it's right or not.

30 Now, the Bible says not to stay home, and there are 31 quotes from brother Branham that says "don't stay home and criticise it," and yet people stay home anyway because they are led by feelings and not the Word of God. Notice the reason brother Branham says for this.

31 Be not afraid it is I 62-0629 P:2 And then we're taught that as the day begins to approach to the end, that we should not forsake the assembling ourselves together, as some who have not faith; but we are to assemble

ourselves together.

32 So it shows right there according to Scripture there is a lack faith. And getting together in the home is not assembling yourselves together. Brother Branham defines it as not going to church in the following quote.

33 Unpardonable sin 54-1024 P:34 Not forsaking the assembling yourselves together (coming to church) as you see the day approaching, much more. People forsaking going to church, the churches are beginning to be evacuated now.

34 And remember, the word forsake means to abandon. When Jesus said on the cross. My God, My God why has thou forsaken me, it means why has thou abandoned me.

35 Hear ye Him 57-0322 P:16 If there ever was a time that we ought to be assembling ourselves together, the Bible said, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, and that much the more when we see the end time approaching." Oh, there should be every hall and every arena throughout the United States and world rented by ministers, and preaching the Gospel, and warning the people of the things to come. We are near the end and how can we set still?

So often people want the promises of God but they don't want them the way God said we must receive them. Because he taught us that our character and faith must grow through the trials we face. But if we run from our trials, then we are outside the perfect will of God like Jonah was, although God used his backslidden condition to work things back into His perfect will.

36 We should never fear any trial we are going through, because these trials are placed upon us for one specific purpose, and that is for the purpose of testing us and correcting us in our thinking, and for bringing forth in each of us the very Character of Christ in us. If we believe our lies are predestined, then shouldn't we believe our trials are also?

Peter said in 1 Peter 1:7 "the trial of our faith is much more precious to us than Gold that perishes."

37 The Wuest translation tells us in 1Peter 1:7 That we are tested for the purpose of Approval.

38 1 Peter 1:7 "In which last season you are to be constantly rejoicing with a joy that expresses itself in a triumphant exuberance, although for a little while at the present time if perchance there is a need for it, you have been made sorrowful in the midst of many different kinds of testings in order that the approval of your faith, which faith was examined by testing for the purpose of being approved, that the approval being much more precious than the approval of Gold which perishes, even though that gold be approved by fire testing, may be discovered after scrutiny to result in praise and Glory and Honor at the time of the Revelation of Jesus Christ."

39 Therefore when we pass the test, there is always a reward. When we finish 1st grade we are tested, and when we pass the test we are asked to come up higher. We don't give a child in the first grade a college entrance exam. We wait for them to pass through all the stages of their education that prepares them for college before we give them that test. Therefore, a test is designed with the purpose of showing what stage you are in. And we have a promise that we will not be tested beyond that which we have been prepared to pass. And when we have been tested we can expect to receive the reward for passing.

40 1 Peter 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, (that finished of and fully mature) stablish, (that means to make you

resolute and steadfast) strengthen, (that means to confirm you in spiritual knowledge and power, and then that will) settle you.

41 Therefore, your trials are ordained to, build you up into the stature of Christ. But if you run away from them to avoid the pain and suffering most trials bring, you will never receive any of the benefits or rewards of passing the trial. And let's face it, why would you run if you knew you were ordained to pass the test. So running away shows weakness and insecurity. and that is exactly what Naomi and her husband had done. That did not make him any less an Israelite. But He left the promised land because of circumstances, showing a weakness in his character. But once Naomi was freed from his leadership she headed right straight back to the land of Promise.

42 And in 1 Peter 4:12 we are told that God tests us because he loves us. 12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: 13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. 14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. 15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. 16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. 17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? 18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? 19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

43 God tests us for our reactions, to bring about growth in our character. Instead though, may people who profess to be Christian which means Christ-Like, instead of taking heed to the test, and asking themselves, "what is this all about? Why is God permitting this thing to happen?" Usually what happens is they get offended by the test or trial and take it as a personal affront against them, and want to blame others for their own personal tests that God ordained for them. And that's how they end up failing the test. So many fail the test because they look at the test as an outside influence against them, instead of looking at it as something in themselves that needs perfecting. When you are focused on self and not on God, it shows you don't understand God's purpose behind your tests.

44 Our Trials are supposed to bring growth in our character and our lives. Every test we take is for a purpose. And the test is not to disprove the thing us, but the tests are designed to prove us.

45 Hebrews 12:6-8 6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. 7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? 8 But if ye be without chastisement, (if you run from the trials) whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

46 Now, that's very strong coming from the apostle Paul, and it ought to cause you to straighten up and bear whatever comes your way, and not run from it.

47 9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? 10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

48 Look what he wants to produce in you. His own Holiness, not your own holiness, because we have none outside of what He does in and through you.

49 The Scripture tells us, "There is none that is holy, no not even one."

50 11 Now no chastening for the present seemd to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

And what is this righteousness? It is a right-wise-ness. It means the trial gives you a wisdom you didn't have before, a better understanding, and it makes you more rightly wise.

51 12 Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; 13 And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. 14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: 15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; 16 Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. 17 For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.

52 Therefore, we should see that the trial should mean everything to us, we should count it all joy, knowing that the trial will not only teach us, but with the trial always comes reward.

James 1:12 12 Blessed is the man that endureth testings: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

53 Notice again the trial and then the reward, the crown of Life.

54 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.

55 Therefore your trial are all about you, and your state of being. You bring on your own trials. And the person who always wants to blame their trials as someone else doesn't have a clue how God is working in you both to will and do. And that is because those kind of people are not Christ centered, but they are centered on self and self absorbed.

56 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin:(unbelief) and sin, (unbelief) 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 firstfruits of his creatures. 19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: 20 For the wrath of man (anger of man) worketh not the righteousness of God. 21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

57 Notice what he's saying is if you are just a talker and not a doer of the Word you are deceiving only your self.

58 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

- 59** Well, then so much for those who mock and say we don't have to do anything, All we have to do is believe that brother Branham did and we are resting on that. Then why did brother Branham preach the sermon, "Hearing, Recognizing and then acting upon the Word of God." And Works is faith expressed?
- 60** Now, the Moabites were related to Abraham because they were from the incestuous act of Lot had with his own daughters. That's why brother Branham used in type, "so-called Christians".
- 61** In other word they were family, they claimed to believe the same Message Israel believed. Therefore, in their backslidden condition. Naomi left the real Message to follow her backslidden husband and they went over to the so-called Christians, the Moabites, and their they settled down, only to find it was not what they thought it would. They never did escape their trials there. And if they were so called Christians as brother Branham said, then it shows Naomis' husband was not very discerning.
- 62** And that is why we are so often warned in Scripture to "try the spirits to see whether they are in the faith."
- 63** Jesus warned us, Paul warned us, John warned us, Peter warned us, James warned us and Jude warned us.
- 64** And in our day we had a vindicated prophet William Branham warn us as well about those enticing spirits.
- 65** The Apostle John warned us in 1 John 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: (and how do you try the spirits? You give them the Word test.) because many false prophets are gone out into the world.
- 66** And Paul said in Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.
- 67** And we are warned in 2 Peter 2:1 Wuest Translation: But as there arose false prophets among the people, even so shall there be false teachers among you who will be of such a character as to bring alongside of true doctrine destructive heresies even denying the Lord who purchased them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. 2 And many shall follow their licentious conduct to its consumation; on account of whom the way of truth will be reviled.
- 68** These men come into the Message and give a wrong understanding of the Word of God and the people will be caught up into what these men say as evil interpreters of the Word of Truth. 3 And in the sphere of covetousness with fabricated words (that's words they just make up. They don't say what has already been said, but come up with their own little revelations, and in doing so Peter says,) they will exploit you, from whom: for whom from ancient times their judgment has not been idle.
- 69** 1 Peter 3:16 Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good behavior in Christ.
- 70** And we are warned by Jude 1:12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear:
- 71** 2 Peter 2:13 And shall receive the reward of their unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; notice what they sow they shall reap.

72 Now Jesus warned us in Matthew 24:24 that the two spirits would be so close it would deceive the very elect if it were possible. Therefore, we want to know what these so-called Christians are that brother Branham is speaking about?

73 In closing I'd like to share some quotes from brother Branham that he defines the attributes that make up a so-called Christian. Listen carefully, to see if there are any that have your name on it. An if there are, just repent quickly and change your ways.

74 1) First of all we see that the so called Christian is a hybrid and you can't teach him anything. Calling Jesus on the scene 64-0319 P:26 He's just a hybrid. ...these so-called Christians'... "you can't never teach him nothing" Therefore ask yourself, "can I be taught or do I respond as though I know it all.?"

75 2) The so called Christians are spiritually dead and eat on contaminated spiritual food. Turn on the light 64-0125 P:35 That's the reason we got so many spiritual dead, so-called Christians. ... They're eating manna that's already contaminated. Therefore ask yourself, "Am I focused on what God is doing right now, today, am I alive in Christ"?

76 3) In speaking of the so called Christian brother Branham said in his sermon, Christ is the mystery 63-0728 P:206 where he was talking about the morals of the Shungai African tribes where they kill fornicators, he said, "What if you did that in so-called Christians? Ninety-nine percent of them would die before daylight (That's right. Right.), both man and women. Then ask yourself? Is your life free from immorality? remember, Jesus said not only to do it, but to look upon a woman with the desire in your heart.

77 4) From his sermon, Lord just once more 63-0628A P:48 brother Branham called the so called Christian a hybrid, That's the way it is with these hybrid, so-called Christians. ..."See, you don't know where you do stand. But a genuine borned again pedigreed Christian from the Book of Acts, knows exactly where he stands. He's borned of the Spirit, and here's his pedigree: Do you know with no uncertainty where you are standing with God? Can you show Scripture and verse where you stand on God's Word? If not you are just following someone else, and you don't have it yourself. if you can not explain your stand by the Word of God then you don't have a stand. You are resting your salvation on someone else. Then you are not even saved yet.

78 5) Brother Branham calls the so-called Christian "impersonators", and they deny the power of the Holy Ghost in the individual. Jehovah Jireh part 2 62-0706 P:35 "But heady, (they think they are better than) high-minded,(intellectuals) lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God,(their entertainment has the preeminence in their lives) trucebreakers, (they like to start fusses and divisions) false accusers,(they like to accuse and they resort to stretch the facts) incontinent, (they can not constrain themselves) and despisers of those that are right. (notice the Bible says those that are good, and brother Branham interprets that as those that are right, therefore they despise you for your right-wise-ness)" Oh, you say, "That's Communists." No, no. That's "so-called Christians." "Having a form of godliness, but denying (disagreeing with and saying no to) the power thereof, from such turn away. For this is the sort that goes from house to house, (like gossips, who are not content to tell the gossip once but they are obsessed with telling everyone, and go from house to house) leading silly (foolish) women, led away with diverse lusts, (who themselves also are) never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." That's right. That's what it is. And we see that day.

79 Notice the so called Christian has a form of God-like-ness, in form only, by they deny which means they say no to the Spirit, so brother Branham calls then impersonators. That means they are just acting like they're Christians when their life tells you they're not.

80 World's Falling Apart 63-0412M P:50 The prophet said in II Timothy 3, the time would come when men

would be "heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, and despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded." You say, "That's communists." That's so-called Christians. The Bible said, "Having a form of godliness and denying the power thereof: from such turn away. For this is the sort that go from house to house, and lead silly women led away with divers lusts, never able to learn or come to the knowledge of the truth. But as Jambres and Jannes..." Remember they did exactly... They they were impersonators. That thing struck the Pentecostal realms, as it has the rest of them--impersonators. When Moses thrown down the rod, Jambres and Jannes throwed down the rod. When Moses called for things, they called for things: carnal impersonation. And how are you going to get away from it?

81 Paul describes them as "heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, and despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded." You say, "That's communists." That's so-called Christians. The Bible said, "Having a form of godliness and denying the power thereof: from such turn away. For this is the sort that go from house to house, and lead silly women led away with divers lusts, never able to learn nor come to the knowledge of the truth.

82 7) In Uncertain sound 60-1218 P:58 Brother Branham says so called Christians get offended easily by the Word. a lukewarm bunch of cold, professed, so-called Christians, that you have to watch what every word you say. And you can't preach by inspiration; you have to have it so-so, and watch every judge and every doctor and everything in there, so you don't say something to hurt their feelings, because they're big payers on the church.

83 8) He says they have no life, because they are cross bred with the world. Having conferences 60-0608 P:42 He can't reproduce himself. He's a cross breed. And that's what's the matter with a lot of so-called Christians today: cross breeds with the world. No wonder you can't never be settled: double minded, never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

84 9) in the next quote he let's us know the so called Christian loves entertainment and social drinks more than they love the word of God. Reaction to an action 59-0810 P:15 I just believe in the old fashion, unadulterated Gospel truth of the Bible. But drinking, used to be it was immoral among the people. And card playing used to be wrong for the Christian. And now, millions of so-called Christians have entertainment in their churches playing cards, giving away little cars and so forth, bunco.

85 Blushing prophet 56-1125E P:10 Today sixty percent of so called Christians take a social drink at least once a year. Then they get on a big spree around Christmas when they have their celebration. Because they have adopted education to take the place of salvation. It'll never do it. What we need is a revival. do you take a little social drink?

86 10) They mock the true Word of God and will not take time to seek the Holy Ghost. Called out 58-0109 P:20 they mocked at Him and laughed at Him. And they would not receive the message. Neither do they do it today. It's the very same thing, and they won't believe it. There's only one thing left; that's judgment. But notice, the Bible said they'd be like that. In II Timothy 3, the Bible said that they will be. "In the last days the Spirit speaks expressingly." That's directly, not to that day, but to the last day. "Men shall be heady, high-minded, lovers of television, things of the world." That goes in with it. "Lovers of the world, more than the lovers of God, trucebreakers, and false accusers, and despisers of those which are good..." You say, "That's atheists, Brother Branham. That must be communists." That's American, so-called Christians: "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power (the supernatural of the Gospel), from such, get away from their walls; from such turn away. For this is the sort that goes from house to house, and with societies, and so forth, leads silly women captive with sin, taken away with divers lusts," with all kinds of parties. And, "My church does this, and we have so much time," but no time to seek the Holy Ghost, and the notion and mind of God. They deny it. No time...

87 12) They are not even sure if all of God's Word is true. Second handed robe 56-1206 P:67 And here's the way the Bible is to me. It's either the truth or it's an error. If it's an error, I want nothing to do with it. No, sir.... If it's a error, I want nothing to do with it. If it's the truth, I'm ready to die for it. That's right. So make it one or the other way. God speed the day when so-called Christians will either profess and be Christians, or either say what they are to begin with. I'd rather be a infidel than a hypocrite. That's right. Be what you are. If you'll believe Christ, say, "Yes," and don't just, "Oh, I believe this, and I believe this, and I..." Either believe it all or believe none of it. It's either God's Word or it's not God's Word. If God didn't write it, then just... If part of it's wrong, then the other part's wrong.

88 13) So called Christians are just church goers. Infallible Word of God 56-0406 P:55 the so called Christians,... and just so they belong to church,...

89 14) There is about a million so called Christian for every one genuine Holy Ghost filled Christian. Invisible union of the bride 65-1125 P:102 There were two million people come out, sung, shouted, done everything, and give God glory, and danced up and down the sea, and done everything that all the rest of them did. But there were only two went into the promised land: Caleb and Joshua, only two. That's one out of a million. It's one out of a million in natural birth. Everyone of them had the same blessing. Oh, you Pentecostals, I hope you don't wake up too late. One out of a million. Look, there's supposed to be five hundred million so-called Christians in the world today. If Jesus would come, there would only be five hundred go with Him then, if that statistic would run true. Why, there's more than that missing every day over the world. They know nothing about it. One in a million 65-0424 P:29 There's approximately five hundred million so-called Christians in the world today, and each day ends a generation. And now, what if the rapture would come today and five hundred people, universally, would be taken in the rapture? Is your whole life being spent to get ready for the rapture or is it about making money and having a good social life? What is the pearl of great price to you?

90 15) The so-called Christian professes one thing but lives another, and gets their feelings hurt by truth. Letting off the pressure 62-0513E P:37 Now, there's where so many so-called Christians make their mistake. See, they act like they're going to plow, but the first little thing comes along, they blow up about it.

91 16) The so-called Christian stays home from church, and has to be begged to come to church. Marriage of the lamb 62-0121E P:52 That's what too many so-called Christians do, sharing your love with the world: playing, dancing, gambling, staying home from prayer meeting to watch television, all kinds of worldly things that's took the place of the love of God in the church's heart. She's gone on a tantrum. She's gone wild. She's gone out after other men. She's sharing her love. She'll take her tithings that she should give to the church; she'll spend it on other things out there in the world. Instead of loving God the way she should do, and living for God, and loving to come to church, you almost have to persuade her to come. If you don't get a text, do you forget we have church every Wednesday night?

92 17) the so-called Christian can not take the correction of the Word. Convinced then concerned 62-0118 P:113 And finally He turned around and said, "It's not meet for Me to take the children's bread and give it to dogs." Oh, would that have made some of us so-called Christians really go up about it, "call us a dog." She never. She knew that was truth. She said, "That's truth, Lord, but the dogs eat the scraps under their master's table." What is your reaction when the pastor reads from the prophet or Scripture and it stings your soul? Do you get mad at him, or yourself for being so dull to God's Will?

93 18) So called Christians are self centered, they are not Christ centered. Door of doors 57-1212 P:11 many people who call themselves Christian, yet they would not dare to let Jesus in that little compartment, because it's the apartment of selfishness. Now, you notice among so called Christians, ...selfish motives. "Oh, it's all right, if it's for me and my denomination, it's all right. But if my denomination has nothing to do with it, then I don't want

anything to do with it." That's a little compartment of selfishness that all Christians ought to open the door and say, "Come in, Lord Jesus, and be Lord of my heart."

94 19) So called Christian are not born again, and they are not spirit filled, they are just like hot house plants that have to be babied. Be not afraid 63-0607 P:72 You have to spray, and baby, and pet around with so-called Christians. ... But it'll never do no good. Pat them on the back, and call them brother, but until they are borned again of the Spirit of God, they're just a nest full of rotten eggs. That's all. They'll never hatch. We need the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Communion 62-0204 P:59 That's what's the matter with too many so-called Christians; they're hothouse plants (That's right.), subject to every bug that comes along.

95 20) So called Christians need a change of their nature, they haven't died to self yet. Jehovah Jireh part 3 62-0707 P:26 That's the reason that so-called Christians many times wallow in the mud, back in sin, is because... That's the only way that a man or woman can ever line up with God, is change their nature, clean out, die to the old man's sin, and be reborn again by the Spirit of God. Has your nature been changed?

96 21) So called Christian are intellectual, not spirit filled Take on the whole armor of God 62-0701 P:48 He makes it educational, intellectual. Did not the Holy Ghost tell us in II Timothy, 3rd chapter, that in the last days it would become an intellectual group in the church? "Heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, and despisers of those that are good?" You say, "Them's communists." Oh, no. Them is so-called Christians (See?), having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof. And the power is the Word made manifest. Said, "The Gospel come to us not through word only, but through power and demonstrations of the Spirit."

97 22) Brother Branham types the so called Christian with a Mule and says, he don't know if he's a Christian or a sinner, a believer or an unbeliever. Perseverance 62-0608 P:47 he's mean. He's lowdown. He will wait all of his life to get to kick you just before he dies. He's hybrid. That's what's the matter with the church today: too many hybrid so-called Christians. ...You don't know whether you're a Christian or a sinner. You don't know whether you're a believer or an unbeliever. Hybrid. Do you hold grudges? Do you wait to get even? If so you are a mule and not a pure bred.

98 23) So called Christians get mad and call you names when you show them their condition by the Word. Way of a true prophet 62-0513M P:71 He's a prophet. And that's the Word. He'd say, "You, Jezebels..." He'd get rough with them. Why? He's a prophet. He'd have to stay with the Word. That's right. You think they'd stop? No, sir. They'd say, "It's a fanatic. He's bad as that old Paul was in the Bible: woman hater." You bunch of imposter-ing, so-called Christians.

99 24) Br. Branham said in his sermon, Be not afraid it is I 61-0414 P:48 I believe it's eighty something percent of the so-called Christians don't believe in the physical return of Jesus. Do you really believe he will soon return, are you living like you believe it?

100 25) So called Christians fuss, quarrel and stew. Speak to the rock 60-0723 P:26 Carnality had cut off their spiritual supply. Carnality had cut off all their joy, all... They begin murmuring and fussing; they took them off in the desert. ... That's what's the matter with the churches, the reason they fuss, and quarrel, and stew, and so called Christians, because they've been bypassed from the land of blessing, from the fountain that never runs dry, from the Rock in the weary land. And they have become dry and carnal. Are you still excited to be a Christian every day, or do you fuss about everything?

101 26) So-called Christian have No Spiritual discernment Discerning body of Lord 59-0812 P:38 Paul promised that in the last day, by the Holy Spirit, that the church would fall away, millions of them. "There'll come a falling away, for men will be heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, and despisers of those that are good: not the right discernment." Oh," you say, "that is the Communist." That is so-called Christians. Watch the next verse. "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof," no spiritual discernment. When you got spiritual discernment and the Holy Ghost is upon you, you have spiritual discernment. It says, "Amen" to every promise of God.

102 27) The so called Christian has a religious spirit and likes to proselyte, and you can not deal with them United under one head 58-0326 P:32 The unclean spirit, then what does he do? He goes over and he gets into this person and he begins to tell him this. And you know what he does? It's just like what Jesus said, "You compass the seas to make one proselyte." And what is he when you get through with him? A more twofold child of hell than he was to start with. You can deal better with a street harlot. You can deal better with a prostitute on the street or a drunkard in some dive, than you can with some of these old moss-backed, so-called Christians. That's exactly right.

103 Now, God commanded us in His Word to "try every spirit to see whether it is of God". But do you? I don't believe you do. Not when you talk to them that are known gossips.

104 That's 1 John 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

105 And yet most people do what Naomi did, they say, "well they're a relative and they call themselves Christian, so its ok to leave church and get together with them." Let me tell you something brothers and sisters, the moment you take the Word of a so-called Christian which is non other than a person filled with religious demons, and when you take their word for anything, against the Word of God, that is the day you open yourself up to enticing Spirits. Eve just stopped to listen, and so did the girl who had the demon like bat cast out of her. She just stopped to listen when she knew better than to listen at all.

106 1 John 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits to see whether they are of God or not: And if you know the attributes of a so-called Christian then you will not mistake them for a real genuine Holy Ghost Christian.

107 God's prophet warned us to try every spirit, and we are warned to never open ourselves up to enticing spirit. And when you talk to people who have walked out from any Holy Ghost church, and who wish to fuss about that church or preacher, you better be very careful you do not open yourself up to an enticing spirit yourself. The Bible says they went out from among us BECAUSE they were not of us, for had they been of us they would no doubt stayed with us. So the very fact that people leave let's you know one thing, they are not of you or they would stay with you. That's Bible truth. Unless that church is off the Word, you had better not leave it. Then you had better be able to prove it by the Word.

108 Now, if you see a bird that looks like a duck, and quacks like a duck and flaps its wings like and duck and waddles like a duck, you know it is a duck.

109 And if you see a person who looks like a so-called Christian, and acts like a so-called Christian, and talks like a so-called Christian, and fusses and like a so-called Christian, and gossips like a so called Christian, and stays away from church like a so called Christian, and gets mad when he's rebuked like a so called Christian then that person no doubt is a so called Christian. For every seed will bring forth after its kind. And by their fruits you shall know them.

110 The hour is very late, there is no longer any guess work involved. we have been thoroughly trained in the Word by God's prophet and teacher, and we know what a so called Christian is, and we know they do not have a genuine Holy Ghost experience.

111 I spoke to brother Collins a year ago and asked him what the policy of the Branham tabernacle was concerning people who leave the church and he said, "we don't go after them, we just encourage them to go to church somewhere and not stay home", "because if they are not happy then why should they stay here and fuss behind the scenes. A little leaven will leaven the whole lump, and it infects the church, and the church can never move on and prosper while those kind of spirits are permitted to enter." Just look what Achan did hiding that wedge of gold, it affected the whole congregation.

112 Now, brother Branham and the Apostle Paul told us God's Word calls for a total separation from unbelief and unbelievers. So if you are approached by those who left the message or even a genuine church that preaches the truth and tries to get you to live right and do right, and believe right then you should be very, very careful, because the minute they try to bring up the reason they left, and you listen to them, they now have an opening into your soul to hear their gossip, and instead of doing what the Bible tells them to do which is to go to the one they have an offense with they, they would rather spread their gossip from person to person smearing the name of the person they have ought against. And if you listen to it, you will take on a demon. I'll guarantee that by the Scripture.

113 Proving His word 65-0426 P:25 you have to separate yourself from all the gossip of unbelief, and stay away from that. When people says, "Aw, those things don't happen. That's a bunch of lunatic people. There's no such a thing as that happening," just close up your ears and walk away. Don't pay any attention to it.

114 In closing, I would like to read from this sermon What the Holy Ghost is Given for and jump down a few paragraphs to P:61 It's to quit making you smoke, and drink, and want to be a big shot. It'll take that out of you. It'll humble you when you do that. That's what the Holy Ghost is for. It's for a holy life (That's right.): make you quit gossiping; make you quit playing cards, shooting craps, and all these other things that you do around the corner. It'll make you quit your carrying on the way you're doing, living untrue to your wife. That's what It'll do. That's right. It'll quit making you want to marry somebody else's wife. That's exactly right. That's what It is. It's to make you live a holy life. That's what the Holy Ghost is power for, to set your affections on things above where God stands at the...?... The mind of Christ in you. You can't help from seeing those things. When you look at them, you turn your head. That's right. It's to make you...You say, "I can't do it. Oh, I just can't do it." Sure, you can't. But the Holy Spirit come for that purpose. That's what It did. It come to take it out of you, all of them old habits and things that you're doing. That old back biting, separating yourself, saying, "Bless God, I'm a Methodist. I won't have nothing to do with them old holy-rollers." The Holy Ghost come to take that out of you.

115 Now, for homework, I would like all of you to listen to Enticing Spirits preached in 1955 by Brother Branham and the Seed of Discrepancy preached in 1965 as well. Because there are more than 20 statements he says that will help you to become a better discerner of peoples motives and intentions when you talk to them.

116 Paul said "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers". In other words we wrestle with the enticing spirits which is demon power. And don't think for one minute that these things are just a difference of opinion, this is the Word of God and it is either life or death to you depending on what you do with it.

117 Enticing spirits 55-0724 P:42 It's demons"... " What's the matter? I'm not trying to hurt you. I'm only trying to tell you it's demon possession and you're listening to enticing spirits that's telling you that's all right. But it's a lie. A grain of wheat will only produce wheat. If you're a Christian you won't do that. You can't do it. You

just can't do it. You got an intellectual faith and say, "Brother Branham, I believe the Bible." Your life tells that you don't. Amen. Enticing spirits versing the Word of God...

118 Enticing spirits 55-0724 P:79 Don't listen to those enticing spirits. Come, listen to the Word of God, **THUS SAITH THE LORD**. "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."

119 Enticing spirits 55-0724 P:71 Our heavenly Father, when we see these enticing spirits upon people and knowing that they are despising the things of God, I pray, God, that You'll get a-hold of every man and woman in here today. Let this be a day Lord, that they'll realize that their life doesn't tally up with the Word, and they've been listening to the wrong things, that the devil's been soothing them down... O God, cleanse Your house, Lord. Hallelujah. Send the Holy Ghost with such old time conviction that it'll clean a man's appetite, and clean his soul, and clean him up, and make him a heaven bound creature..

120 Enticing spirits 55-0724 P:64 Enticing spirits going around telling people this, that, or the other... What causes a person to gossip? Demon power, brother, Demon power.

121 Enticing spirits 55-0724 P:52 It's enticing spirits. Your church puts up with it. Your preacher's afraid to say anything, afraid that you won't pay in your tithes anymore. That's the reason. That's the trouble. My goodness, how you going to preach to a bunch of buzzards 'less you get them converted and right with God to begin with? They'll root their nose in dead stuff all the time.

122 Enticing spirits 55-0724 P:41 But this enticing spirit, look what it's done today. To make more church members, to make better church members, it's let down the bars of all the old fashion Holy Ghost teachings. It permitted the men to have social parties with one another out into the basement where they would play games. That'll never help to substitute the upper room where they were praying for the Holy Ghost. It permitted women to come together and tell jokes and have a lot of tommyrot that there's nothing to. That'll never take the place of a prayer meeting. Women, the way they go out and dress today it's, it's a disgrace.

123 Enticing spirits 55-0724 P:38 It's enticing spirits coming down trying to substitute something for the Word of God. God has no substitute for His Word.

124 Listen, you don't have to take my word for it, just do your own quote studies on "enticing spirit" and "religious spirits", and "religious demons". Brother Branham said, "The worst demon there is to deal with is a religious demon. They are five times more horribler than any other evil spirit."

125 And the Bible says you should study to show yourself approved, a workman that needs not to be ashamed.

126 People are falling away in many different ways right now. Some have left the Message altogether, some have left the church, others just sit around and sow discord against what the preacher is teaching them.

127 Philadelphian church age 60-1210 P:68 One thing God hates is sowing discord among brethren.

128 Taking sides with Jesus COD 62-0601 P:77 They was not willing to admit that He was doing the work of God, so they were trying to sow discord and get the people not to believe, but them people who believed Him stayed right with Him; they took sides.

129 Have you taken sides with the Word my brothers and sisters? or do you not even understand the Word to take sides with?

130 Seed of discrepancy 65-0118 P:2 I went down and found the word of "discrepancy," so I got the dictionary and looked what the word "discrepancy" means. And it means it's "sowing discord," or "being contrary," as Webster says, "sowing a discord, something different," or, "being contrary to what's already been."

131 And when someone tells you "I left the message because" or "I left church because," they are sowing discord and showing themselves to be contrary. You need to walk away as we already read the quote earlier by brother Branham.

132 A certain brother approached me back in November last year when I was in Tennessee for a wedding, and he wanted to get together with me to talk, Fortunately I did not feel led to, and a few months later he left the message. But before he did, he wanted to tell his church why he was leaving the Message, like Satan talked to Eve just to plant some doubt in their hearts and fortunately the board was strong enough to say, no sir we will not permit you to do it.

133 Let us pray.