

**#17 Murphy Idaho - Conformed to the Image**

**1** KJV Romans 8:28-30 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. 29For whom he did foreknow, (That's Ephesians 1:3-4 we were in Him before the foundations of the world) 29For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Now, if Jesus Christ is the firstborn amongst many brethren, then He is the Eldest Son in a very large family of brothers.

**2** 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate beforehand, them he also called beforehand: and those whom he called beforehand, them he also justified beforehand: and whom He has already justified beforehand, them he also has glorified already in His thoughts before the foundations of the world.

**3** That is why the same Apostle Paul said in Ephesians 1:3-5 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy (consecrated and set apart for Him) and without blame before him (or in His Presence). Then 5: in love He Has predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, So not only did He choose us or selected us out while we were yet in Him before the foundations of the world, but He that selected us out also for-ordained our end to be adoptable sons, conformed to the Image of His Uniquely born, first born son Jesus. So he pre-destined our path to that very conforming to the Image of the first born son.

**4** Now, in the Message Spoken Word is the Original Seed, in paragraph 83 we hear brother Branham say... All of God's sons must be the same. Yes, sir. To be born of the Word and Spirit brings us back to the spoken Word again like in John 3. See? To be born of the Water and the Spirit, what does it do? Then it brings you right back again unto the place of where you should've been at the beginning...

**5** And I would like to add, where were we at the beginning? The way God saw us in Himself before the foundations of the world.

**6** Then brother Branham says, ...See? That's the reason of Christ's death: brings us right back again to where? Sons of God.

**7** Now, then let's jump forward to paragraph 85 where he says,

**8** 85 Now, now, this brings you right back to the spoken Word. Then we are God's Word made manifest. See? Jesus said the same thing. "He that believeth on Me, the things that--Who I am, what I come for and the purpose I do, to bring a man back to believe the Word of God and take nothing else with it, the works that I do, He will do also." There you are.

**9** So you see, God wants all His children to be like the first born son. That is His purpose in having many Sons. And we are ordained to be conformed to that Image. And since that Image was the expressed Image of the Father according to Hebrews 1:3 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers through the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us in His Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on

the right hand of the Majesty on high; 4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. 5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?

**10** Now, in getting back to what brother Branham was saying, ...86 Why is it not being done today? It's hybrid, bastard children, mixed up. It don't, it's a mule; it don't know what it believes. A mule don't know who his daddy is, who his mama is. He don't... He's no pedigree; there's nothing to him. He's a illegitimate creature. That's the way any person that claims to believe God and don't believe His Word will take a denominational creed and breed it with the Word. See, you're not of God; you're dead. You can't be dead and alive at the same time. So even the Word of God don't even grow. You're just playing the part of a hypocrite. Let that go for bishop, priest, cardinal or whoever it might be. That's right. It's got to be the Word or you're dead, just a illegitimate child. And God's Word... God part won't grow. You might grow in the same field as we're getting to directly, but you're sure not in the fold. It won't grow.

**11** So you see, if we were in God before the foundations of the world, and as Paul said in Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet it is not I that is living, but Christ is living in me: and the life which I am now living in the flesh, I am living by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. So it is not I that am living, but Christ, the anointed Life of the Father that was in His firstborn Son, that is also living itself out in me.

**12** That is what Paul also said in 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.

**13** That means we must come to the place where we are willing to die out to self. We must come like Jesus to the place where we are not trying to dodge the new birth, but we are willing to surrender ourselves to it. So it is not what you do, but what you just surrender yourself to. Brother Branham said in , Hebrews 7 part 2 57-0922 P:43 God takes men and makes them different, not man taking God and becoming different. God takes men and makes him different. It's not what you do, what you will, what you think; it's what God does.

**14** To whom is arm of Lord revealed? 50-0824 P:42 Now, the first thing you must do, is surrender yourself entirely to Christ, and surrender your mind to His Word. "Lord, I won't act upon my own feelings, upon my own thoughts. I will only act upon Your Word. I'll have no control of my own thoughts concerning it. I will act upon Your Word." Now, get that straight.

**15** How can I overcome 63-0825M P:48 See, if the little baby keeps trying, "Oh, I can do it; I can do it." And he's just everywhere; He can't do it. Neither can you; neither can I. But if we just hold still and let Him do it, just yield to Him, "Here, Lord, here I am. Just let me be nothing. And I yield; You put my hand in the right place." That's the victory; that's overcoming. The thing you have to overcome is yourself, your ideas, your things, and surrender yourself to Him. He overcome for you. He knows the way; we don't.

**16** Uncertain sound 60-1218 P:61 ...it's God's love and mercy measured out to you to take It. Don't cost you one thing. Only thing It costs you, is just to surrender your life to Him, and receive It. How simple. Just forget all you ever knew and just surrender yourself to Him. And that's how It comes, is just receive, receiving It that way.

**17** It wasn't so from the beginning 60-0306 P:47 Every man's got to be born again, and this sinful nature killed in him, and a new Man born in him, which is Christ Jesus, the Son of God. Then you surrender yourself completely to Christ, and Christ comes in, and writes a book of acts through you. How I know that's the truth, my

friend, how I know it's the truth.

**18** Christianity verses idolatry 61-1217 P:90 We, in His image, a living image of a living God. When you surrender yourself to God, and God comes into you, what does it make you? A living image of God.

**19** So that is what we want to be by God's Grace this morning, just living image of the living God, just Like his First born son was. But we must die to self, and we must surrender our hearts and our minds to God and accept every word that he says, as our guide, and as our instructions for how to Live and how to Love.

**20** Jesus said, the things I speak are what my Father commanded me what to say. There you are, that's how to be the Son in the Image of the first born.

**21** Listen to what Jesus said of His relationship with the father. In John 12: 49-50 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

**22** And He also said in John 5:19 the Father works and I work hitherto. Not, my own ideas of what I think my Father might want me to do, or say. No, that's not it at all. That would be our own mental reasoning. But He said, the Son can do nothing but what He sees the father do, that doeth the son likewise.

**23** From his sermon From that time 60-0302 P:21 Brother Branham said, And she got down on her knees, and I asked her to pray. And she prayed for a few moments; she looked over at me, and she said, "Brother Branham, I now am going to make a new start." I said, "Sis, it won't do one bit of good. You're going just exactly the same road you've been over. It won't work." And she said, "I mean it in my heart." I said, "I know you do, but that devil's stronger than any mental powers that you could put to him. That's the reason I don't believe in an intellectual religion. I believe a man's got to be born again of the Holy Spirit. It's got to be deeper than your thinking, it's got to be an experience." And she said, "What must I do?" I said, "Just stay right there." And we prayed and prayed. I went ahead and prayed with some people and come back. She was praying. I come back to her again, and after while I come back, and she was deeply in sincerity. In a few moments, she raised up, with tears running down her cheek; she looked me in the face. She said, "Brother Branham, something's happened." I said, "You don't have to turn no new pages now." The woman's married and got a family, and a lovely, sweet, born again Holy Spirit filled saint. 'Cause God could take her back to a place where she started to do wrong. That's His goodness, and from that time, she was a changed woman. From the time of a young girl, to at one time she was evil. God taken her back, and from that time she was different.

**24** You see, God is not coming for a people who think his Message is just a new creed or something. And the Doctrine of Christ is not theology to be argued over, no, not at all. The Doctrine of Christ is a reality of your position in the family of God. The Doctrine of Christ, to know it and understand it from your heart will bring with it the same Life that was in the first born son, and you will see your own life become a reflection of His Life. Because God wants to live out your life for you, in your own set of circumstances.

**25** Paul said in Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying (that's the building up) of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of The Faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man,(that's a mature man) unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: (You see without the knowledge of the Son of God, without the Revelation of Jesus Christ and our understanding of the relationship between the Father and His First Born son, we would never know how to act as children of God. We will never grow up.) Paul said, 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and

carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working (that is the energy of God) in the measure of every part,(so it matters not what measure you have been given, that same energy of God will work in you in the same way, in the same nature and with the same results that it worked in the whole, and it will) maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

**26** The trials and tests God gives to each of you are very unique to your own life circumstances, and God wants your vessel to reflect Himself through your circumstances. And it matters not who you are. My circumstances are different with my wife's circumstances and hers are different from our daughters. And each of my daughters have a set of circumstances that are unique to them, And God wants to live out their lives and show Himself the same yesterday, today and forever in each of our lives.

**27** No matter who you are, if you are a son or daughter of God, he wants to borrow your body, so just loan it to him, or give it to Him, Just surrender your self to Him that he might use your vessel to manifest His life through it. That is what Life is all about. It's not seeing what you can do with this vessel, but allowing god to use it to see what He will do with it. When I was in Africa traveling from Malawi to Choma Zambia, we had a set of circumstances set upon us that we are not used to here. First we had a tire nearly come off. When the brother tried to tighten the lug-nuts he broke off one leaving only 4 of 6 on the wheel. I noticed then that all tires were missing a lug-nut. We do not have issues like this in our country, but them again our dollar is worth \$5,000 of their own. Therefore in stead of being angry we learn to accept whatever condition we are in and try to make the best of it. That does not make you any less tired, but it does give you peace. We do not realize how poor people are until you realize that having all lug-nuts on your vehicle is a luxury.

**28** Well, after unloading all ten ministers, we got it fixed and proceeded towards Choma Zambia and an hour later the right rear tire blew out. So we pulled over, unloaded the ministers again and took out all the luggage out, replaced the blown tire with the spare tire and took off down the road again, avoiding all the potholes in the pavement. A half hour later the spare tire blew and we sat by the road again but this time with no spare and no town in sight. Finally a passer with a pick up truck stopped and we loaded the spare and the blown tire into the back, as three of us traveled to the next town to seek help. We got help at a filling station, but had to hire a taxi to get the mechanic because he was not about to walk to town at midnight. Finally by 3 a.m. we arrived to our hotel with meetings to begin in a few hours later. But remember this is Africa. And God set us here to deliver his Message, and it matters not whether the circumstances are the same as what I am used to or not. So We are at peace, and Paul said we must learn to be content in whatever circumstances we are in.

**29** When I go overseas and speak to brothers who live in such a different world than we live in, yet I see that God wants to live out through them no less than he lived out His life through His son Jesus. And that is because God has already ordained it, and so He has set the circumstances that surround your life. He did it, not you. It was not good luck that placed you where you are? It was God who set you where you are today. Psalms 37:23 "The footsteps of the righteous are ordered of the Lord, and he delights in his way." Proverbs 16:9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps. Proverbs 3: In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

**30** But where I see the problem with the church today is that the people want to dodge what God has for them. We do not accept that our set of circumstances means anything to God. But it does. And your unique sort of trial is there to build His own character in you. From his sermon, Balm of Gilead 61-0218 P:55 Brother Branham said, You know, the new birth's what people want to dodge; they want to dodge the issue. So the devil patches it up, says, "When you believe, that's when you're born again." That's not right. Listen, any birth, as I said before, any

birth is a mess. I don't care where it's at. If it's in the pig pen, it's a mess. A mess of pigs being born out there, it's a horrible thing. If it was out in the field when a calf's born, it's a horrible thing, nasty mess. If it's out in the pink decorated hospital room, it's still a mess. And the new birth is a mess. But you have to have that messy thing to bring forth new life. Amen. That's what's the matter with the people today. They're afraid it'll wash some of the paint off their face and make them straighten up. They got the toxine, but they don't want to take it. And God's going to ask you why someday, didn't you do it? Why didn't you? There's toxine; there's balm in Gilead, there's physicians there. But the reason's because the people don't want to subscribe to this physician. They want an aspirin instead. They don't want to diagnose the case. When you go into a doctor and tell him, "My... I'm sick, my stomach's hurting; my head's hurting." If he wants to get rid of you. Well, the first thing he do, he will give you a little formula that's got some aspirin in it and send you out. That's not a doctor. He's trying to get rid of you. A real doctor will examine that case till he finds the reason and then start to work from there.

**31** Turning northward 61-0129 P:20 These twin revivals, one brings forth a man that's supposed to be intellectual; most have been schooled. They're trying to dodge that issue of new birth. The church is trying to dodge it. Today we take people in by water baptisms, put them in the church by water baptism. You might put them in the church by water baptism, but you'll never put them into Christ by water baptism. You got to be born in there by the Spirit. That's right. As I've often said, I say again. I don't care what kind of a birth it is, any birth is a mess. If it's in a pig pen, or if it's in a corn shock, or if it's in a pink decorated hospital room, it's a mess. And so is the new birth a mess. It'll make you do things that you never thought you'd do. It'll make you weep, bawl, cry, and raise up your hands, and turn all kinds of shins, and everything else. And you'll act disgraceful before a starchy, self-styled group. But you don't care, as long as you get birth out of it.

**32** Why 61-0128 P:46 Now the thing of it is, that they're trying to dodge that new birth. They got too much prestige. They got too much head knowledge. Whenever you get to a place that you feel you're just a little better than somebody else, when you get to a place that you think that your stand in life is just a little higher than the other one, you ain't going to get it anyhow. That's right. But there's one thing about the new birth: it'll make a tuxedo suit and a pair of overalls put their arms around one another, call each other "Brother." It'll make a gingham dress and a silk dress put their arms around one another, and call each other "Sister," whenever you really get down to business with God. That's right.

**33** Notice that brother Branham said the people have too much prestige. We must learn to surrender our prestige to God.

**34** Meanest man in Santa Maria 62-0630E P:83 And the new birth is the same thing. It's a mess. But it comes life out of that mess. Only way you can receive life, is through a birth. It's messy, but it makes life. People try to dodge it. They don't want to wash the mascara off their face. You'd look a whole lot prettier if you wouldn't wear it, Yes. If you'll try a little Acts 2 and 4, it'll beat all that Max Factor ever could make. I'll tell you that. If you'll just try a little of that, it'll be an eternal beauty, a sweet, meek, quiet spirit. That's what this woman had. That's what Esther had when she come before the king. That's the reason she overrun the other girls, because she come adorning herself with a sweet spirit before him.

**35** Now, listen, All men try to dodge what God has for them. Even Jesus Christ Himself tried to dodge what God had for him, did you know that? Jesus Christ, our eldest Brother. The first born of God tried to dodge the Cross, but after praying all night he just surrendered Himself to God's will for His Life. Now, that is not my opinion, that was what a vindicated Prophet of God said.

**36** From his sermon, Souls in prison now 63-1110M P:94 Brother Branham said, I've told you the Truth. I've hated to do it, not hating because I don't want to do what God tells me to, but I love you. I don't want to hurt you, so what am I going to do? But pure Divine love will drive you to do it. Jesus even prayed to dodge the cross. "Is it

possible that the cup should pass," said, "nevertheless, not My will, Thine."

**37** And from his sermon, God hiding Himself in simplicity 63-0412E P:132 When you surrender fully, He'll come in fully. But until you surrender, He can't come in fully. Surrender. Surrender your thoughts; surrender your thinking; surrender your life; surrender your all; surrender your prestige. Surrender everything to Him now, and He'll come in and fill you with the Holy Ghost. That's what He's here to do.

**38** As we continue with paragraph 87 of the spoken Word is the original Seed brother Branham said, All right. All right, we notice then. See, the spoken Word... Then we are God's Word made manifest. That's how God wants His church: is to manifest Himself. How can He manifest Himself unless His Own Seed is in that person? How can you use your own thoughts and God manifest Himself through you? How can you take your own belief and say, "Well, my pastor teaches... My creed says that this... days of miracles..." How you going to do that and then be a manifested son of God? How you going to do it? The death of Jesus wasn't nothing to you. "Oh, I accept Him as my Saviour." You don't. You say you do, but you don't. Your works proves what you are. Jesus said the same thing. "If you think I am illegitimately born..." They said, "We're Abraham's son and need nobody to teach us." Said, "If you was Abraham's children, you'd know Me." See? Said, "Which one of you condemns Me of sin (unbelief)? Show Me one thing that God promised of Me that ain't fulfilled. Show Me one thing that the Father promised that I haven't fulfilled. (Sin is unbelief.) Let's see you produce it then." That de-horned them. See? Certainly. Said, "Who's accusing Me? Who can condemn Me with sin (unbelief)?" See? "If I don't believe, then why is the Father doing through Me like He's doing, every Word that He promised? Now, let Me see where you got it in yours."

**39** What brother Branham is telling us here is that we are ordained to reflect the image of the original seed. And that could not be possible unless we have the life that was in the first born seed. For if we have the life, then we have the nature, for the two are one in the sense the nature of the life is the reflected attributes and manifested characteristics of the life in the seed. Look, if we are so absorbed by our own daily life we can not let Christ live it for us.

**40** Paul said in Romans 13:8-10 Don't run up debts, except for the huge debt of love you owe each other. When you love others, you complete what the law has been after all along. The law says don't sleep with another person's spouse, don't take someone's life, don't take what isn't yours, don't always be wanting what you don't have, and any other "don't" you can think of finally adds up to this: Love other people as well as you do yourself. You can't go wrong when you love others. When you add up everything in the law, the sum total is love. 11 But make sure that you don't get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-to-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the work he began when we first believed. We can't afford to waste a minute, must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight. Get out of bed and get dressed! Don't loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute. Dress yourselves in Christ, and be up and about!

**41** So in putting on Christ we must put off self. And let the mind that was in Christ be in you. Hat is what He wants.

**42** Jesus Christ the same 55-0806 P:19 Now, here's what happens. When a man starts out, he will go to reason. He will go to the schools of theology. And he will go from church to church and wonder if this one's got the truth, or if that one's got the truth. Or he will take his membership from one church to another. You should never do that. You should put your membership in heaven on the Book of Life. And there it'll be forever. Now, all churches, Christian churches, has good meanings, every one of them, and I believe every one of them has truth. And now, I don't mean to try to say now they don't have all the truth. Sure, I believe... If they believe Jesus Christ

is the Son of God, that's the truth. Amen. Now, but what a man will do, he will hear a little something and keep moving his papers. Well now, you'll never find Christ moving your papers. You have to move your thoughts. You have to move your thinking, and get away from reason and move your thoughts from your own way of thinking to what God thinks. "Let the mind that was in Christ Jesus be in you." And then when you begin to think His thoughts, you'll begin to live His life and do the things that He did. See what I mean? Now, because it's not you; it's Christ.

**43** Look, what we are saying is not positive thinking. The devil has positive thinking, but we do not want that. We want the Mind of Christ to be in us. That is what we want. That is what God wants. He wants us to be conformed to the image of His first born Son who came forth in His Own image.

**44** Let us pray