#29 Desperation will even change the mind of God

1 This morning we will be entering into a mini series of examples from brother Branham's sermon Desperation where he shows many characters that we find in the Bible who got desperate before God and then God gave them the desires they had upon their heart. And we read last week that God will not meet us until we are desperate. We must meet his conditions before he will step on the scene for us and meet our needs. So let's begin our reading from paragraph 63.

2 63 The Bible said, Hebrews the 6th chapter, "The rain falleth on the just and the unjust," just the same.

3 That is found in Matthew 5: 43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

4 Notice here that we are to take up the example of our Father in Heaven who sends rain upon the just and unjust.

5 QA God being misunderstood COD 61-0723E P:40 This, if a person is setting in a congregation, a spirit can fall upon that person, and yet you know that they are wrong and they don't live the right kind of life, be careful what you say about that spirit, it might be the Holy Spirit. Don't judge the spirit by the person. The person may be wrong; but, now, does not the Bible say, "The rain falls on the just and the unjust"? Did not Jesus say, when the fields was planted, "Let them all grow up together, the tares and the wheat together. Don't you try to pull up the tares. Don't you try to judge them; just let them grow together. And at that day the angels will be sent forth; they will take all the tares and burn them, and the wheat will be gathered into the garner"? But by their fruits we know them. You can know in your heart. Keep trying to deal with that person.

6 QA Hebrews part 3 COD 57-1006 P:115 The Bible said that the wheat and tares come together. The little old wheat's said... It's starving for rain, and the briars is too. When the rain come, the briars is just as happy to get the rain as the wheat is. "But by their fruits, you shall know them."

7 Now, back to desperation paragraph 63 Now, you take wheat and take weeds and put them in the field. And the rain is actually sent for the wheat, but the rain falls on the weeds the same as it does the wheat. And the rain... And the weeds is just as happy about the rain as the wheat is, and it's the very same rain. The very Holy Ghost can fall upon an unbeliever and make him act just exactly the same way a believer acts, but by their fruits they are known. That's what I'm speaking of; that's the Token.

8 64 And Jacob in desperation he said, "I know, I feeled You; You're here with me, but I'm not going to let You go." Somebody sees it fine, the first little sensation, get up and jump up-and-down, and run up the aisle, and say, "I got It, I got It, I got It." Oh, no, huh-uh, no. Jacob stayed there until something happened that made him walk different, made him a different person, because that he stayed until that happened, and he was able... The Bible said he held until he prevailed. How can a man prevail over God? But you can do it. You can do it. A man can prevail over God.

9 Now let's examine this story from the Bible that brother Branham is pointing out to us as an example of a man that comes into desperation and meets God in that condition.

10 Genesis 32:1 And Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. 2 And when Jacob saw them, he said, This is God's host: and he called the name of that place Mahanaim.

11 Now, place yourself in Jacob's place. He had fled Esau because of his using deception and trickery on his father Isaac to gain the blessing for the first born. And he had to flee when Esau found out into a foreign country, and there he met a beautiful girl named Rachel. He fell in love with Rachel and wanted to marry her, but her father Laban used deception and trickery tricked on him getting him to marry Rachel's sister Leah first, by substituting her at the wedding for Rachel, (remember they wore veils over their face in those days.)

12 Then after the ceremony and the reception Jacob went into the tent to consummate the marriage with his wife, and to his horror, the next morning when the sun came up, he saw that he had married and consummated his marriage with the wrong person. He was very upset. And that is the way of the carnal man, they can dish it out but don't realize what goes around comes back around. "What you sow you will surely reap." That is what the Bible tells us.

13 Jacob had used deception to gain the blessing of the first born son of Isaac, when his brother Esau was entitled to that blessing, then he himself is deceived by his Father in Law into marrying the wrong sister after having worked so hard for seven years for his father in Law.

14 No, he was so mad at Laban that Laban used trickery again and made a contract with Jacob that Jacob could have Rachel also in marriage if he would work another seven years for Laban, because Laban's flocks had increased so much under Jacob's nurturing.

15 So Jacob devises a plan to get even with Laban. and Jacob against resorted to trickery by causing only the ring streaked sheep to populate while the other sheep would not leaving Laban with fewer sheep than Jacob walked out of the camp with.

Now at this point Jacob had to flee Laban, because now, not only Laban was upset but all Rachels brothers were upset with Jacob because he had deceived them as well seeing that Laban's flocks were their inheritance.

16 So now we see a man without a country. A man who used deception to gain the blessing of the birth right from Esau, and now using trickery and deception to gain the inheritance of his brothers in law. This is the human nature of Jacob, and you can see this same nature today in the Wall Street Jew, because it is the nature born, carnal born nature of their ancestor Jacob.

17 And notice the deception pattern.

18 1. Jacob deceives Isaac His Father into blessing him instead of Esau. This deception hurts his Father and his brother whose inheritance depended upon that blessing of the first born. Jacob has to flee.
2. Then Jacob gets deceived by His Father in law into taking Leah instead of Rachel.
3.Then Jacob deceives His Father in Law in return for having deceived him, and this deception also hurt his brother in Laws and reduces their inheritance. Jacob has to flee.

19 Now, they say insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.

20 Finally Laban catches up with Jacob, and they work out a solution. But now he must face Esau his brother whom he stole the birth right from.

21 Genesis 32:3 And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother unto the land of Seir, the country of Edom. 4 And he commanded them, saying, Thus shall ye speak unto my lord Esau; Thy servant Jacob saith thus, I have sojourned with Laban, and stayed there until now: 5 And I have oxen, and asses, flocks, and menservants, and womenservants: and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may find grace in thy sight. 6 And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, We came to thy brother Esau, and also he cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him. 7 Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed: (so what doess Jacob do? what any deceiving coward would do) and he divided the people that was with him, and the flocks, and herds, and the camels, into two bands; 8 And said, If Esau come to the one company, and smite it, then the other company which is left shall escape.

22 What a coward. He sends a group first to test the waters. He considers these others as expendable. What a nasty character this Jacob has. No real leader would consider people under himself as expendable. And that same spirit of cowardice exists today among the Edomites, the descendents of Esau. They hide behind the skirts of the women and children.

23 9 And Jacob said, O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the LORD which saidst unto me, Return unto thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee:
Look at his prayer. Lord, I am blaming my problems on you. You told me to return home and now look at what I'm up against. But he failed to see that his problems existed because of his own behavior. But then he gets spiritual and says, ...

24 10 I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands.

25 Then notice what he says next...11 Deliver me, (not deliver my two groups of people, but deliver me. Notice to this point it is all about self. Why? He doesn't have the Holy Ghost. He is just a carnal man.)

26 Now, let's continue toread his prayer. "I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and (oh, yeah, and I forgot Lord, he might smite my wife and children also) the mother with the children. 12 And thou saidst, (and you said Lord, you said to me, and Lord you have to keep your word now, and you promised me) I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude. 13 And (in that miserable condition) he lodged there that same night; and took of that which came to his hand a present for Esau his brother; 14 Two hundred she goats, and twenty he goats, two hundred ewes, and twenty rams, 15 Thirty milch camels with their colts, forty kine, and ten bulls, twenty she asses, and ten foals.

27 (Now notice that in that condition Jacob begins to reflect back on how he had used deception and trickery to rob his own brother of the blessing, and so he decides, I better give back to my brother much of what I stole from him by way of the blessing, and so he partials out what he considered as restitution.)

28 But notice he is still a coward and sends someone else to bring this restitution to Esau.

29 16 And he delivered them into the hand of his servants, every drove by themselves; and said unto his servants, Pass over before me, and put a space betwixt drove and drove. 17 And he commanded the foremost, saying, When Esau my brother meeteth thee, and asketh thee, saying, Whose art thou? and whither goest thou? and whose are these before thee? 18 Then thou shalt say, They be thy servant Jacob's; it is a present sent unto my lord Esau: and, behold, also he is behind us. 19 And so commanded he the second, and the third, and all that

followed the droves, saying, On this manner shall ye speak unto Esau, when ye find him. 20 And say ye moreover, Behold, thy servant Jacob is behind us. For he said, I will appease him with the present that goeth before me, and afterward I will see his face; peradventure he will accept of me. 21 So went the present over before him: and himself lodged that night in the company.

30 Look at his cowardice. In his cowardice he realizes his wrong, and so in an act of contrition he sends what he feels is a proper gift to his brother for the wrong he had done, but he stays behind because if Esau rejects his gifts and slays the bearers of those gifts, then at least Jacob still saved his own skin. 22 And he rose up that night, and took his two wives, and his two womenservants, and his eleven sons, and passed over the ford Jabbok. 23 And he took them, and sent them over the brook, and sent over that he had.

31 Finally he sends his own wives and children before himself still fearing for his own skin.

32 24 And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. 25 And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him. 26 And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. 27 And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. 28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed. 29 And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there. 30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved. 31 And as he passed over Penuel the sun rose upon him, and he halted upon his thigh. 32 Therefore the children of Israel eat not of the sinew which shrank, which is upon the hollow of the thigh, unto this day: because he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh in the sinew that shrank.

33 Now, notice the conditions of Jacobs desperation came as a result of his own lacking in character. So no matter whether it be Job who was desperate do to the lack in character of his own children, or whether you see a lack of conforming to the Image of the first born son in your own life, desperation is what brings us to a reckoning of the lack of character.

34 Now, lets pick up this story from Brother Branham's Message Desperation and see what he had to say about this.

35 Desperation 66 Jacob stayed there until the blessing came and changed his name from "a deceiver" to "a prince with God." Even the nation was called by his name. Yes, sir. What was it? The results was because he got desperate about the thing. And the next day when he met Esau, he didn't need any guards. He walked right out and met him. See? Why? He had got in desperation till he got the assurance. And you get desperate until you get the assurance. If you don't, don't even come to be prayed for. Don't even come to go at the altar. Wait till it's between life and death to you, then something will happen. Certainly. Desperation.

36 Now, let's continue on with the Bible examples of men who were desperate before God and God hearkened and heard their petitions to him. The next man we will look at is Hezekiah.

37 65 One time there was a man named Hezekiah, had been told by the prophet, "THUS SAID THE LORD, you're going to die." Hezekiah turned his face to the wall, and in desperation he wept out, "Lord, consider me. I've walked before You with a perfect heart, and I need fifteen more years." After God had told him that something was going to happen; he was going to die. And in desperation he changed the program of God. Desperations, he wept bitterly in desperation.

38 Isaiah 38:1 In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live. 2 Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, 3 And said, Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

39 Hezekiah was not praying in tears for himself, he was ready to die. he had lived a wonderful God fearing God living life and was ready to go into the presence of God. But his concern was for his family. He felt he needed more time with them to straighten them out and turn their hearts toward God.

40 Resurrection of Jairus daughter 54-0302 P:48 There's a prophet by the name of Isaiah, went up and told Hezekiah that "THUS SAITH THE LORD, you're going to come--die right there. You're not coming off the bed." And Hezekiah turned his face to the wall, and wept bitterly, and said, "Lord, I beseech Thee to consider me. I've walked before You with a perfect heart." And he wanted fifteen years extension. And the prophet...Now, why didn't God talk--why didn't God talk to Hezekiah? He was the greatest man in the whole Israelite kingdom; is that right? He was a king. And do you believe he was talking to Jehovah? The Bible said he was. He was ta... Why didn't Jehovah talk back to him? God has ways of doing things.Instead of telling Hezekiah, Hezekiah standing face-to-face with Jehovah, saying, "Jehovah, if You'll spare me for fifteen years... Consider me, will You?" With tears running down his cheeks. "I know Your prophet has just come told me I was going to die. So I know he is a prophet, and I know what he says is Your Word. And I pray for You to spare me, because I've got something I want to do for Your Kingdom," and so forth. He reasoned it out with Him, like you would with any man. And God, instead of speaking right back to the king over His people, He stopped the prophet. Said, "Go, tell him I heard him."

41 Thou knowest all things 52-0716 P:15 Look at Hezekiah when...?... and the prophet went up and said, "All right, Hezekiah, you're not coming off the bed. God's done said you was going to die right there where you're at."And Hezekiah studied it over, if he just had fifteen years longer... Now remember, you've got to give God a cause, a reason. Now, he didn't say, "Just because I can get out there and ride around in a chariot, and show the people I'm a king." No, he wanted to rebuild the altars of the God; and a few things had to be done to get the kingdom in order right. And he prayed that God would give him fifteen years longer, and he wept bitterly, just wept to God. He said, "God, I beseech You to consider. I've walked before You with a perfect heart."How many of us can say that tonight, we've walked before Him with a perfect heart?"I've walked before Thee, Lord, with a perfect heart. And I ask You to consider me. Now, I want..."And God Almighty, Jehovah, reconsidered that man's case, because he prayed. Think of that. Almighty God, that had pronounced death upon the man, reconsidered His case. My, that's too much for me. Great Jehovah, to a mortal, to one of the earth, would reconsider His Word that He'd said to him.

42 Expectation 61-0207 P:10 And Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and wept bitterly, and said, "Lord God, I beseech you to consider me; I walked before you with a perfect heart. I need fifteen years longer to get my kingdom in condition." And you know, looks like that God would've wanted to say anything, He'd have told him while he was talking to him. But God has ways of doing things. You have to come God's ways and God's means of doing things. As long as we try to get in it ourself, then it won't work. And we just can't pattern after one another; we've got to live individually before God.Now, the greatest man in the land, of course, was the king. The greatest Person in heaven was God. There was the greatest man on earth talking to the greatest Man in heaven--the greatest in heaven, and yet the great powers of heaven couldn't talk back to the king. Because he wasn't meant to be that; he was just a king. And then He talked to Isaiah (That was His prophet.) and said, "Go tell him that I've heard his prayers and I'm going to spare him them fifteen years." Now, how do you think that prophet must've been embarrassed coming right back, "What are you coming back for, prophet?""THUS SAITH THE LORD, going to live." And just left the gate saying, "THUS SAITH THE LORD, he's going to die." Come

back, "THUS SAITH THE LORD, he's going to live. THUS SAITH THE LORD, he's going to live." Why? What changed it? Prayer. That's the secret. Prayer opens the door: prayer. "Whatsoever you ask in prayer with faith believing, you shall receive it. Ask abundantly that your joys may be full."

43 Stand still 57-0518 P:53 Now, in reverence before the Holy Spirit, let's just be reverent, real... a moment... You pray and ask God. You say, "Now, Lord, I know that that man standing there is just a--a man. He's... When he was here not long ago, he was just a boy, but now he's turned to a middle-aged man. He's dying by degree like all of us are, like a candle burning out. Someday his days are over. But I believe that today, that You have people that's pastors, and teachers, and prophets, and evangelists and so forth."Look, when Hezekiah was told by the prophet, "You're going to die; set your house in order."...And that king, the greatest man in Israel, turned his face to the wall, and wept bitterly, and said, "Lord, I beseech You to consider me. I've walked before You with a perfect heart. Spare me fifteen years." Why didn't God Jehovah, the King of heaven, talk to His king of Israel? He didn't. He talked to His prophet.He said, "Isaiah, you go back and tell him."There was the king standing right exactly in front of the pro--the... God talking to him, asking for this. God could've talked right back to the king, but He didn't make the king up that way. He had a prophet down there. He spoke to the prophet, said, "Go, tell him I heard his prayer and going to spare him for fifteen years."

44 Isaiah 32:4 Then came the word of the LORD to Isaiah, saying,5 Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years.6 And I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria: and I will defend this city.7 And this shall be a sign unto thee from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing that he hath spoken;8 Behold, I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sun dial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward. So the sun returned ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down.

45 Notice brother Branham told us sometimes in our desperation when we cry out to God it will even change the very plan of God. And notice that the sign that God would honor this change was that the shadow would run backwards 10 steps.

The Earth Tilted: King Hezekiah This illustration will attempt to show how the shadow moved ten steps for King Hezekiah. When Planet-7X (7 x Earth Diameter) passed between the Earth and Moon. Earth North pole had a magnetic attraction to Planet-7X as it passed near Earth, effectively causing the tilt of 26-28 deg.

46 9 The writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick, and was recovered of his sickness:10 I said in the cutting off of my days, I shall go to the gates of the grave: I am deprived of the residue of my years. 11 I said, I shall not see the LORD, even the LORD, in the land of the living: I shall behold man no more with the inhabitants of the world.12 Mine age is departed, and is removed from me as a shepherd's tent: I have cut off like a weaver my life: he will cut me off with pining sickness: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me. 13 I reckoned till morning, that, as a lion, so will he break all my bones: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.14 Like a crane or a swallow, so did I chatter: I did mourn as a dove: mine eyes fail with looking upward: O LORD, I am oppressed; undertake for me. 15 What shall I say? he hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it: I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul.16 O Lord, by these things men live, and in all these things is the life of my spirit: so wilt thou recover me, and make me to live.17 Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back. 18 For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth.19 The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth.20 The LORD was ready to save me: therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the LORD.21 For Isaiah had said, Let them take a lump of figs, and lay it for a plaister upon the boil, and he shall recover.22 Hezekiah also had said,

What is the sign that I shall go up to the house of the LORD?

47 Let us pray