

#34 Hearing is Understanding

1 This evening we will pick up at paragraph 63 from brother Branham's sermon Rising of the Sun (Son). Again I would like to remind you that the VOGR printing company labeled it this sermon "The Rising of the sun" from the text brother Branham spoke from Mark chapter 16: and verses 1-2 And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, the mother--and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had brought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun

2 Now, it is apparent by brother Branham's own words that the sermon title should not have been "The Rising of the S.u.n., but rather "The Quickening Power" as he stated in the very next sentence. 11 Now, my text this morning, I want to take for a text: "It Is The Rising Of The Sun," and for a subject I want to use the Quickening Power. So the subject is that which he is talking about, the text is the Scripture from which he read from. Titles of sermons usually are given concerning the subject, not the text. This is why I prefer to name this series, the Rising of the Son because that is the subject of the quickening power.

3 As we have notice in the first 33 sermons in this series that has taken us through 63 paragraphs of brother Branham's sermon, the entire focus of this sermon of brother Branham's is not about the s.u.n. rising but about the SON of God who was risen from the dead, and that same Resurrection Spirit coming back upon the church.

4 There our focus is not upon the s.u.n., that would make us Pagan, but our focus is on the S.O.N. of God, and the resurrection power that raised Him from the grave coming back upon you and me. So we must never forget this thought as we read through the entire sermon.

5 Therefore, let's begin tonight with a reading from paragraph 63. And notice the subject that brother Branham right off is speaking concerning.

6 63. The Dynamics, if It comes upon water it'll just splutter: "Days of miracles is past, putt-putt-putt; oh, I believe Divine... pomp-pomp-pomp; but they don't... pomp-pomp-pomp." See? but when it hits that one thousand octane, "Whrrrr" and away she goes. You see? Now. My. The Dynamics strike that... But if It strike a chicken, It won't do no good. But when It strikes a eagle he moves out (Amen.), the Dynamics with the mechanics. See what I mean? That is, if he is a true eagle now, he will understand.

Let me straighten a little Scripture here for you. (I think we're off the phone, but we are still here.) St. John 5:24, Jesus said, "He that heareth My Word, and believeth on him that sent me, has Everlasting Life."

Notice how brother Branham makes the statement, that you must have the dynamics along with the mechanics to make it work.

Then immediately he says, That is, if he is a true eagle now, he will understand. Then brother Branham begins to show us how people read the Scripture wrong, and with no understanding. That's why they are messed up in their doctrine. So he is tying the mechanics which is the understanding of the Word with the dynamics letting us know that we must have both in order for the Word to become manifest.

7 He takes us to the Scripture John 5:24 and shows us how people read that wrong. St. John 5:24, Jesus said, "He that heareth My Word, and believeth on him that sent me, has Everlasting Life."

8 Then he continues, 64 Now, look. I go down the street and just take that literally and what it is, without the spiritual understanding (not making it say nothing else, but just saying what it says). See? The right word there in the Greek, in the original, it says, "He that understandeth My Word..." Now, to prove that's right, I go down here, and here's a drunk coming along this street and with some other man's wife on his arms, and cussing and taking God's Name in vain, and everything else like that. "Say, did you hear what that preacher said? Did you..." "Yeah, I heard it." That don't mean He's got Eternal Life. See, see? "He that understandeth My Word," he that is an eagle. "Now, Brother Branham, I want more Scripture than that." All right. "My sheep hear My Voice. A stranger they won't follow."

9 Let me give you a few more concerning this thought here before I read a few more quotes from God's prophet concerning this thought from other sermons he preached.

10 Matthew 13:10 And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? 11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. (we spoke on this last week when brother Branham made the comment in paragraph 54 "Now, the Holy Spirit comes now. Of course, It wasn't sent... Why won't all the people receive It? It wasn't sent to them. A guy told me, "I don't believe... I don't care what you say. If you could raise up the dead, or anything, and heal the sick and prove it anyway, I still don't believe it." I said, "Certainly not, you're unbeliever. It don't mean a thing to you; it wasn't even sent to you. It's sent to those who will believe." The Message is to the believer. To them that perish It's foolishness, but to them that are in Christ and part of that Seed, It's Life.

11 Notice that Jesus says the same thing in verse 11, when he says "to them it is not given". So you see, This Message "It wasn't sent to them" and that is because they are not made to be able to understand it. Then we showed you that three fourths of the examples Jesus gave us brought forth no fruit after having received the seed sown to them because it was not meant for them. Only one example brought forth fruit, some 100, some 60 and some 30 fold.

12 Matthew 13:8 But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. 9 Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

13 Now, let's continue reading in Matthew what Jesus tells us. Matthew 13:12 For whosoever echoes, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever echoes not, from him shall be taken away even that he echoes. 13 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. 14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:

14 Notice Jesus quoting from Isaiah lets us know that to hear means to understand and to see means to perceive. So he is not speaking of the natural eye nor the natural ear, but of the Spiritual understanding and perception from what we do see and hear.

15 Now, let me change the word "hear" to "understand" and the word "see" to "perceive" as we continue to read what Jesus teaches us here.

16 15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of understanding, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should perceive with their eyes, and understand with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. 16 But blessed are your eyes, for they perceive: and your ears, for they understand. 17 For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to perceive those things which ye perceive, and have not seen them; and to understand those things which ye understand, and have not understood them.

17 That is why they longed to see and partake of what you have understood and perceived in this hour.

18 Now, there is none of us that saw many of the things that God did in this hour. In fact no one saw the squirrels appear but brother Branham but they ate them. But although we did not see them with our own eyes, we hear of them and understood what we heard and perceived what we were not able to see with our eyes, and Jesus tells us many of the prophets longed to understand and perceive what you people understand and perceive setting here tonight. What a class of people that makes you. A very special and peculiar people. A royal priesthood and a peculiar people.

19 From his sermon, Hearing, Recognizing and acting upon The Word of God 60-0221 P:18 brother Branham said, "But the church spiritual... Abel by revelation, by grace he seen beyond that, and by faith he offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain. And it testified of his righteousness. God...The same thing took place in Ishmael and Isaac. One was of the flesh, and the other one was of the Spirit: one of the bondswoman; one of the freewoman. 32 It happened the same thing in Israel and Moab, two great churches coming together. And when Israel was wanting to go to their promised place, church spiritual, Jacob's people, Israel on the road, Esau's people met them, Moab, church powerful. And the great leader of the church, Balaam came down to curse his brother, but he found that he could not curse his brother. He failed with the blindness of his eyes to see the predestinated plan, that, and to see the Word of God. First, faith cometh by hearing, hearing of the Word of God. Then the believer hears It, recognizes It, and acts on It. The carnal man will hear It, the sound of It, but never... "Hear" means to "understand" It. Look at, is looking at something; but to see it, is to "understand" it. "Except a man be born again, he cannot see or understand the Kingdom of God."

20 That is exactly what Jesus told Nicodemus in John chapter 3.

21 John 3:1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: 2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

22 Now, notice that Nicodemus did not come because he knew and understood what was Going on with Jesus, he came to Jesus because he saw but could not put it together himself what was going on right before his very face. Notice his words, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: Notice he said, We know you are from God and you are here to teach us. And why did he say that? Because he added, for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

23 So what he is telling Jesus is that we know you are from God because of what we see, but we do not understand nor do we perceive what is going on here. And then listen to Jesus reply.

24 3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

25 Notice Jesus tells him the reason you can hear and yet not understand and you can see God is involved with my ministry and yet you can not perceive what is going on here is because you are not born again. Jesus tells him it takes being born again and filled with the Spirit of God to be able to see and perceive the things of God. You must be filled with God's own Spirit in order to understand what it is that you are hearing. But Jesus words were foreign to his understanding and he still did not understand when Jesus told him he must be born again.

26 4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? 5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water (that's the natural birth) and of The Spirit, (Notice not a spirit but THE Spirit which is God's own Spirit) he cannot

enter into the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

27 From his sermon, Satan's Eden 65-0829 P:52 brother Branham said, "When by scientific knowledge, you can make a understanding gospel of... "You, "He that believeth on Jesus Christ shall not be condemned (See?), but "these signs shall follow them that believe." See, he fails to put that in there. See?

28 Notice we just read where brother Branham gave us an example of how they can scientifically or with an intellectual reasoning, they can claim "You, "He that believeth on Jesus Christ shall not be condemned (See?), he says you claim that intellectually and claim to be a believer and claim since you are a believer you shall not be condemned, but then he continues, you leave out but "these signs shall follow them that believe." In other words, God confirms your belief by signs and wonders, and you leave that out yet think you are ok, because you claim to believe.

29 Let's read what he said again, Satan's Eden 65-0829 P:52 brother Branham said, "When by scientific knowledge, you can make a understanding gospel of... "You, "He that believeth on Jesus Christ shall not be condemned (See?), but "these signs shall follow them that believe." See, he fails to put that in there. See?"

30 Then he adds, "She believed on Jesus Christ. She's saved, if these signs follow the believer. And "he that heareth My Word," not just make something, not hear It with his ears, but understand it... Anybody can hear it. A prostitute can hear It and remain a prostitute. See? A drunkard can hear It. A liar can hear It, and still remain a liar, but, "He that understandeth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me has Everlasting Life." There you are. See? And no man can do that except God foreordained him. Jesus said, "No man can come to Me, except my Father draws him, and all the Father's given to Me will come to Me." Amen. It's all the sovereignty and foreknowledge of God. He lives alone, and there's nobody tells Him what to do.

31 That is why we have people who claim to be in the bride of Jesus Christ and ye they choose to live in adultery. One guy when planning to marry his third wife, a brother said to him, "are you willing to throw away your eternal life for that woman, and he said yes." well that shows right there he doesn't have eternal life. Because the Bible says no adulterer shall enter the kingdom of God.

32 Now, those are not my words, they are God's Words.

33 1 Corinthians 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

34 Look, you can make all the excuses you want but it comes down to what this Word says. It doesn't matter how much you claim to Love God or love his Prophet or even his teacher, what it comes down to is God's Word. Did he say it or did he not.

35 The Apostle Paul also tells us this same principle that you cannot understand the things of God unless you are born again and are filled with the Spirit of God.

36 1 Corinthians 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: 8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen (perceived), nor ear heard (understood), neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for The Spirit (God's Spirit) searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in

him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God knows. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. 13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually (spirit fully) discerned. (And if they are spiritually discerned then it takes the Spirit to discern them) 15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. 16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

37 From Questions and answers COD 64-0823E P:104 316. brother Branham is asked this question. "Brother Branham, if a man has been married and divorced (Isn't that awful? See? So many... Now, I'm not saying nothing against the people; just that's on the people's mind. Sure, they're troubled. The rapture, people used not to think so much about that; it wasn't so much of it. But now, it's just plastered the world. And the people read these things in the Scripture. And people, elected, out there is coming in to look at it. And they see it, and they're sincere. They want to know. That's the reason I want to answer it just as with much sense to it as I can give it you.)--has been married and divorced and then remarried of a woman who has also been married and divorced and then married to him, and these two can, married in God's sight, are they married in God's sight? How can both or one of them be in the rapture? (Now, look at the answer from God's Prophet) How? I don't know. I couldn't tell you. The question is, "Can they be in the rapture?" Divorced, each one of them divorced, each one of them has a living companion, then they married again, both of them married again. And now, one that... This woman has a living husband; this man has a living wife. And now, they've got children and so forth and want to come to God. Can they go in the rapture? That'll be up to the heavenly Father. I couldn't answer that. See? I saw one thing. The Bible said that they shall be called an adulterer. And the Bible said also, "An adulterer will not enter the Kingdom of heaven." That's all I can say. I know, that just kills me to say that, but I can't say but what the Word says. I must stay with that. I hope that that's all wrong. There is places in the Bible...

38 So how is it we have people still with this knowledge leaving their spouses and shacking up with others and still claim to believe this message?

39 Now, you might say what if I did this when I was in the world, can God forgive me? That is actually the question that was asked of brother Branham, and I don't want to add to his answer. But I can say this with using his own words,

40 We would see Jesus 57-0516 P:24 What is sin? You say smoking, drinking. No, sir. Committing adultery, stealing, lying, gambling, murdering, that's not sin. That's the attributes of unbelief, for he that believeth not is condemned already. There's only two faculties: unbelief or faith. And because they believe not, they do these things. But a man that's a believer, doesn't do them, because he's a new creature in Christ. All right. We won't have time to get into much more of the Scripture.

41 And I will not go any further with this because that is for a whole other sermon.

42 But we are looking at this thought that hearing is to understand, and seeing is to perceive. And therefore it is not what you hear with your ears that counts but what you hear with your soul and understand with your heart. And brother Branham defined a person who is a believer as someone who is filled with God' Spirit.

43 Proving His Word 64-0816 P:35 Now, we see another one, then you no doubt have heard them say, "Seeing is believing." That's another old proverb we have here, but that doesn't work either. It doesn't work, 'cause man can set and look right straight at anything and they'll not see it. The word "see," the English word "see" has so many different meanings to it. Sea might mean "a body of water." And see might mean "to understand." See

might mean "to look at it." And, oh, there's just all kinds of words you can use. But when you say, "seeing is believing," you're mistaken. When you understand it, you believe it. Jesus said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom," in other words, "understand the Kingdom," because the Kingdom is the Holy Spirit in you. So you have to understand what this is in you. And the only way you'll understand it, is compare what it makes you do with what the Bible said it would make you do. Then your problem's solved. See? And then He is that Holy Spirit.

44 Paradox a 63-0801 P:15 And the father raised up and said, "My son went to the altar. He was baptized correctly, in the Name of Jesus Christ, and water baptism in the pool." Said, "I know my son has come to Christ." I said, "That may be all right, all the outward motions. He might be identified as a believer with the believers. But until he's regenerated, born again, I'd advise that young man to never marry a woman. He'll make hell on earth for her, until that gentle, sweet, forgiving Spirit of Christ comes in. Then that will be a paradox in itself to take the very nature of a boy that's bred between father and mother. And yet, in his intellectuals, he's trying his best to overcome it. He can't do it. He'll never overcome it. Christ will have to overcome it. When he lets Christ in, then he's already overcome then. It'll be a perfect paradox, when a man is born of the Spirit of God.

45 And that is what I have been saying for years, you cannot do it on your own, you have to die to self and let Christ come in and live your life for you.

46 You know the Bible says in Revelation 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

47 And we have people who just don't want to do what is right but the Bible said the bride will make herself ready, and the Bible says 1 John 3:7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he (God) is righteous.

48 Therefore anyone who says they believe and does not do is not a believer but a liar, because the Bible is very definitive, if you do not do what is righteous, then how can you call yourself righteous.

49 In fact we read in 1 John 2:29 If ye know that he (God) is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him. Why do we know that? Because every seed must bring forth after its kind. The Law of Life, the law of reproduction.

50 Brother Branham said in his sermon, Marriage of the lamb 62-0121E P:28 If you notice, it said, "She has made herself ready." So many says, "If the Lord will take this evil spirit from me, from drinking, or from gambling, or from lying, or stealing, I'll serve Him." But that's up to you. You got to do something too. "They that overcome shall inherit all things," they that overcome. You have power to do it, but you must be willing to lay it down. See? She has made herself ready. I like that Word. You see, God could not push us through a little pipe, pull us out on the other end, and then say, "Blessed is he that overcometh." You had nothing to overcome; He just pushed you through. But you've got to make decisions for yourself. I have to make decisions for myself. In doing that, we show our faith and respects to God.

51 Marriage of the lamb 62-0121E P:29 Abraham was promised a child, but he must maintain this promise for twenty-five years, the ups-and-downs that he had and temptations in those twenty-five years; but he held to the word of the promise. And Israel was promised a promised land, but they had to fight for every inch of it. "Wherever the soles of your foot treads upon, that have I given you," God said to Joshua. It was all there. The land was there, and God gave it to them; but they must fight for it.

52 Marriage of the lamb 62-0121E P:30 The same way it is about Divine healing. God's got the power to heal

you, if you've got the courage to accept it. But you'll fight every inch of the way. God's got amazing grace to save you, and He will do it. But you'll fight every inch of your way. I've been behind the pulpit going on thirty-one years. And every inch of that has been a fight, constantly. It certainly has. But we must fight if we must reign. So we find out that the bride has to make herself ready, be willing to "lay aside every weight that does so easily beset us, that we might run with patience the race that's set before us." We must lay them aside ourself. We can't say, "God, You come, lay them aside for us." We got to do that ourselves.

Seed shall not be heir 65-0429B P:25 Now, if you'll take Saint John 5:24, listen to this, "He that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, has Everlasting Life." Now, how would that be so much different from many of our theologies? Now, I could walk out here and say to a drunkard, "Do you believe?" "Sure." "A man with another man's wife, "Do you believe?" "Sure." "Did you set in the meeting last night to hear the Word?" "Sure." "You believe it?" "Sure." He's just saying that. But the original interpretation of this Word, "he that understandeth My Word, and will believe on Him that sent Me... He that understands," that is to who It's made known to. Jesus said, "No man can come to Me except My Father has drawed him. And all that My Father hath given Me, they will come. My sheep, My doves, hear My Voice. A stranger they will not follow." And what is the Voice of God? Is the Word of God. What's any man's voice but his word? It's the Word of God; they'll hear the Word of God.

53 Easter seal 65-0410 P:47 See, but he that understandeth, he that knoweth his place in this hour... "He that heareth My Word and believeth on Him that sent Me hath (present tense) Eternal Life, shall not come into the judgment, but's already passed from death unto Life." Then when this new Eternal Life dwells in you, it is the potential or the earnest of you being quickened from mortal to immortality. Let me say that again. When this Spirit has found you, the individual, and has come upon you, it is the potential of your eternal inheritance that God thought of you and made for you before the foundation of the world. That is your potential. Like if you ask me for an oak tree, and I gave you an acorn. Now, the life for the oak tree is in the acorn. Now, but you have to wait till it grows up.

54 Easter seal 65-0410 P:45 Now, the little eagle probably in the barnyard was eating all right, but he knowed it wasn't just exactly right. But then when he heard the truth, then he received this truth. Now, in John 14, John 5:24 rather, Jesus said, speaking this way, "He that heareth My Words and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath Everlasting Life and shall not come into the judgment, but's passed from death unto Life." Just think how simple that is. "He that believeth..." Now, the correct way of saying that, "He that understandeth..."

55 Now in this next paragraph brother Branham brings it right down to knowing and understand Godhead, Presence and your relationship with the father. Let's read it for ourselves.

56 Seed not heir with shuck 65-0218 P:30 There... See, here is no... There is no judgment to the royal, spiritual, predestinated Seed of Abraham, for they are predestinated to Eternal Life. They have accepted God's provided Sacrifice, and that Sacrifice which is Christ, the Word. "And there is therefore now no condemnation (St. John 5:24, if you want the Scripture)... There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1)... walk not after the flesh, but the Spirit." And Romans 5:24, "He that heareth My Word (the word there is 'understandeth.' Any drunkard anything else can hear it and walk away.)... But he that heareth My Word (understands My Word) and believeth on Him that sent Me hath Everlasting Life and shall not come into the judgment, but's passed from death unto Life." Yes, sir. He that this great mystery of the God made known, understand, how that God was in Christ reconciling Himself to the world, how that He and the Father were One, how that the great mysteries of the fulfilling of God taking and bringing Himself, manifested in the age of human beings, and in the strain of human beings, and in the company of human beings, to make His Word manifested in the day in the eastern rising of the sun and to do the same thing as the sun sets in the west, to make Himself

manifested in a Bride church, the Word made manifest. See? It will to... "He that understandeth (that is, to know), that's been revealed to him of Him that sent Me, has Everlasting Life and will not come into the judgment, but has passed from death unto Life."

57 What shall I do with Jesus 63-1124M P:151 And now, as you have our heads bowed... Faith, by faith, and God, You help me to be honest. But knowing that You promised, "That he that will come to Me I will in no wise turn him out, and I'll give him Eternal Life and I'll raise him up at the last days. He that will confess Me before man, him will I confess before My Father and the holy Angels. He that heareth..." The real true interpretation of St. John 5:24, there is, "He that understandeth, that receiveth My Word. He that receiveth My Word and believeth on Him that sent Me, has Everlasting Life, and will not be called to the judgment." You won't come to the judgment bar like Oswald will; but you've passed with a free pardon from death unto Life." Lord, I don't know how; I don't know why, but I believe it's happened. I believe that in my heart, my unbelief is gone. I can freely say, 'Amen,' to every Word that You say. And I accept It right now. I have believe it."

58 Jehovah Jireh 1 64-0402 P:32 When you become born again, filled with the Spirit of God, and the Holy Spirit upon you, you're heir to every one of those promises. You know, it's like I said--a big arcade. For we're baptized into that arcade. By one Spirit we're all baptized into one body. That body's Christ, which is the royal seed of Abraham, and heirs to everything that's in it. Amen. Everything that was in God, God poured into Christ. Everything that was in Christ, He poured into the believer: God above us, God with us, and God in us. Everything, every promise in the Book is yours, if you can believe it, if you have faith enough to accept it and believe it.

59 Let us pray...