#3 Pastors

1 Shall we pray. Heavenly Father, we know that when Ezekiel was out there by himself, he had visions of You literally, he saw something which designated Your Presence and gave information concerning Yourself. And we know the same with Bro. Branham in this end-time, Lord, the Pillar of Fire, we have the picture. We believe absolutely that is Your grace that did that, Lord, and we know that You talked to him, Father, and he came back and gave us the witness concerning You and Your works.

And in there he definitely let us know that once you're cast out of the church which You were through organization, denomination, the people turning away from truth, that You came back to see a Bride. And actually with that Bride You literally curried favor with Her by manifesting Yourself and doing signs and wonders answering prayer, showing forth Your power. Lord, we know that You're the same yesterday, today and forever and we believe You're still doing it.

We believe, Lord, that we're remiss this morning by not realizing that You are actually doing these things for us to gain our favor which is the most tremendous thought, it's actually formidable. When we would try to think of it in terms of Who You are and what we are, we just cannot even believe it, Lord, in ourselves, but if the prophet said so and You told him, then it's the truth, it does exactly what You did. You came to gain favor amongst us, and we're grateful. And may we not forget that, Lord, that You are the Lord that heals us. You are the Lord that supplies. You are a great Savior. There is nothing that is not in Thee, Lord, even to the extent now this hour, that taking us right through to immortality, and whatever is necessary to go in between that time that's supplied for us too.

May we understand that You are God Who supplies all of our needs by Your riches and glory through Jesus Christ our Blessed Savior Who died and rose again is now at the right hand, and even, yea, ascended to the Throne being our Mediator. Actually, great High Priest that's never before. We coming in more and more from a shadowed substance, Lord. What a happy people we are this morning. What a prosperous people. What a blessed people. Surely, Lord, there is nothing overtaking us, or shall overtake us, but we're more than able through Your strength to be more than conquerors through Christ our Lord.

We thank You for that privilege this morning. Bless everyone in divine Presence. May there not be one feeble one amongst us, as the prophet prayed, and we know that's true. We know it's possible, we're looking forward to it, Lord. We thank You for it all in Jesus' Name. Amen.

2 Now, we're looking at the messages which we've been dealing with. Some of the things which Bro. Branham said that we feel have been taken a little out of context. Or not so much out of context perhaps, but although that's true, but giving it an extended meaning which is what you might call slanted and in favor perhaps, of a ministry in contradistinction to a disfavor of the people.

Now, we are a true democracy where Bro. Branham said, "The pastor is subject to the Church, and the Church subject to the pastor." And we'll be going into that as we go along, and you'll be seeing different phases of it.

Now, the first thing we looked at was that the pastor is the spiritual husband of the Church. Now that of course, is a local affair, because otherwise it would smack greatly of Nicolaitanism. Bro. Branham would be the only one who could qualify across the board as the pastor to the entire Bride. Even as he said, "Elijah was pastor

to Ahab and also to Jezebel," which bringing it right down to the truth of the matter was, that whether they recognized him or not, there were seven thousand who hadn't bowed the knee. And though he was definitely their pastor in the true context of the Word of God, he was also the pastor of the others, because he came as a messenger to them. For they purported to be the servants and the bride of Christ.

You've got the same thing right today in the situation we have in the Seventh Church Age, where people are worshipping God supposedly not knowing, or literally, they're worshipping the devil, because they're going through a system. They're going through a certain order, and a procedure. And don't think that's strange that they can literally worship Satan by going through an order and procedure, because we are doing the same thing to get to God. Let it sink in. We got lots of time. It's a strong statement, but it's true.

3 We have our order and our procedure. It started right back in the time of Cain. Now Cain could boast and say he was worshipping God. If he was, how come God threw him and his sacrifice out? You see, you've got a good question there.

You say, "He was worshipping God falsely."

That's true. Who did he listen to? Satan. Who is he following? Not God. Who is his allegiance to? Not God. And who is his worship to? Not God.

It's kind of rough. It's kind of rough on the old carcass but it's good. It's better to know now than to wake up in hell like the rich man, and it was too late.

4 So, we're looking at this thought that Bro. Branham said, "The pastor's a spiritual husband," and he is to the local Church. And we looked at the thought that many people are prone to forget that he said, "the pastor is the husband." Didn't say, "the husband is the pastor."

So, the fact of the matter is, you are looking primarily at a pastor who is not truly a husband as much as he is pastor, but as a pastor he will be acting in a type as a husband. So, you have to study carefully the word 'pastor'. And you'll come up understanding the word 'pastor' is 'shepherd'. That's all it is, shepherd.

So therefore, the shepherd is the husband. So therefore, he will be shepherding as a husband shepherd's. And we looked at all of those points in the Scripture. We studied even in 1 Corinthians 7 last Wednesday. the relationship of the husband and wife, how that would fit in with the pastor in a spiritual context. We looked over there in the Book of Numbers, how that when a daughter, or especially a wife would make a vow in the presence of her husband. And if he said, "No, no, we won't tolerate that," see, there's no way the vow would stand. But if he allowed the vow to stand, then of course even if he died, that vow had to be kept.

5 So, we saw then how it was, that the Church must have a merging of the minds. It's like Bro. Branham said, "Church subject to the pastor, pastor subject to the Church." There's a moving together, there's a going ahead together of the people understanding what's in the mind of the pastor. And he understanding what is in the mind of the people. And so therefore, there's a time Bro. Branham did this beautifully back in about 1961. It was that he... they said, "We want to really develop a new church." And so they consulted with him.

And he said, "Now that's what you really want, we take a vote on it." He said, "Alright the vote says 'yes', the trustees then are told to raise the money," because that's what the Church wanted.

Now, Bro. Branham himself was not too worried about another building. He was content to be what he was and to be in that position with that building. But he said, "If this is want you want, this is what we're going to go

for."

We have the same situation here. If you know, to me I could preach anywhere, because the fact of my ministry, like Bro. Branham's, it has an outreach. And the peculiar thing about his, his outreach was more than local. Mine was more...was at that time and you know for several years more of an outreach then it is local. But I'm interested very much with you in a building, because I like a place to preach so the tapes can go out, and the things that my ministry entails.

So we get together, and we find that we can see eye to eye on things. Sometimes we don't quite see eye to eye, because we're not too good at planning buildings. And we know even now we could have planned a building a little different, but it's going to be perfectly fine the way it is. I always have liked a kind of a square building, but a building like this suites me fine. I don't worry about my eye span, I worry about whether my eyes are in tune with the Spirit of God, and the Word is in tune. And because you can hear back there regardless, we have good acoustics somehow.

6 So, we see that the pastor then, though he's a spiritual husband, you have to be very careful where you put the emphasis so that you don't over emphasize and go to a place where it becomes really dictatorial. And it becomes interfering with the homes and all. It must never do that.

And we saw that in so many men's ministries in this Message, and sometimes I have to speak so negatively. I have to keep warning you, "Look we are at the end-time of the Exodus that parallels the time of Moses." And about two million people went out of Israel at that time to go into the Promised Land. Only two over twenty got in. So that means there was a terrible mixed multitude. And they raised enough ruckus and everything else to where God said, "Moses step aside, I'm just going to get rid of the whole bunch. I'm sick and tired of them."

And Moses in the Spirit of Christ said, "No, I don't want to raise up a new race under me, though that's Your promise, You would do it." Because he could have done it, because the blood lines were there. No, no problem at all. It could have been done. No problem at all. God could have done it. But Moses said, "No, I stand in the breach. You destroy them, destroy me, because what would the people say, the heathen round about us?" And so God spared them. But they all died, foolish virgin, the unbelievers, mixed multitude, they all died off. You see?

And you look at the condition there, I say, I have to keep you in mind, that when I speak of these things we also are in the same element and atmosphere of having come out of Babylon. Before Bro. Branham passed away, I can't remember the exact words, but he told somebody, that already in Tucson they had seventeen different interpretations, or thirty seven or something what he believed. Now, that's the way it is today. You're looking at a situation which in my estimation is entirely untenable with what Bro. Branham taught. And yet it is tenable on the grounds that it is going to be that way, because Alpha is Omega, and Omega is Alpha. You're not going to change it. So we have to look at all these negative angles in order to bring out what is a hundred percent truth. As Bro. Branham says, "It takes a bad woman to make the good woman look good."

Well sure, that's true what he trying to say is this: you see a lot of women out there that are a real mess, you really begin to appreciate the lovely ladies, the sisters, that come to our church. And you have to realize though you're out there looking what's going on out there in the world, and you've abominated the same as God does. You don't get carried away with it. You just say, "Well, that's it. There's the good ones." And what we're looking at here is to throw the light on the darkness in order to dispel darkness for those who do not want to continue in darkness.

7 But remember, there are people, no matter how much you warn them will never listen to the truth. They must sit under someone who is a totalitarian dictator, and wants to govern their lives, because they're a bunch of

legalists. They will never learn freedom. By I don't mean by that that you go out here and drink liquor and say, "Well if I just take two beers it's okay. If I go out here to a hoochi-coochi show (you know,) went for half an hour."

I'm not talking about that. I'm talking about people who just simply can't help themselves, because they're legalists. And that they'll never do anything for them, they're so completely taken over. And I'm sorry for them. And I say, "Well, people like that, I just wish...if they're around me I wish they'd go someplace else." Which I don't know if they're around me. Because they're not getting anything from my message. They just can't do it. Because I want to present the Word, and what we've got in our souls is the determining factor. It's exactly right. I can't change the determining factor in your soul, and you can't change in mine. But...so we look at the Word of God.

8 Now, another thing that Bro. Branham said which people use a great deal of, he said, "Stick with your pastor, he's ordained to see you through."

Now, that to many people is like a minister as a strong pillar of steel with a lot of magnets around him. And he just sort of sucks you in like, (you know,) you latch on him, kind of, and it's like a magnetic pole and he'll see you through by the fact that you (you know,) stick with him. Like it's an idea, like a burr to a dog. You stick. You stick. And somehow you'll make it, because you have that 'stick-ativeness' that -stick-tuitiveness', you have that loyalty. Hogwash.

Balaam's crowd stuck with him. Korah and Dathan, Abiram's crowds stuck with them. And I heard by my Bible that fire opened up from the earth and sucked up the last three I mentioned. And their gang, and the last thing I read in the Scripture was that Balaam died fighting Israel. For all his high-faluting prophesying, which is still being, (I don't mean that word bad,) is way up there in the top bracket; and is still being fulfilled today. And I know from the Scripture that man will go to the lake of fire, or I don't understand the Bible. I don't think he's foolish virgin, period. No way, shape and form.

9 So, the minister is not a person who because you stick with him is going to see you through. Actually from what we studied on the husband situation, and what you know about it which has been used to the detriment of the people, I would say that according to John and Peter there is an obligation on the part of the pastor to do all that he can, so that no sheep will lose out. The Word 'ordained' is actually 'commanded'. The minister is commanded to see you through. In fact his obligation to the sheep is so strong that it goes to the very extreme. It's desperate to the extreme.

Let's just start out by reading a little bit of Scripture. This is a parable, but I'm going to take it as an illustration, because it's a good one. It illustrates. It's going to be Mt 18:11. Just read about four verses.

(11) For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.

"For the Son of man is come to save that which is lost." It's actually seek and to save. In Luke It says that.

(12) How think ye? (In other words, put this to your thinking concerning this statement.) If a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?

Now, you notice He doesn't say, "He just walks on the plains, where it's nice and easy." That sheep have gone to a treacherous place, and the pastor extends himself to the treacherous place, because a shepherd is a pastor.

(13) ...if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that (over that) sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray.

(14) Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

10 Now, you'll notice here that sticking with the pastor, evidently the sheep did not stick with his pastor. He got out of control. Now this is an illustration, I am not explaining the parable, because the parable goes in a different direction entirely. But we're talking about pastor's being shepherds, right?

So, we're going to illustrate what Jesus said here. He said the shepherd, or the pastor, either term, because I can say, "Does not the pastor go out and seek?" Because he's shepherd. No matter whether you use the word 'shepherd', put in the word 'pastor'. When you see the word 'pastor', put in 'shepherd'.

So, the pastor has someone here that's really gone off the deep end. Now we know that the sheep has not stuck with the pastor. So therefore, the pastor must stick to the sheep, because he's ordained to see them through if they're sheep. In other words, it isn't just the congregation that stuck with the pastor, it's the pastor that stuck with the congregation, so that he must expend all the energy necessary and throw all his resources into helping those that are astray if they can be helped.

Now notice my words 'throwing his resources into it'. Because this illustration here, (it's a parable,) says there a hundred sheep. That's a hundred percent. Ninety and nine are safely in the fold. One has left the fold and he's in great danger of being destroyed. In Palestine there's a panther there that kills sheep. Without a doubt there's a panther still lives. They thought he was gone, but he's still living. There's a few of them. And there's also other animals, the Bible speaks of wolves, they must have been there, animals that would destroy.

11 Now, this man then leaves the sheep. Now it doesn't mean that he leaves them as though he leaves them period and devotes all his time to this one person. But it shows that he throws his energies into keeping the sheep. Now, that's what we're looking at here in my understanding as we are talking about sticking with your pastor. I would say it's in the sense of the sheep that understand they have the best chance in the world with the ordained minister over them. And it means that that man truly ordained if this fellow really goes out and causes a misdemeanor of the most unqualified order, so that he is really looks like a goner, it's up to the pastor to see and take every measure he can, that he would throw into the welfare of ninety nine. Now you heard my statement, the effort he'd throw into the welfare of ninety nine, he would throw into the effort of getting that one person, if that person could be retrievable.

12 In the Book of Jn 10:11, He said,

(11) I am the good shepherd: (and) the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

Now, the question is this: what gross, spiritually darkened people could not want to stick to a pastor who is giving his life for them? I just say this, "If you were that kind of people here, I wouldn't even waste my time on you." Because the Bible's still is, "a life for life, an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth." [Ex 21:23-24] If a pastor can give his teeth it's a pretty rotten congregation that doesn't spit up at least one tooth. If a pastor can give his life to the Word of God and the things of the Lord it's a pretty despicable congregation that cannot respond with some type of enthusiasm, and some type of fruit.

So, we're looking at this thing the way it must be looked at. But the pastor must be willing to dedicate his life,

because that is what his life is all about. That's why the ministry is so highly specialized, and yet there is an overlapping in every single one of the five-fold ministers. In fact, though the teachers can handle the Word of God better than the pastors, at least he better be able to, he's not a teacher. The pastor will have teaching qualities, because he must be apt to teach. He's got to teach.

Also, no pastor will evangelize, like the outstanding evangelist, that's really a five-fold member. He's a real evangelist. But he has to evangelize, do the work. There's none, actually, even in teaching, there is no time when the bars are ever let down to the place where souls cannot be convicted of a rightness and a wrongness. You don't leave it just to the evangelist. So, the ministries by the Holy Ghost are like an enfolding of flame and then unfolding, where we see the minor and the major. We see the predominate and the subdominant. See?

13 So all right, this man here gives his life as a pastor. And the pastor's major problem is holding the hands of the people, so there's problems he will defuse the problem rather than add to it. And you will notice that this is not going on now in churches. The pastors are taking stands that do not defuse the problem, and it is over personalities. "You listen to me, I will see you through. I will be there and you will get there and because of me." Hogwash. Pfffft!

If you people believe that I'm leaving tomorrow. Because I can go tomorrow and take my ministry with me. I'll always have one. You will not get there by Lee Vayle, let me tell you flat. There's nothing in me to give you any commendation there and think, "Well, I can hold on and do it." You see, there's certain things in here we're going to talk about, about the pastor.

14 Okay. Let's go down to Rom 16:3-4. Paul is saying to the people in Rome:

(3) Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:

It's not Priscilla and Aquila, it's A-quil-as, is actually what that should be, because it not husband and wife to my knowledge. History I think proves that these are two ...?... that Paul had with him. Notice:

(4) Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

Now, you'll see here that it is incumbent upon a true pastor to let the people know that sticking with him to see them through involves his whole life, that that's what he's there for. Not be served, but to serve. See? Now, it's not that he won't be served in certain areas, but actually Jesus said, "The Son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to lay down His life." And he said, "I am the Good Shepherd." [Jn 10:11] And he said, "My sheep follow me, and everybody that came before me are thieves and robbers. Now if you stick with Me, you are going to make it."

Now, you understand that this is the primary thing we're looking at. What we call vicar-ship. "He that has seen Me, has seen the Father," [Jn 14:9] a hundred percent. See? He said, "I am here and the Father is in me." [Jn 14:11]

Now, you begin to put that down into the trickle down, or the step down which we're looking at and He allows the pastors to be called shepherds. Then what He says here in the Scripture concerning Himself is valid concerning the pastor, if you water it down and place it exactly where it belongs. The pastor can be a good shepherd. And by sticking to him he will positively know that he's ordained to see you through, and you've got confidence that He will and together you're moving by the same Spirit. Because Jesus said, "The things that I am doing, I'm not doing myself." But God knows He was doing it. "It's the Father in me that's doing them and doing

the works." So with the pastor, and when the pastor will come to that place, he can say, "You stick with me, I'm ordained to see you through." And the thing is this: he's ordained to see you through whether he twists it, perverts it, understands it, or believes it himself, or does it, the responsibility lies upon the pastor. Now, you can say what you want brother/sister. Now we'll get into why.

15 Now all right. We look again at Hebrews 13, which is my stand in the Word that Bro. Branham brought us. In verse 17 we read:

(17) Obey them that have the rule over you...

Stick with them, listen to them, do what they say. They're got the rule over you. Now remember the words in the Resurrection of Jesus to Peter. "Peter, lovest thou me."

He said, "Yea Lord." He used the word 'philio love', you know that I love you. Where Christ used the word 'agapo love'. And you know those two words are used. One of which means 'the highest possible order'. It doesn't just mean the love of God, although it has to mean the love of God, because there's not another word for it. But it's the agapo love that you could love as a gambler. You could love your booze. You could love women. You can love men if you're women. That's just where you put everything. That the agapo love. It should go to God, but it's going elsewhere.

"Well," he said, "Peter..."

Peter said, "Philio love to the agapo."

And He asked Peter, "Do you love me more than these?"

He said, "Yea Lord, You know that I love You." Once more it was the same thing.

The third time, and then Peter was grieved, because he knew he hadn't caught the truth.

"Yea Lord, You know that I love..(that was the agapo love,) which is now the greatest love in my life is You."

"Now though you are looking at the right thing." Now:

The first time He said to Peter, "Feed my sheep.'

The second time He said, "Rule my sheep."

The third time He said, "Feed my sheep."

Now, as I said before, "The Catholics say, 'Rule, rule, rule."

The Protestants, "Feed, feed, feed."

It is not true. It is: rule and feed and rule.

And when you do it, you come up to what Paul is saying here:

(17) Obey them that have the rule over you...

And up in verse 7.

(7) Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, (whose revelation you're to follow,) considering the end of their (behavior).

In other words, watching if they believe what they themselves are telling you. See? Then reading on down here in 17.

(17) ...for they watch for your souls...

All right, if somebody is watching for your soul, what kind of a person are you intellectually and spiritually that you'll just dump them? Or in other hands, if they're watching for your souls, how doltish can you be it they're not really watching for your souls? Because you've heard some stupid statement not made by Bro. Branham, but by a preacher who wants to twist it. "Stick with me and you'll make it." Listen, that's Protestantism, and that's Catholicism. Stick with the Catholic church and go to hell. Stick with the Presbyterian church and go to hell. Be my guest. And don't talk to me, they're all the same.

16 Back in Canada we had a Fr. McDonald, they finally shipped him out, because he got too many girls pregnant. I go up here to Buffalo, and the first thing I find a little town called (I think) Silver Creek. What happened there? A Presbyterian minister, a doctor's wife, (a dentist) was going to commit suicide, she jumped out of a three or four story building, they found that she was pregnant by the preacher. And they found about eight women were pregnant by the preacher. So much for your stinking clergy. Catholics, Phftt! They have their convents to take care of the kids, the nunneries. The monkeries to take care of the monkeyness. Protestants are no different. Don't tell me from the Garden of Eden, it's been the same old story, and right today the world is dying because of AIDS and pestilential diseases, because people won't watch themselves. One woman, one man.

That's what you got to mean, the Bride of Christ, one woman, one man, that's the way the church has got to be too. She's got to be one in her spirit. There's got to be one man at the head with the right spirit. Stick to a preacher? Not teach the Word of God? Fap! Or have some charisma about him that sucks people in so clever. ...?... say, "I don't believe that. Preacher preach a sermon you look at me and you'll miss it." And turn you right around and suck you right in with platitudes and something else. The master of charismatic lie. Well, Lee Vayle don't got it brother/ sister, what you see is even what you don't get, because you ain't going to get it.

17 One thing we stand on right here is on the Word of God. "Obey them that have the rule over you." Where does the rule lie? It lies in you and it lies in me, one word. If I got a word for me, and I got a word for you, there's something wrong with me. And if you got a word for you, and another different for me, there's something wrong with you. Don't say, "Well, bless God we want a preacher that doesn't fool with women, and you fool with women? I want a preacher's wife that doesn't look at me, and you wives look at men?" Come on, bunch of hypocrites. I'm not saying you are, that's the way it is. Now, don't go passing the buck and be this and that. I'm a nice guy, you might not believe it, but it's the truth. I'm telling you the truth.

Let's read It again. "Obey them that have the rule over you." Obey is obey. It means 'you listen and do what they say', providing it's the Word. Providing it's the Word.

18 Now look at this up here. Let me read verse 7 again. [Hebrews 13:]

(7) Remember them which have the rule over you, (He's talking to remember them. In other words, take care of the people that do it.) who have spoken unto

you the word of God:...

And notice: I like the phraseology, who has simply spoken unto the Word of God. They haven't nailed It down. They haven't drilled It into you. They haven't made you do anything. They just spoke It to you. And something in you says that's the way to go.

(7) ...whose faith follow...

Now look it, they say, "Well hey, (these preachers, and I heard this, factually I know what I'm talking about.) "...you will make it by listening to me by my revelation."

I want to tell you something, you cannot make anything by Lee Vayle's revelation, you've got to have your own. Furthermore, I don't have a revelation. Bro. Branham had the revelation.

Now, here's the difference between me and a lot of preachers and a lot of guys in this world. I am doing my best to teach what I believe to be the revelation Bro. Branham brought. Those are my words, they're on dozens of tapes and I'll say it again. I'm doing my best to teach what I believe to be correctly identified saying the same thing as the prophet's revelation. I cannot prove it. But up to date I've seen it change people's lives brother/ sister. Change spirit in the church entirely. And when men have listened to me in the congregation there's been changes made, and radical changes. I'm not saying it couldn't be done to somebody else, I'm just saying that's what I'm looking at. I'm looking at a fruitage, I'm seeing it.

(7) ...considering their (behavior).

(8) Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and for ever.

Now, what's he saying? The real Word, the real pastor is Jesus Himself. He's the real Ruler. There's no great one's amongst us. Just the Great One Himself, the Holy Ghost. There's no holy men, except the Holy One, the Holy Ghost.

(9) (And) be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines...

Now, the major thrust of the Word of God is doctrine. It is not, "Do this and thou shall live, or do this other thing and you'll die." It is not that at all.

19 Listen, with this is fresh in your mind. Please turn back with me once more to John 3, and if I've got at least one of you to come up here and swear, not on the Bible, and not on God, but knowing there's a Bible open here and a God in heaven Who hears your word, do you really understand what's being preached from this pulpit? Jn 3:16.

(16) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (Now, you've got to believe in Him to get everlasting life.)

(17) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (Now, that's believing in Him.)

(18) He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not

is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

(19) And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Now, what is the main thrust here? They don't believe in the Name of the Son of God. They haven't got a revelation of Him. "In His Name shall the Gentiles trust," [Mt 12:21] Is the major thrust of the ministry of Jesus Christ come back in a Pillar of Fire.

20 Now, what you're looking at is this we're trying to show you here. Taking from the Book of Hebrews back here. [Hebrews 13:]

(9) Be not carried with divers and strange doctrines...

The divers and strange doctrines starts right with this: turning down the Light of the epical season according to Peter. According to Bro. Branham. According to the Word of God. It's turning down the Light. It's turning down the present revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now look, It says here: God does a thing the way He does it. Heb 13:8, He has His prophet. He brings the Word. Don't you then be carried with anything other than what that man brought to you. He tells you this is what we are supposed to teach, is what the prophet taught.

(9) ...For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

Then he goes down below:

(17) Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, (and) they may do it with joy, and not with grief: (it's) unprofitable for you.

21 Now, what am I saying here? The pastor's job is primarily to preach the Word of God. And if you can't take it he's skunked, it's over. Because you can't get saved without a revelation. That's why people are lost today. It's not that they don't have a lot of churches. It's not that they are not preaching Christ. It's not that they are not preaching the Blood, the baptism and these things. They are not preaching the truth. There's a bunch of lies mixed up with it. Divers doctrines, (see?) they're wrong. So therefore, they're not going to get off the ground.

Now, what about you as a people? What about any congregation? The obligation of the pastor is to teach that doctrinal truth. Then, if there's anything in that Word, the Life, and anything in the person, a life will come forth. Actually, people today need a minimal amount of teaching on behavior.

You say, "Why?"

Because, the apostle Paul distinctly says, "If the heathen by nature do what the Gentiles are supposed to do by the revealed law of God and don't do it, then the Gentiles are a source of condemnation to the Jews." So, the Bible tells me already that you and I know what morals are from in contradistinction to what immoral's are, or the unmoral.

22 Now, what are we looking at? We're looking at the truth, and there's an obedience to it. And this is what we're looking at also. We're looking at the fact that Paul said the Corinthian church which was divided over leadership. The leadership got in there and tried to split congregations. And Paul said, "Was Paul crucified? Was Peter crucified?" He said, "No." He said, "I didn't even baptize, except a tiny number, for lest they say they're baptized in my name." [1 Cor 1:13,15]

But he said, "I brought you a dynamic revelation that was proven by God Himself." See? And he branded the schisms and the things in the church as being wrong. And he said now, "I wish above all else in your church..." And he started in the 1 Cor 1:10.

(10) ...that (you) all speak the same (mind, you all say the same) thing...

Now, Paul over here says the same thing in Hebrews. "Remember those who have the rule over you have spoken unto you the Word of God." The pastor's will speak what Paul spoke. And the people will speak what the pastor spoke, and they will be one mind there. And if you cannot be one mind there, then let me tell you this: you will not be one mind down the road. This is the starting point. This is the foundation. The truth of Jesus transforms people's lives.

When the Voice said to Paul, "Paul," He said, "Why do you persecute me? It's hard to kick against the pricks."

He said, "Who are you Lord?"

He said, I'm Jesus." That did it.

From then on he went into the desert, and he came back a man fully aware of God and ready to die a thousand times, or a million times over. He gave himself unceasingly for the people of God.

Now, what did it start with? It started with the Word brother/sister. Paul said, "I'm condemned because of the doctrine I preach. The way that I worship. We are condemned here, and will be condemned here by people, because of the way we worship.

23 I heard something which I do not believe. I heard it a long time ago and never said it to you before. But now certain people went to Africa, Bro. Bob Brown went down. Bro. Morris Ungren went down. They tell me in Africa on television that people swear, they saw the television the pope holding a book called 'Spoken Word'. They said, "This is our enemy." I don't believe it. It could be, but I don't believe it. Could be right. But I doubt it. If it is, it's sort of a recognition that this will be the one thing they'll have to fight. Serpent seed, and all these other things in the Word of God. What really happened in Eden. And yet, we preach nothing that was not known through the ages before. Except it was sealed up under the Thunders. And that all boils down brother/sister to one little set of Scriptures, Rev 10:1-7, where God Himself is obligated to come down and a prophet standing there to tell us the truth. That's all it comes down to. And that comes down to once more, God tabernacling human flesh.

Oh I know brother/sister, it exposes what has been going on for centuries where people had their way by votes and every political intrigue to be the somebody for God. It's over! You bet it's over. If we ever get enthused and imbued with that, we'll be getting somewhere. Everything else is shoddy and tawdry beside it. So you see, it's not the personality, or the pastor, this kind of gimmick, and that kind of gimmick. Boils on right down here. He says, "Remember them kindly, in all your ways those that spoke to you the Word of God." You follow them. If they're following the Word you follow them. Fear not when you get away from them. You don't want that.

24 Bro. Branham said, "A man preaches error, get away from him. Even dying of sickness, (he said,) don't fool

with the charismatic's. Stay away from that stuff."

A woman down in Jack Bell's church was dying of cancer, she said, "If I knew there was healing down there by some gift I wouldn't go down," she said.

You say, "What kind of life is that? She's stupid."

No, she's not stupid. She's basing everything on what's vindicated. Not something not vindicated. Gifts are no vindication. You can even go to a fortune teller and get help. "Obey them that have rule over you. And submit yourselves for they watch for your souls." [Heb 13:17]

Now, what are you submitting to? Are you submitting to the pastor or to the Word? To the Word. If he's off the Word you don't submit period. You get away from. Now, that's tough preaching, but if I'm doing wrong get away from me. I told you I told my wife, if I mess up, for God sake don't you mess up. I say the same thing to you people here. And in the meantime don't you try to mess me up. Because I'll tell you, you can come out fighting, believe me, I'll come out fighting ten times worse than you can ever fight. Because I'm well skittled brother/sister. You're an amateur along side of me. Not kid yourself for one minute. I can get answers. You cannot get answers. You say, "You stand pretty strong." You bet I stand pretty strong. I'm not kidding myself. Don't you kid yourself either.

25 This Word is what we're looking at. I've got one exclusive hope, if this Word doesn't do It, I'm shot. [Bro. Vayle bangs the pulpit] I'm gone! And I'll stand in judgment for every single one of you. Not just for my sins, but for yours, I've led you astray. You bet I'm ordained to see you through. [End of side one of tape] No one else in this church has that calling. No several people. No body of believers has that calling. I've got it. And I'm obligated. And my obligation starts to preach this Word without any strings. To preach It exactly as the apostle Paul preached It. I'm not saying I'm the apostle Paul. But I've got to have the very same in my heart as he had. And he said, "But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty. Not walking in craftiness. Not handling the Word of God deceitfully. But by manifestation and truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." [2 Cor 4:2]

I can't fulfill the last part, proving anything, but I can have the right spirit. "And if our gospel then is hid, it's hid to those that are lost." [2 Cor 4:3]

26 Let me go now and show you something in the Book of Acts 20:17, and I stand on this a hundred percent. And I know Bro. Branham had to stand. Every prophet has to stand on it. Nobody else can do different, they got to stand on it.

(17) And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.

(18) And when they were come to him, he said unto them, (You) know, from the first day that I came into Asia, (that's Asia minor) after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, (A man of all seasons. Not Sir Thomas Moore, this is a man of all seasons, don't worry anybody fooled by history.)

(19) Serving the LORD with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:

(20) And how I kept back nothing that was profitable (now notice, how I kept back nothing that was profitable for me. He spilt his guts,) but (showed) you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,

In other words, I never change. When I was preaching in the church or a bunch of people or talking to individuals. It was the same story.

(21) Testifying both to the Jews, and to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

27 In other words, I wasn't like a preacher running around. Now he's a real chameleon. If he came here he'd preach Presence. He'd go to somebody else's church, he'd turn His back on It. Pffft! Hogwash. I ain't got time for that stuff brother/sister. Pffft! You can see his fruit too.

(22) And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, [not] knowing the things that shall befall me there:

(23) Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

(24) (And) none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and (my) ministry, (or even my ministry,) which I have received of the Lord, to testify (of) the gospel of the grace of God.

In other words, he had one thing, Paul was a preacher. I'm going to use a very vulgar vernacular, he shot his mouth off day and night in the gospel of Christ. But he ...?... like a lot of people. This shooting from the lip was the pure Word of God. But I want you to notice that this man was on fire with the Word, the gospel of grace.

(25) And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.

Now he said, "I preached the gospel." Now he's preaching the kingdom. Before he preached Jesus Christ. You get it all, see?

(26) Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men.

Now watch. Why?

(27) For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

28 Why was Paul free from the blood of all men? Because he handled the Word of God, for God in the spirit of God, the way God wanted it. That's ...?... a hundred percent free. No more blood on his hands. Neither has William Branham any blood on his hands, and by the grace of God I won't have blood on my hands either. To preach exactly what I see and hear. I cannot not preach other than I see. If I've seen wrong, I've got to come back and correct it. At this time I've had a minimal amount of correction. Which has been really nothing but sliding into the higher understanding of it. So I can see it.

(27) For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

Now watch:

(28) Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

What is the number one element of a good pastor?

Number one in the pulpit, is to feed.

Number two outside the pulpit, is to bring people together and settle differences.

Not everybody does it, but it's supposed to be done. That's why I feel you should have a man that's really qualified to be a pastor working right along.

(29) For I know this, (watch,) after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

What did Jesus say the wolves were? Charismatic's.

(30) Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, (and) draw away disciples after them.

29 He said, "The church is going to split when I'm gone. Your local church is going to split by people rising up inside and others coming in. Nice picture, eh? Well, I'm not going to try to change it. I've told you we've got hundred and fifty seats here. By tomorrow morning, Monday the 28th they'd go hundred and fifty different directions. But by the grace of God I believe they won't. I don't kid myself. Why should I kid you? Why should I kid me? You think pretending you've got a hundred dollar bill in your pocket and you really need it it's going to do the trick? Pffft! You better have the hundred dollar bill there. We don't have to make believe here brother/sister. This is not theoretical anymore. This is living proof. It's not theoretical. Whether you and I get it, it is not theoretical. Whether I'm a true minister of God, that's theoretical. It's not theoretical that there are true ministers of God. And I stand here and tell you you're going to make it because of Lee Vayle? Pffft, phooey! You're going to make it if on one condition, I have based you in the Living Word of the Living God. I don't have any trouble from that point on.

You say, "Bro. Vayle, I don't believe some of those things."

Be my guest. I've not going to tell you to leave. That's your business. Your blood's not in my hands. No way, shape and form. No, not a bit of problem. See? That's what I'm looking at here. So you're not going to find me fussing anybody.

30 Now, he said: [Acts 20:]

(31) Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn (you day and night) with tears. This was a loving compassionate man.)

(32) And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace...

Notice, he didn't just commend it of God, to the word of His grace. Why...commend anybody to God with no knowledge of God?

"Well, I commend you to God, hallelujah. I'm the preacher pastor here. I'll commend you to God."

Not unless I preach day and night the Word of Almighty God and even with tears. How am I going to commend you to God? Why that's ridiculous.

Say, "God take these people, because I said so."

What kind of talking is that from a pastor? Here I stand Lord, I'm a great magnet or something. Great maggot. Thing sounds wormy to me. [laughter] Pardon my humor. But I just have to let her go when it goes. And that's the way it's going be.

(32) ... I commend you to God, and to the word (even to the word) of his grace...

Let's use that word 'kay' in there, 'kai. It can be used as a preposition as well as a conjunction.

(32) I commend you to God, (even) to the word of his grace, (Now we're getting somewhere.) which is able to build you up...

You want to be edified? According to the five-fold ministry of Ephesians 4, which we'll talk about later. How are you going to get it? Reading the funny papers? I'm not against reading funny papers. I read them all the time myself. I'm not against that. If you don't like them, fine, that's good. I'm glad you don't. I'll read them for you. I like a slight chuckle. You want to see a certain move, it's okay. I don't fuss with anybody. You know it's okay. Especially if they're decent things and all. But look it here. What's going to build you up? The Word of grace. The Word of grace.

31 Grace, brother/sister, is what God did in this hour allowing That in the face of Laodicea. Every table full of vomit, and God coming down and currying favor. What more can anybody want? Word of His grace. And you think He came down to curry favor, to kick you out? And he says, "The pastor must be this kind of man, and the pastor that kind of man." And then he said, "That's okay for them, I'm telling them, but I'm not that kind of a man."

Oh, come on, all the pastors in God's creation couldn't hold a finger nail to the Lord Jesus Christ as a great pastor. Everyone born in sin and iniquity and undone. Backsliding a thousand times a day with wrong thoughts, everything else. But he's telling you and me, "Listen, let's get some pastors on the job, evangelists, and ministers that understand this. I covet no man's apparel, so on and so forth," [Acts 20:33] That's exactly what Paul said. Did you notice, "Grievous wolves are going to come in." [Acts 20:29]

Now let's see what those grievous wolves are going to do to this little flock over here. And we're right back again to 2 Corinthians 11, you know I was going to go there. You know that automatically.

(2) For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

(He sure will present a virgin.)

(3) But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

What simplicity? What's going to happened? What are these men going to do, these false teachers?

(4) For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, (and they'll do it.)

32 They made Him a trinity, a third God. Hogwash! This man was born of a woman through the divine intervention creation of Almighty God, Who put everyone of His attributes into those two cells that made a virgin born body. And she was nothing more than a factory. And I don't mean nothing but as though you criticize her. I'm just trying to tell you what really happened. She's a wonderful, wonderful, wonderful, "blessed amongst women," like godly women are. But now this year they're celebrating the Immaculate Conception. What's an immaculate conception? Doesn't mean that the woman is a virgin. "It means that she hadn't sin?" Hooogwash! If she didn't have a root of sin, her father and mother didn't. And take it back to David, she goes plumb back to David. Joseph goes back to David, "and they all sinned, came short of the glory of God." [Rom 3:23] Another hogwash idea, like the ascension of Mary. Protestant's got the same hogwash. And you know why they're worse than the Catholics? Because they built the image to it. Yeah. Don't go looking around denomination. ...?... denomination, Roman Catholic or Greek Orthodox. Let's look at the entire picture brother/sister where it is, the organization is of the devil.

33 Who tried to kill Paul? Organization. When did the church start warring? With organization. Never any other way. Rise amongst you. Diotrephes rose up against John. [3 Jn 9] That's why this church has one hope, one mind on the Word and the sense to let everything go by the board until God's grace and mercy gives us the strength to overcome everything. Just love this Word. If you can't love each other love this Word, and come anxious for It. And if you can't sit, like the guy you're sitting beside, I'm not going to feel too bad about you for doing that. Human nature is cruddy. But if you love the Word enough, pretty soon it won't matter where who you're sitting beside. Won't matter if he's got garlic breath or stink feet, it won't matter at all. Although you shouldn't have either one in a church service. [laughter] If it's hundred and twenty degrees in the building, you're freezing. You come for one thing. You come for the Word of God.

And Paul said right here, he said, "These grievous wolves are going to come in. They make another Jesus, talk about another spirit and change the gospel." And they've done it. If they did that in the year before 90AD, what do you think 2000AD is like? Anybody ought to know that it's gone plumb to the dogs, the way the Scripture says. That's the way it is.

34 All right, listen: Let's go to Ephesians 4, now I told you, you knew I was going to get there, and I'm getting to It now. And notice what Paul said striking on the doctrine. He said:

(1) ...therefore, (I) the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that (you) walk worthy of the vocation wherewith (you) are called, (that's the real calling.)

(2) With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

(3) Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Now, what is a unity of the Spirit? One Word. One Word, because the Spirit only gives one Word one way. Paul was a recognized messenger, prophet, apostle at his hour. So William Branham is the one vindicated, apostle, prophet for this hour. Let's face it. There's one Word, the Word that he gave without deceit, without guile. He could have been a millionaire die with multimillions. He wasn't interested.

35 Now notice the doctrine:

(4) There is one body, and one Spirit, even as (you're) called in one hope of your calling;

"I'm Methodist, hallelujah, I'm going to make it."

Yes, glory to God Presbyterian brother, you're going to make it too. Yes, Nazarene brother. Amen, you Pentecostals. Hallelujah! Hooogwash! One body. One body, one Spirit.

(5) One Lord, one faith, one baptism, (starting with Jesus, or Jesus Christ.)

(6) One God and Father of all, is above all, and through all, and in you all.

(7) But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. (Nobody misses out the gift, the grace.)

(8) Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

(9) Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

Remember, the lower parts of the earth was by the Spirit brother/sister, wasn't His body didn't go to the lower parts. The body went to the grave.

(10) He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.

That same One came back. The same One that preached to prisoners down there, preached to prisoners right here through a prophet. And we're preaching to prisoners right here right now. No change. It's not sinking in. We've got a question on the White Throne I'll be talking about. It's not sinking in, and I don't blame you.

36 First of all, you've got to accept it, and the Spirit will begin dealing with you. You don't try to see a lot of things brother/sister. Just listen. One asset I have that few people have, I ask very few questions. I have a habit of waiting for answers. I'm not saying you're wrong to ask questions. Now, understand me, ask your questions, that's fine. You're in a different position from me. See? That same One that went up came down. He preached right here through William Branham. ...?... had his picture. And when He came down to the apostle Paul, set the Church in order and He never took away,

(11) ...he gave some, apostles; (the) prophets; and evangelists; and pastors and teachers;

And their job is:

(12) ...the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

In other words, to bring the Saints to a place of absolute conclusion in finishing off where God wants them. It's going to take a five-fold ministry. Now, He gave them so there would be ministries. He gave them to build up the body of Christ to this extent the perfection.

(13) ...we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

That's Eph 1:17-21. You've got It right now coming into full effect. You know that's true.

37 Let me tell you something: you're not looking down the road. Some of the people believe this Message looking down the road. Anybody in this church looking down the road, I want to tell you something: you have not heard what I've been saying. And you better start paying attention now. You thought I was going to say, "Get out of here." [Laughter] But you're wrong. Just start paying attention now, because you're missing what I've been telling you. It's ongoing and we're looking at it, and we know what we're seeing. I am not looking down the road. I've no time for it. I'm looking now. What I see, I'm telling you. I've not withheld anything from you for fifteen split seconds. Unless I said I'll tell you more about this next week or something. And if I forgot, I'm blamable, I didn't mean to forget. I hold nothing back from you:

(13) Till we all come in the unity of the faith, (even) the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, the stature (everything there, the knowledge the fruit ...?...) unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: (Christ fullness come back in this age in a man. Got to come back.)

Remember, Christ could not live His life for us in the flesh. It had to be in the Spirit. He couldn't live through it. Now He did through William Branham. It's about His coming into the Bride here. And we saw the fullness revealed according to Matthew 12.

38 Now listen:

(14) That we henceforth be no more children, (Now, what's the end? There'd be no more little 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:

Paul was not speaking of his day, because this had already happened. They had already been pulled apart. He said, "I'm leaving you and it's already started. The wolves amongst you, and the wolves coming in didn't get this." This was future. This is Rev 10:1-7. This is Eph 1:17-23. This is 1 Thessalonians 4. This is Mt 4:12, but speaking in true love.

[Ephesians 4:]

(16) From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Now, listen, the Holy Spirit, Jesus the One that went down, came back in the form of the Holy Ghost. At the day of Pentecost He began proliferating Himself, little tiny bits. But He came back personally to the apostle Paul to bring the Word to the Gentiles, and he did. This day, He has come back again.

39 Now, the first time He was here. The church was set in order, but the church Bride fell. Now let's understand She fell. She did not get that which the knowledge to make Her perfect. She did not get the stature of the fullness of Christ that caused Her to row up unto Him, See? It wasn't time. So therefore, they drifted, and drifted. But all the while the Bride was coming up. And from Luther onward the Light was coming until Headship returned, right there with the prophet the way God had it [points to the picture of the Pillar of Fire] in the First Century to the apostle Paul.

Now listen: Here's what happens today. That we do not be children. And Paul said in this same Bible the Hebrews, "You are children. You cannot understand Melchisedec." He said, You're little children." That's strong meat. Bro. Branham came and preached the strong meat of Melchisedec.

Now, at this time we are able to be in a unity, and the unity is what? Word and preachers. Now get that flat. Because that's the Bible. Now I would hate to think anybody in this church would rise up and try to come against the Word, because there are too many people who would gladly carry you out and I'd have an awful fight on my hands to hold them down. At least I pride myself that my God, by now we have some that understand, and really believe this Word is this Word is. No fooling brother/sister. No fooling. We have arrived at this position, or That is all wrong. And if That's wrong, it's a counterfeit. And you can't have a counterfeit before you get an original. What did we miss? Nothing. This is the original. See?

40 Ephesians 4:]

(14) ...(we'll) be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, (which is) by the sleight of men, (even) cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; (Take the things of a prophet and makes themselves a kingdom.)

I wouldn't mind if we got all wiped out. I wouldn't like it. But if we need wiping out praise God. You know, be looking sober. I get kind of a chuckle out of these perverse things. Because look, I know only too well in my heart, hey, we are walking on very thin ice. We are treading on egg shells. We don't need to think we're somebody. Preacher and congregation. We better walk softly before God, and know there is Somebody attached to this somehow. I'm with Bro. Branham, "If we're not Bride, there's a Bride out there somewhere, (there's got to be brother/sister,) by the grace of God may we not stand in Her way." By the grace of God I believe we are Bride. But I'm preaching this way, and these tapes will go around the world, and they'll be ...?... a lot of criticism.

They'll say, "Old Vayle's trying to build a kingdom, trying to destroy this and that. I'm not trying to destroy anything brother/sister, I've tried to build my brothers up in honor, I preferred them. I've put men forward in this Word, it's gone plumb around the world, different ones. Because absolutely, I have lent every bit of my strength and carried behind them. And I have found myself deeply dissolution. I find preachers putting people in bondage. And I find people still in bondage, they can't get it out of your heads, you'd chuck a guy that leads you into perversity. Merciful God in heaven, what is Jesus Christ like? Some kind of a hypocrite? Some kind of a goat? Some kind of a mass murderer? Some kind of a Stalin? Some kind of a Hitler? Some kind of a Father Devine?

Bishop Jones? What is He anyway? Our High Priest. Some mealy mouth liar? Some double dealing person? Shepherding a bunch of people that don't know right hand from left hand, and just wanting to run into sin?

Brother/sister, I've got higher hopes in my God than that, and the people of God. I live in hopes day by day that He'll do something for me. Listen, I tell you, I'm standing on this Word like I take It for my healing. I take It for everything. If this Word is not right and the Life cannot be released, I am gone. But if the Life is in this Word, and this Word is in me, then this must be released. You simply can't have, you can't have it both ways brother/sister.

41 Now watch:

(14) ...they lie in wait to deceive;

(15) But (holding) the truth in love, (speaking and holding,) may grow up into him in all things...

Now, all things Bro. Branham categorically said was the Word of this hour. Plus the fact that we're all things to God. But then when he spoke of those things be shaken down, those things that remain cannot be shaken, he said that was this false cults and tenets and things of the world.

(15) (So therefore,) ...may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, (everything in) Christ:

Now listen:

(16) From whom the whole body (now, watch it now,) fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

We are at that position now with Christ in Headship to produce a Bride, not a local church now, I wish it could be a pure local church. God have mercy, I wish we could. I cannot stand here and tell you a lie. He's going to have a Bride that's got this brother/sister, because He's working on It now. The Love will come out of the Word. Your actions will come out of the Word. There's nothing that will not come out of this Word, brother/sister absolutely.

42 Now you notice, Ephesians 4 is a very heavy Scripture to the sheep who want to make it. And it's a very heavy Scripture in this respect: you are obligated if you possibly can to get yourself a pastor and a church. You need it. Now some cannot. So what do they do? Well, I'll tell you, Bro. Branham allowed it. He advocated if you didn't have a pastor, pray for one and play tapes.

"Well," you say, "what about the fact that half a slice is better than no slice." I think that is a very true statement. But how far are you going to carry it? Is a half a slice to get the Word of God to be brutalized? So the joy of the Lord is taken out of your souls? So that you exist for one purpose to take care of a minister? You never say that here.

My living comes from the outside. It doesn't mean that it doesn't come from the inside too. Sure it does. But if I want to isolate myself one hundred percent for the ministry on the outside, I'm well taken care of. And I don't hold it as a club over your head, I'm just telling you, look, let's face issues brother/sister, I went down the road

without a plug nickel hardly. I went down the road paying twenty percent of my gross, which is $39 and $45 a week.

I'm not saying ask my wife, she'll tell you. She doesn't have to yes me, she could lie and be a liar like me. ...?... bank account in those days.

Bro. Branham knowing it he said, "Lee, I just got my quarterly check and I'd like to give it to you."

I said, "What for?"

"Because," he said, "you need it."

I said, "Not like you do."

And at that little meeting we got what? $44.35. My motel room alone was $39. Where the gas and the rest of the things come from? And the food and things?

43 Now, you're not here to make me a living. I appreciate the fact that you do. If you're getting noting for it, by all means tell me, we'll give your money back. We'll get it for you. I'll help you to go someplace else. No problem. No problem at all. Brother/sister, I wasn't in it for the money before, I appreciate money like you do. I could spend a million bucks tomorrow, have a great time doing it. You'd all share of course. Wouldn't do any left out. I'd force you to take at least a month's vacation with me somewhere with a boss like ...?... Had to put a nail in your foot. Wouldn't be too hard. We'd just make sure you limp a bit. [laughter] Come get a vacation.

Oh sure, you're all family, there's no problem there. I'm just saying these things, because look, as I say, tapes go out. And I want it clear...if we stand here than I am not preaching as a hypocrite. And I'm not trying to fuss at anybody, but I'm taking my stand with this Word that I believe to be right. And I'm going to do it.

Now, let's look at the beautiful day that we live in. The whole body, not like in Elijah's day, seven thousand hadn't bowed the knee and nobody knew it. You're going to see a Bride that's got the Word and knows what to do with It, or keeps quiet. You're going to see a Bride, a Church where the love of God is, the sweet Spirit of Jesus Christ, the Saints ready to come on back, there won't be one person not healed. I'm depending on the Word of God the same as you are.

44 Now listen, I know together we are not depending on It as we ought to depend. I know we don't have the zeal as we ought to have It. I know all of these things, but brother/sister, that does not alter the fact we've got it, and we're looking forward to what is coming out of It. And you can't push God. When you start pushing God brother/sister, you get in trouble, because God will give you "the desires of your heart and will bring leanness to your soul. [Ps 106:15]

The thing is this: we want fat souls. Fat souls comes by fat ears. Fat ears come by listening to the Word of God that is brought by the prophet. And It gets down in here and something begins to happen. Look, let me tell you flat, I can prove that something happens when you do something. So the Word of God is greater than all. So I'll bring some cayenne next Wednesday night, and you won't want me too, and I'll give you half a teaspoon each and water, and you'll know that you swallowed some cayenne. Well if cayenne pepper can do that, what about the Word of God? Don't tell me living Word is better than Word out here that made cayenne pepper. ...?... know better. Or the Word out here that created this is a better Word than what He's putting in you and me. This dies all the time. We've got something that's way beyond that brother/sister.

45 Listen, let me tell you something: when Jesus came back and confronted the disciples and He told them the truth, it was just like a beautiful thing that, "Could it really be true?" It's that way with us. But listen, we're coming closer and closer to where suddenly it's going to grab us. I'm depending on it. I'm not depending on a man that grabs God. I'm depending on a God that grabs man. I am honestly. "Blessed is the man Whom Thou chooses and causes us to approach unto Thy Throne." [Ps 65:4] He chooses and makes him come. "My sheep hear My Voice and they follow me." [Jn 10:27]

Not, "I think they'll come, and maybe they'll come." They will come. And that's the way a congregation is too, with this Living Word, because this Living Word is what we're talking about through the Presence of Jesus Christ here.

46 All right. Now, this minister, this pastor is to be an example, and thereby he is to be a leader. Now, let's take a look at this. We're going to go to 1 Peter 5. Now I'm up for crucifixion on this don't worry, I'm not tell you something I'm going to hang it all on to all the ...?... preachers around the country and say, "Lee Vayle's got his little ivory tower here, and he sit's pretty nice with a nice congregation, got them all fooled and they take good care of him. Building the church and everything else, so he sits here and hits all us guys."

Yeah, by the time I'm finished you may want to carry me out of here and get yourself a real pastor. Well, that's your business. Like I told you, this is perfectly okay by me to a certain degree. The certain degree is this: I wouldn't like it, but I could take it. I've been through a lot of things, I could take that. But I'd take my ministry, I'd go down the road saying, "Well, I don't think that...I guess I blew it. But I'll try not to blow the next one." Okay, so that's the way life goes.

47 Now, what does he say here? He said: 1 Peter 5:

(1) The elders which are among you, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: (He saw that on Mt Transfiguration.)

(2) Feed the flock of God which is among you, (Now, why did Peter say that? Because that's what Jesus said to Peter. "Feed My flock.") taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; (happy, happy pastors, glad to do it. That doesn't sound like some of them. It sounds like the Lord's five-fold.) not (of) filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

In other words, not because you're paid, because you want to do it.

(3) Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

Now then, how are they going to be examples? Through service. Preacher's wife will do the most cooking when she's able to. We've got you young gals trained now, so keep it up. She's getting too old for that. And I've got to help her, and that makes me take time off for things that I want to do. Alright, examples. Examples in giving. Examples in hospitality. Examples in doing. That's what it is. See? Of a ready mind. Being servants. Greater is he then all, by being a servant to all. The greatest of all, is a servant to all. See?

48 Now watch:

(4) And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, (the pastors) shall receive

a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

Why? Because they fed the flock of God, watched over them, because they love to do it, and want to do it, and became a servant to them. Now, that's what the pastors are ordained to do. And when you got that kind of a pastor, which I don't say you got, because I'm not a real pastor, let's understand that. I've got my failings in certain areas, yet I don't carry them out. I do a certain amount, and it's obvious. The others are not obvious because they're not being done. But you see, you get a pastor like that and who wouldn't stick with him? Unless he's a complete you know, miscreant, or he's a trouble maker. Or you couldn't please him anyway. You know, there's just some people you just can't please anyway. They don't know gourmet cooking when they see it, or feed on It. You know people like that? Yeah. Okay.

49 Let's go a little further. Let's go to Jn 13:15 as I believe It. Here, Jesus said:

(15) For I have given you an example, that (you) should do as I have done...

What was that? Humility overriding His Own personal position and prestige. In other words, He was one of the boys. Well, you show me a preacher that isn't human and therefore perfectly vulnerable. And you show me a preacher then who isn't perfectly human and born again, but can rise to where God wants him. They can do it. Congregation can do it. Preacher can do it. But it's based upon wanting what? The pure Word of God handled in the Spirit of God, and then a response in the Spirit of God. Because Bro. Branham said, "She'll have the Word and know what to do with It, or She will keep silent."

Now, no pastor can do that, but he can help you. Like I trust by the grace of God this pulpit here is trying to do it, to show you, It is ours. And you know something? I believe we're getting it. I'm not at all concerned as though we're not going ahead. I believe we're going ahead. In fact just the way that you've responded to building a church and all, I can see at least eight hundred percent, if not a thousand percent, or several thousand percent improvement. I'm just going to tell you flat, and I don't have to hang my head and do it. I can just look you in the eyes and tell you everybody looking in the eyes? Every single one. Fabulous improvement. Congratulations. [Bro. Vayles claps] I congratulate you. And I'm not sarcastic. I'm not at all. I mean exactly what I saying to you. It's a great privilege for me to say this. A tremendous privilege.

50 All right. Paul speaking to this young fellow, Timothy that became a pastor. [1 Timothy 4:]

(12) Let no man despise thy youth; (So this is for young people being pastors) but be thou an example of the believers, (how?) in word, (then behavior, because conversation is behavior), in (love), in spirit, in faith, in purity.

In other words, be a little apostle Paul. Every pastor is incumbent upon him to be a little William Branham. And I'm going to pull the blind down and bless with shame. But it's the truth. You know what, if you're going to talk William Branham, you should kind of live William Branham. If you talk Jesus, you should live Jesus. If you shepherd instead of Christ, you should actually take on quite of bit of Him. Not by a vote. Phffft! Hogwash. Fap! You're mammy and pappy vote to go to Bible college, you come out a pastor, bless God, you ain't nothing but a stinker. You know you're just... listen, they fussed at the Roman Catholics for voting in a pope. The Protestants do exactly the same thing in their own little stupid way. Don't look at anybody, brother/sister. I hold these up to our observation just to let you know we've got to leave all that stuff. There's no used talking if we don't leave it.

The constant reminder is fine. But it is not fine if we don't leave it. Paul said, "I count those things but dung." [Phil 3:8] Now if you're good when the Exodus, remember, the law of God said, "You had to carry a little paddle

and dig a little hole and bury the dung." [Duet 13:23] All right, let's do the same thing with this. We carry a paddle, a shovel, we know what to do with it. Bury it. And it's not that it doesn't repeat and come up when the thing is buried. Get away from that stuff and leave it. No, no organization, nothing is. A freedom of the Spirit of God.

Listen brother/sister, God can direct this Church. God can direct the Church. If He doesn't, let's get out of it. Or let's start something that He can direct.

51 All right, that's enough time. We haven't got time for the rest of the Scripture. I'll just have time to cover this next Wednesday. Now, here's what you want to do: some questions have come in already. One on the White Throne. I want to discuss It with you. I want to tell you how to get your minds on it, how it works. It's a revelation.

Other questions come in, I want you to put them on a piece of paper and give them to me. By the grace of God I won't lose them. If I do, you just repeat them in the congregation. No problem. I'm sure I won't lose them, at least I'll try not to. I've got a couple right here. And you can get those questions in... But anyway, that's how we're going to leave it and continue next Sunday. And since these meetings I've taken the tone the way they're taken, I don't want to just stand up here and just lay things on the line and be a rough customer to some of the brethren I know and all. I don't mean that. Although one way I do, I'll be honest with you.

There's one thing where compassion comes in, and that's you people as you pray daily. Pray for the people that have been having hard times with ministers. Where there's no love there, where there's...opportunity taken by what Bro. Branham said to use a formula, which is not as you see lined with Scripture. And everything I've said is Scripture, and I haven't twisted anything in the Scripture. It's right here. You can read It the same as I can read It. You can see It. There's no twisting. I'm not trying to take anybody from something good. I'm trying to lead away from what can be wrong, and is wrong into what is right. And I have your welfare at heart, or I wouldn't be preaching It. Because, see, I already know these things. I don't have to tell you for just for me.

52 A gift does not operate for the man himself, it operates for the people. And so to know the Word of the Lord and understand the five-fold ministry, which we're trying to do, should help you. Then you know what your input is. You'll know what the minister's input is, and by the time we're finished, by the grace of God any questions that come up, we can answer with the help of the Lord. But Bro. Branham said, "And as a Church we can put our foundations in the Word of God, and as a people speaking with the same mind."

I hope you're getting what I'm trying to get across to you brother/sister. Look it, I am here, and I'm not here for this reason: for one mind. There can't be several minds in the pulpit. There can't be a mind coming to you. If you feel I'm wrong, write it on a piece of paper, or come and see me. But this Church can only have one mind. I am trying to have That Mind through That Person to me and the Word. I'm trying, and if I'm off, I've got to answer to God, and I don't want to answer to God ...?... I want to be right. And if you find anything there, you let me know on questions on conduct and things, that's a different story. Although bring it up. But the major thing is speaking the same Word. Knowing this Word, because that is the revelation of this hour, what we count on. And from that the others will come into expression.

I believe, I hope you believe with all your hearts. I know something is coming for that Bride. It's a Word of God fulfilled in human flesh, like it was in that man there. Elijah must truly come, Malachi 4. That's the Word of God in human flesh. We in the same boat. So let's rise and be dismissed.

Again our Father, we thank You for the time we've spent with Your Word here, and we believe, Lord, that though we hammer hard on these things is for one purpose, because the Word of God is a Rock. The Word of God

is a Sword. Not trying to run any person down in particular, Lord, but we know this one thing, that I stand here with this same Word. If I say things, Lord, and I do not live that Word, then, Father, I am just exactly what you said in the Scripture. "What kind of a man that teaches one thing and does another?" What kind of a man is he? You've laid it out in the gospels. You've laid it out in Your Word, and Father, I want it to be known in my heart, the hearts of others, the minds of others. I've got my problems. Sure I do, but I can be the man that You want me to be, Lord. The same as every woman and man and child in this congregation can be what You want them to be. And by the grace of God we'll be, because, Lord, we're throwing our lot unto Your Word.

And Lord, where we're off on this Word, we pray You'll correct us. I don't know where we're off at this point. Some little thing here and there that might be, Father. I cannot see where we're wrong in preaching the Presence and the Power of God, because It's real. And preaching, Lord, the Appearing which is real, a right, absolutely, Lord, looking at the present hours seeing the Church coming into divine order, Father, all these things we're convinced of. And we're confirmed in them, Lord, that this is real. The one thing, Lord, that we know that we're short of is a dedicated simplistic zeal, that is the Life itself, Lord. But, Father, we're depending on You to help us there, because this in one place we feel that we're literally where Paul was mentioning, "Oh my." he said, "I could do good. I want to do so bad and I find myself here and there not doing it." Lord, it looks like we're just a little bit too puny for such a strong Word. But Father, if You release the strength of that Word, we won't be puny anymore. We won't be, Lord.

So, we just ask You to help us now to grow in grace in knowledge of our Savior Jesus Christ, and meditate upon the Word this week. And pray for those who are having a tough battle, because we know many of them are. Even on the verge of moving, Lord, we realize that. Help the people to pray for these dear souls out there, they're like minded to be able to stand every circumstance...

[Tape ends]