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Third Exodus Assembly

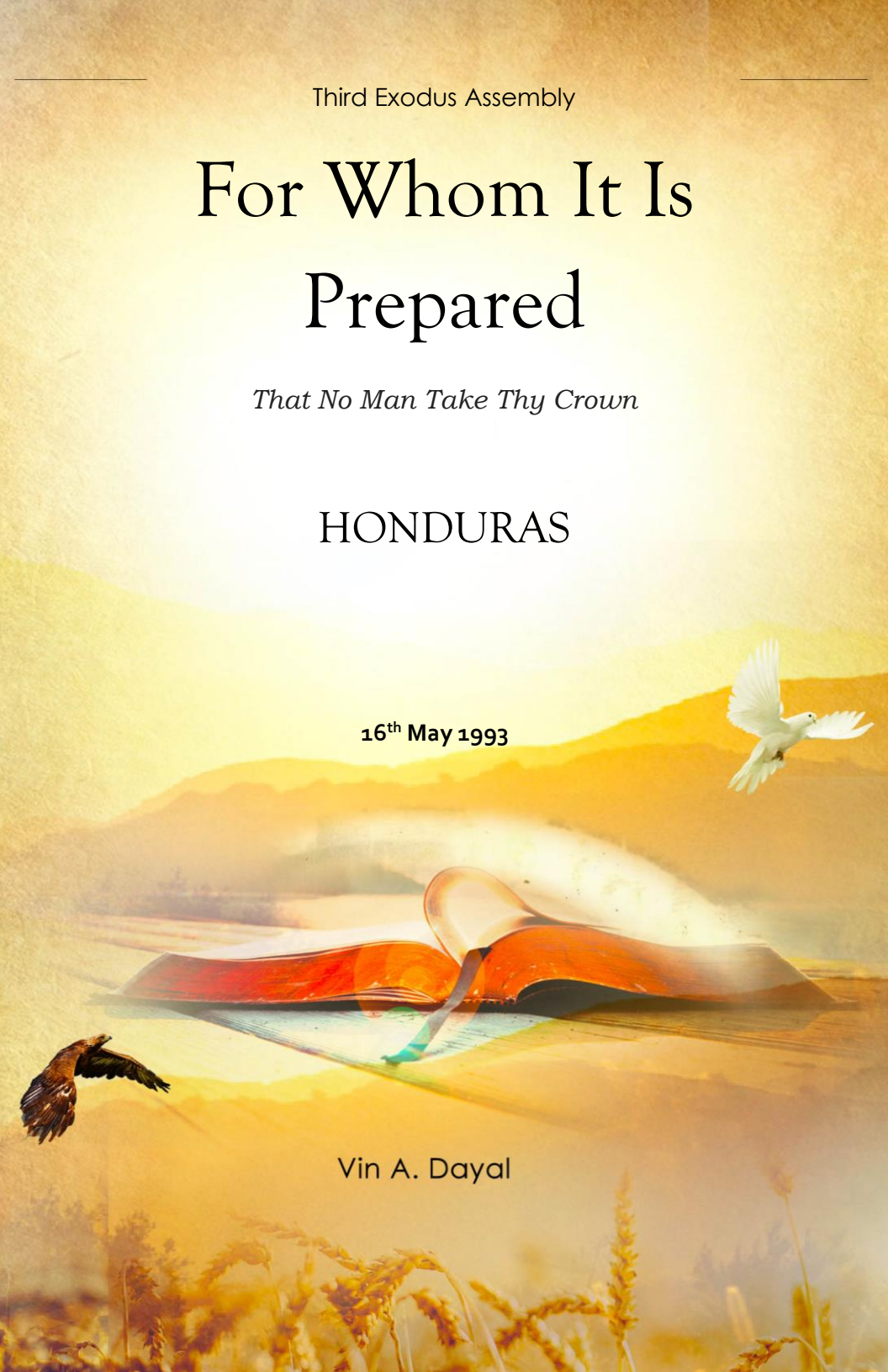
# For Whom It Is Prepared

*That No Man Take Thy Crown*

HONDURAS

16<sup>th</sup> May 1993

Vin A. Dayal





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## **FOREWORD**

*This is a sermon preached by Bro. Vin A. Dayal and is published through the freewill offerings of the members of the Third Exodus Assembly.*

*It is intended to edify the reader and make clear the Bride-Promises of God, which were revealed through the ministry of God's Prophet-Messenger, Bro William Marrion Branham, for the Elect in this Day. It is not meant to promote any special doctrine or person, save, the Lord Jesus Christ and His Divine Word.*

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*We pray the blessing of God upon each reader and may illumination by the Spirit of God be each one's special portion.*





**Excerpt:**

When the rewards were being given, it was in relation to service on earth. What does that tell us? When you leave this life, your destination is sealed. You're not going to try to apply for a position over There. The mother of James and John was putting in an application for a position because she didn't understand how the Kingdom was set up. Amen. But Jesus was showing, it's already designated before the foundation of the world. It is prepared for whom My Father has given it to and all that's happening now is revelation to make us know as we were known. We shall know as we were known, the way God knew us that we can see ourselves the way God thought about us. And the opening of the Seven Seals was to reveal to you, your true identity. [Page 37-38]

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HONDURAS  
SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 1993

**BRO. VIN A. DAYAL**

How we appreciate His grace. It is grace that has brought us safe this far and it is grace that will lead us home. Amen. Bro. Branham said, "When you cross over on the Other Side, you will walk down through that little trail," he said, "and you will hear one singing *Amazing Grace*." Amen. We all feel the same way this evening. It is only by His grace. And how we thank God for the Headstone that came with shoutings of 'Grace, Grace'. Hallelujah! "Not by might, nor by power but by My Spirit saith the Lord."

May His grace just cover us this evening, fill our hearts and lives, drive all the negative away from us, bring us into a great unity of the faith, bring such a fresh baptism of Love. We desire that. Amen! I believe that would be pleasing in the sight of Almighty God. Amen. Let us bow our heads for a word of prayer. Going to ask God's servant, Bro. Elias to pray.

[Bro. Elias Barjum (minister) prays -Ed.]

Thank You, Lord! Amen. We'd like to turn to Matthew 19. I will begin reading from verse 23. I will ask Bro. Elias to read from verse 23 to 26 first, for me.

[Bro. Elias reads -Ed.]

*23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples,  
Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall  
hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.*

*24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for  
a camel to go through the eye of a needle,  
than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom  
of God.*

*25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who, then, can be saved?*

*26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.*

[Bro. Vin reads verses 27 to 30 -Ed.]

*27 Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have, therefore?*

*28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That [you who] have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit [on] the throne of his glory, [you] shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.*

*29 And everyone [of you] that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.*

*30 But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.*

And then Matthew, Chapter 20, verses 20 to 28.

*20 Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him.*

*21 And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on [thy] left [hand], in thy kingdom.*

*22 But Jesus answered and said, You know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am*

*baptized with? They say unto him, We are able.*

*<sup>23</sup> And he saith unto them, You shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, [it] is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared by Father.*

I want to take a title this evening “**FOR WHOM IT IS PREPARED**”. Let us pray.

Father, we look to You now. This is the final service. We pray that Your great grace would flood our hearts. May You draw us into that place, dear God, where we will never be the same again, that we can be so completely sold out to You, Lord and live for You and serve You without reservation. Speak Your Word, Lord. Encourage us. Make It so real that nothing will stand between us and You. We pray and desire that this evening and we ask this blessing in Jesus’ precious Name, amen.

God bless you, you may have your seats. **FOR WHOM IT IS PREPARED**. I want to take, for a subject “**That No Man Take Thy Crown**”.

You know, we have been looking at quite a lot of things over the last few days. And when we get through here this evening, by God’s grace, I trust it will serve to cause us to walk closer to the Lord, that we would come to a place where we can truly serve Him without reservation because, in the Light of what we are looking at, I pray that we are being convinced that the Hour of the translation is at hand and that in your heart, you are becoming homesick for Heaven, that you want to see Jesus; you want to leave this world. And may as we close this meeting, let me express once more, my sincere appreciation for your faithful prayers and support in these services. And especially the Ministers who have come here with their people; God richly bless you. Amen.

You know, we may have not given much attention to service and rewards but that is what I want to look at this evening and show it in the Light of the Scriptures. And I trust it will stimulate the desire to truly serve God and see the importance of doing our best while we have the opportunity. The Bible said: Redeem the time because the days are evil. [Ephesians 5:16 -Ed.] We should not even waste the time and just be slothful, lazing around. Every opportunity we have, we should try to see that the Kingdom of God is advanced.

When the Prophet had the great experience of going beyond the curtain of time; he was lying back on his bed one morning and he began to think. He said, "Billy, you better do something for the Lord, quickly. You've already reached the age where your father was when he died. You're not going to have another opportunity." He said, "You haven't done anything for the Lord, yet." He already had close to two million souls on the Other Side that he had won for the Lord through his Ministry, had gone around the world close to seven times already, preaching the Message to call a Bride out.

You see, when you see the Love of God; when you have a genuine revelation and your heart is right, there is nothing that you can do that you will think is sufficient. He said, "I wish I had a thousand lives, I will give them all to the Lord." Amen. And he said that while he laid back there thinking about that, he kept hearing a Voice saying, "If only you knew what was at the end of the Road. The reward is at the end of the Road." And he thought his wife was talking. He looked over in the bed, she was asleep.

He said, "One time, I had an experience," when the Holy Spirit came into him and was making intercessions for somebody else. He was praying in tongues but he didn't know he was doing it. And then, when he caught that he was speaking in tongues... (a woman was in an accident, dying somewhere and the Holy Spirit was making intercession for the woman) ... he said, "So I

thought maybe it could be that kind of experience.” He said, “I put my hand over my mouth.”

And he kept hearing, “The reward is at the end of the Road. The reward is at the end of the Road.”

And then he said, “Lord, is that You talking to me?”

And the Voice said, “Would you like to see beyond the curtain of time?”

He said, “Oh, Lord, that will do me so much good.”

Before he knew it, he was out of his body. He looked at the body laying back on the bed and he said, “I had a heart attack, like, I died.” He never had that kind of experience before. So he was looking back at his body and he was thinking, “Well, maybe it was good that I died without suffering.” And before he knew it, he was standing in this Place. He described the grass and different things. He looked around, he said, “Here came some people; it was women.” He said, “It seemed like millions of them.”

They came running towards him, “Our precious brother, our precious brother.” It seemed like they were notified he was going to be coming at that time, so they anticipated his arrival. Hallelujah. God was fixing something. So they came running to him and as he looked at them, they began to hug him. He said, “Not kissing me,” but they were hugging him. He said, “Something strange was going on because there was no sensation.” He looked at his hands, he said, “It’s like I was young again.” He said, “I can’t understand this.” So he bit his finger. He said, “But I am not sleeping.” He felt for his hair and he had all his hair again. He said, “What is this?”

It was a strange experience for him. And while he was There, he said he was looking at those women, they were all clothed in White Robes. They were all different in their makeup: some had black hair, some had brown hair, some had blonde hair. Some were tall, some were middle height, some were short but they were all dressed in White Robes.

He said and then he saw Hope coming (his first wife) and she came running to him. He saw her in the multitude of people and he was thinking, "She is going to say, 'My precious husband.'" She just greeted him and said, "My precious brother," and then she greeted another lady and he was observing all these things.

He said, "Then came the men; brothers in such youth." He said, "They looked so strong; their teeth were like pearls, their eyes were like stars and they came running towards him, 'Our precious brother.'"

Then the Voice said—because he asked, "Who are these?" And the Voice said, "These are your people."

He said, "There can't be that amount of Branhams."

He said, "No, these are your converts to Christ." He said, "Remember in the Bible, It says that Jacob was gathered to *his* people?" Amen.

He said, "Oh yes, that's the Scripture."

Then those men began to lift him up. He said, "They put him on a high thing like a scaffold." And he said, "What are you doing this for?"

They said, "On earth, you were a leader."

Oh my, it was great and he was just enjoying that. And while that was taking place, he said, "Well, I want to see Jesus."

And the Voice said, "No, you cannot see Him yet, He is a little higher up. He is going to come one of these days. He will come to you first and you will be judged and these people are your converts whom you have led."

There was a young sister there, out of the millions that he saw... Now, Trinidad has only 1.3 million [people -Ed.]. I don't know how many this country has – here may have a few million as well but he saw millions over There. And catch this now, the Voice asked him, "Do you know that sister?"

He said, "No, I don't."

He said, "Well, she was past ninety years old when you led her to Christ. And the reason she is saying, 'Our precious brother,' she will never be old anymore."

That Voice that was speaking, singled out that woman, out of the millions and could tell him what meeting he led her to Christ in; at what age she was. That was the same Voice, Who used to tell him the people's names, what they were sick with, where they came from, on the Other Side. So while he was There in that atmosphere, oh, you know, he was just thinking about all these Things and he said, "You mean by me being a leader, I will be judged?"

He said, "Yes."

I said, "Does every leader have to be judged like that?"

He said, "Yes."

He said, "What about Paul? Would he have to be judged like that, with his people?"

He said, "Yes."

And he said, "Well, praise God." He said, "If he is going in, then I am going in because I preached exactly what Paul preached."

You see God took Paul's Words and made It the Bible. Paul's teaching, God took that and made that the Bible but you cannot add to the Bible. And Paul said, "If an angel comes from Heaven and preaches anything different to what I preached, let him be accursed." He said, "God will judge the world by my Gospel."

So the Prophet looked at Paul because he knew that was the standard. Hallelujah! And he said, "If Paul goes in, I'm going to go in." He said, "And those millions said, 'we are resting on that.'" And then they said, "When Jesus comes and He judges you for your ministry, then we go back to earth and pick up bodies. Then we eat. Here, we neither eat nor sleep but down there, we eat and we go back to earth." Amen.

So I want you to notice something; when he came back... Well, before I change. After he moved on to another scene. He said he felt a dog licking his hand. He looked and he saw his dog. He said, "Oh, Fritz." Then he heard his horse come after and he looked there and he said, "Oh, Prince!"

And the Voice said, "All that you love and all that love you, God has given to you."

He said, "Reward for my service. Reward for my service!"

Now, that is what we are looking at tonight, about *rewards* and about *service*. You see rewards are offered by God to a believer on the basis of faithful service that you rendered unto God after you are saved. God offers to the lost, salvation. And He offers reward for faithful service to the saved. Now, we must not confuse salvation and rewards. Salvation is a free gift but rewards are earned by works. A man cannot lose his salvation but a man can lose his reward. Amen.

Now, I am going to prove that to you, by the Scripture, that there are a lot of people who could go into Heaven poor. Amen. They sit down and they are just being slothful, unprofitable, learned to be a good spectator in the Message, refuse to take up a responsibility. They are not interested and then they want to go over to Heaven and inherit everything else. It's not going to be like that, friends.

Peter and they said, "Lord, we forsook everything for You. We left houses, we left lands, we left mothers, we left everything to follow You. What would we have?"

He said, "Eternal life: you have an Inheritance in the Kingdom to come." He said, "When I come into My Kingdom, you will sit on the twelve thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

Think about it! These were fishermen. The Son of Man had called them under His Ministry. When Peter saw that Second Pull, in operation – "Thou art Simon, you are the son of Jonah, throw your net on the right side," when he saw that, it struck him. Amen. He believed that was the Messiah. He left his nets and he began to follow the Lord. He had a temper. He got rebuked many times. He backslid; he was restored. The Lord even told him he was going to die by crucifixion. The Lord gave him the Keys to the Kingdom



and even under that Ministry of the Son of Man before Peter had died, the Son of Man had revealed to him, his place in the Kingdom that was coming. Hallelujah! Peter in this life, before he crossed over, he already knew his place in the eternal Kingdom. Hallelujah!

When you think the Prophet was preaching to us, *Things That Are To Be* [1965-1205 -Ed.]; *Who Is This Melchizedek?* [1965-0221E -Ed.]; *Future Home* [1964-0802 The Future Home Of The Heavenly Bridegroom And The Earthly Bride -Ed.], it wasn't just little revelations to make us happy. God was showing us our placing in the Kingdom that is coming. Even while we are in this life, He is revealing to us our place. He is revealing to us how He predestinated our lives, how He predestinated our experiences, how He is training us, how we're growing up into maturity, coming into Adoption because we have a place in that Kingdom, where we will continue this Eternal Life in another Civilization, one far higher than this. Hallelujah! Glory! And they understood it; they were looking for it.

We find out that the mother of James and John (we read it here in the Scripture), she came to Jesus because maybe, she heard that message. Jesus told many parables about the Kingdom and she began to understand something about the Kingdom. She desired that her sons would have a place in that Kingdom. And so, we found out, she said, "Lord, when You come in this Kingdom, I want my two sons, one to be on Your right hand and one to be on Your left hand."

He said, "Woman, you don't know what you are asking."

Here was a mother's ambition for her sons. Here were two boys that loved the Lord. They forsook everything to follow Him and Jesus asked them; He said, "Could you drink the cup I drink?" Remember in Gethsemane? He said, "Lord, let this cup pass." He said, "Could you be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?"

They said, "Yes, Lord, we can do it."

He didn't tell them that they couldn't do it. He said, "You can do it." Because look at James; James and John were baptized with the same Holy Spirit. They were part of the hundred and twenty in the upper room. Then in Acts, Chapter 12, James was killed by Herod. And they were trying to kill Peter as well, but the Angel opened the door and took Peter out. Amen! And then we also find that John was put on the isle of Patmos when he was trying to put the Bible together, and they boiled him in hot oil and they banished him, (in exile). So they did drink the cup and they were baptized with the baptism but Jesus said, "The place you're asking for, that is a hard place. It is for whom it is prepared by My Father."

There is a place prepared for us and nobody could take that place. Amen. On the Message, *How Can I Overcome?* [1963-0825M, para 156-159, 44 -Ed.] The Prophet is talking about all the promises and the rewards for the overcomers in every Age. He said:

*Watch what the overcomer is promised. See?*

*Now, Laodicea, that's the last church Age. There's going to be some overcomers in there. [He said] Watch here [now]. They, remember, each church age, the one preceding it inherits all that the other ones offered. [So here we are, in this Age, going to inherit all that the others were offered.] Watch up here. [He said] Now, here, it's after they done received all these powers, these new names, and everything written, that He promised, and eat the hidden manna, and all down through.*

And he reads the last promise for the last Age: *To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne...*

Watch that now. *There's a reward for overcomers. [He said] Press on, lily. If it's in you, lay aside the mud and everything else, and press towards the top. ... "To sit with Me on My throne."*

He said: *You know, one time, the mother of James and John... We won't have time to read it. [But we just read it. He said: "Do you know that?" They] asked for this*

*place* [one will sit on His right hand and left hand when He comes to His Kingdom.] They were asking for this place: “*To sit with Me in My Throne.*” He said, “You don’t know what you are asking.” Glory! He said: *There is a mother’s desire for her son.*

*But watch. “That place,” Jesus said, “was predestinated.” This position was not in existence [as yet; at that time]. Why? Notice. “It will be granted to them who it is meant for.” What? The one to set at the right hand, and the other closest to Him, was yet an overcomer. See? He said, “I don’t grant this. I can’t grant this, but it will be given after the trial comes.”*

You see, in each Age, there was a trial set and the people had to overcome that trial, to go into that reward. He said, “And what they were asking for, the trial to overcome was not in that Age, but they were the elect in a certain time.” The mother was asking for them to sit in the Throne; one on His right hand and one on His left hand. That place wasn’t in existence yet. It is those who are predestinated to that place are going to get it because, there is a certain trial to be set in that Age and when they overcome, they’re going to get it.

That’s a great place, to be right next to Jesus because His Throne in that City is at the top of that Pyramid, at the top of that Mountain where the Lamb is and, it’s being seen from round about. And the Bride of the Seven Church Ages, coming up like that; in the last Age is the One closest to Him, is the One that links with Him. Hallelujah. And they wanted that place but Jesus said, “It is for whom it is prepared.”

You see friends, in this Age, it is greater than any other Age. Yesterday I was speaking a little bit about ‘positional greatness’; how John was the greatest man born of a woman because of the position that was allotted to him. And yet, he was least in comparison to the least in the Kingdom because of their position. And so it is, I want to show you as well, that, in that Kingdom, there is going to be a difference in glory.

The Prophet said, “Luther couldn’t manifest the attribute that we are manifesting.” Sure, he is part of the Bride. The Bride as a whole is equal but when we take the Bride, in the form of an Age, there are some Ages greater than some. When we take members of the Bride as individuals, there are some that are going to receive rewards that others wouldn’t receive. There are some who are going to receive a martyr’s crown because they gave their lives. If you didn’t give your life, you can’t get a martyr’s crown. Amen! You see there are a lot of things here.

Now watch. So the Prophet is opening up this here, speaking of how Jesus couldn’t give that place to them though they desired it. He said: *There’s a predestinated seed waiting out yonder for that. It will be given to the ones that it’s promised to. It’ll be given there, but the test hasn’t come yet; ... he hasn’t overcome yet.*”

Back in that Age, Jesus couldn’t just give them that place. It wasn’t on a first-come, first-serve basis. It was predestinated before the foundation of the world.

He said: *The person that was to take this place [one on this] side, and another one on the other side, next to Him in the Kingdom, it wasn’t yet given, see, that [hadn’t been] overcome [yet]. The test hadn’t [fallen] yet. “It will fall in the future.”*

When Jesus was speaking about it, it was still the future, but we are at the end of the Age and it’s a promise to this Age. Hallelujah!

He says now: *Remember, “If we suffer with Him ... we’ll reign with Him...”*

He said: *We see this age that we’re living in. It’s one of the grandest ages of all ages. The Laodicea Church Age is the grandest of all the church ages, because it’s the ending of time and the blending of Eternity. ...it’s the greatest sinful age. [There’s] more sin in this age than there’s ever been. And the powers of Satan is many times harder to fight against than it was in any age. [Para 44, How Can I Overcome 1963-0825 -Ed.]*

He said, "If God had taken me before the foundation of the world and said, 'Which Age do you want to come in?'" Because that is why they wanted this place. Wise men, sages, and prophets desired to live in this Day. And here we are, the ones who have been given this position and we live like it means nothing to us. Here we are given the Message that opened the Seals, revealed the Mysteries in the Bible; people who gave their lives in martyrdom didn't see what we're seeing and, we treat It without respect. Amen!

So we realize then, how we need to see how God values this position which has been given to believers, in this Age because when we go to Heaven, there is going to be different degrees.

On, *Questions And Answers*, 1959 [1959-1223, para 44 -Ed.] he said: ... *I can prove that there is degrees in Heaven, that they'll not all be on the same equal, but you'll have equal Eternal Life. But the Bible said that the kings of the earth bring their honor and glory (Revelation 22) ... into the city. That proves that there will be kings in the new earth.*

There will be people outside the City who will have an appointed time to come into the City, not to live but to bring their glory, bring their honor. They will come and they will take from the leaves of the Tree of Life; a sign of healing of the nations, not healing of sickness but, that, there is no more war, they are in peace now; as a memorial. Hallelujah.

There is a Civilization that is coming. There is a Kingdom to be established. There is an administration that is to be set up. And you as a believer, in this life, it will qualify you or disqualify you in relation to your place, in relation to your reward on that Side.

Paul said, in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians, Chapter 6, he said, "You have a little problem among you and you run to the court." He said, "Don't you know that the saints will judge angels? Don't you know the saints will judge the world?" What is he saying? He said, "Right now, you

are being trained in judging matters; in dispensing justice. God is giving you a little wisdom and maturity and experience, so you can reflect the Supreme Judge right there in the administration, in the church. And if you can't handle that, you're misunderstanding your experience because that is where you're becoming qualified. That is where you are being trained, so when the hour comes for you to take a place on the Throne of God to judge the world and angels, you would have already gained the experience." Amen.

So many times, the Message just means coming to church, you know, going around believing some little doctrine or something and, we fail to see what It's really speaking about.

On the Message, *Things That Are To Be* [1965-1205 para.42 -Ed.], he said: *I do not think that Heaven is a place that my mother used to tell me about. [He said] I believe that the Church has growed from that. [He said] ...a hundred years ago, or two, I think the old-timers used to think that everyone that died went up to Heaven and had a harp, and set up there on the clouds and played a harp. [And], they knowed that there was a place called Heaven. ...if that be so, all the musicians would have it on us. But it isn't that kind of a place. It isn't playing harps, at all. I don't believe the Bible teaches that. [He said] But that was a conception that they had before the fullness of the Word come into existence...*

What kind of concept do we have of Heaven? I hope we don't have that other kind. He said: *...that was a conception that they had before the fullness of the Word come into existence.*

The fullness of the Word is in existence now. Every question we have could be answered by the Bible because this is the complete revelation of Jesus Christ! Amen!

*I believe that Heaven is a real place, just the same as this is a real place, for God started us in our spiritual growth in this place.*

You already have the Holy Spirit. You are already growing up to the Head Who is Christ. You're feeding on Divine Truth. You're laying in the Presence of the Son; It is ripening you and bringing you into maturity. You were a spirit babe, then you were a child, then you're becoming a man. Your spiritual growth started in this place. Amen. What is happening? You're being prepared for another Civilization. Amen!

*...is a place just as real as this, where we don't set up there for Eternity and just set there on a cloud. We don't just strum our harp, ... from here, ever. But we're going to a real place where we're going to do things, where we're going to live. We're going to work. We're going to enjoy. We're going to live. We're going to Life, to a real Eternal Life. [Amen!] We're going to a Heaven, a paradise. Just like Adam and Eve worked, and lived, and eat, and enjoyed, in the garden of Eden before sin came in, we're on our road back there again... The first Adam, through sin, taken us out. The Second Adam, through righteousness, bring us back in again; justifies us and brings us back in.*

He said, "Jesus was telling them that after death there is life, that after this life is ended, we'll just continue. It's a continuation of the same life in another world." He said, "That is what Jesus was telling them."

So, friends, listen to this. This great Secret of Eternal Life that we're talking about, when he went over on the Other Side, they said, "On earth, you were a leader, that's why we are doing this. And you will be judged for what you preach." Because it wasn't judgment for sin. It was impossible for him to be judged for sin there because you are already judged for sin in Christ. When He died, you died. When He was buried, you were buried. When He rose, you rose. The same way Levi paid tithes in Abraham when Abraham was paying tithes to Melchizedek, so you were paying for sins in Jesus. When Jesus was paying for the sins of the world,

in there, you paid for your sins. Hallelujah! But that judgment was judgment for service rendered in this life.

Let's read some Scriptures quickly. Romans 14, verses 10-12. Paul was dealing here with the responsibility that individuals have in the Body and the consideration we should have for each other and that, we shouldn't use our liberty for an occasion of the flesh. Don't despise your weak brother because remember, he is a son of God too. He might not be able to eat what you eat; his conscience might be weak. You might have come to a place where you have no condemnation. Amen. So, he shouldn't criticize you because you could eat; neither should you criticize him because he cannot eat but Love should unify us. We should try to help each other.

So in verse 10, he says:

*<sup>10</sup> But why dost thou judge thy brother?  
or why dost thou set at nought thy brother?  
for we shall all stand before the judgment  
seat of Christ.*

*<sup>11</sup> For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord,  
every knee shall bow to me, and every  
tongue shall confess to God.*

*<sup>12</sup> So then every one of us shall give  
account of himself to God.*

Amen. He is speaking to believers who were in Christ. 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians Chapter 5, verse 10:

*<sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the  
judgment seat of Christ; that every one may  
receive the things done in his body,  
according to that he hath done, whether it  
be good or bad.*

Know this: you have to give account for the deeds done in this body while you live on this earth, in the time that God allotted for you. The opportunities that God gave you, how did you use them? Amen. The privileges, how did they fulfill their responsibility? Amen. Hallelujah.



Let's turn to Matthew, Chapter 25. Now you know in Matthew 24, Jesus was opening the Seven Seals. And when He came to the Seventh Seal, He began to speak in parables concerning His Coming and this is one of the parables concerning His Coming. The one before that was the Bridegroom Coming and we looked at that this morning. But now we are looking at another parable that is dealing with His Coming as well. Verse 14:

*14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.*

*15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.*

*16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.*

*17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.*

*18 [And] he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.*

*19 After a long time [about Seven Church Ages] the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.*

*20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.*

*21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

Notice he was being rewarded for his service at the Coming of the Lord.

*22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.*

*23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

*24 Then he [that] had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hath not spread:*

*25 And I was afraid, and went and hid [my] talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.*

*26 And his lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not spread:*

*27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming [And Revelation 10, is His Coming.] I should have received mine own with [interest].*

*28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him [who] hath ten talents.*

*29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.*

*30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

Now Jesus, in telling this parable (notice), He gave to every man according to his ability. Matthew uses the word, 'talent' in the Bible. And that word in Greek, it means: 'a balance' like what you weigh things with because 'a talent' was a certain weight and, it was a certain amount of money that was measured out. And the English word 'talent', it is used to mean – like 'gifts'. You say, "That's a very nice, talented person. They sing well. They play well."

So here, we are seeing how the Lord is giving every man a measure of faith. And everyone is going to minister according to the measure given to them. Every man had a certain measure, a certain capacity and every man would be required to give account for his stewardship. You see, people don't realize, you are responsible before God for what God allows you to have. Amen. If God allows you to have money, how did you use it? You will have to give an account to God on how you used it. If God gave you health and strength, how did you use it? Look at Elvis Presley, how did he use his talent? Amen. Look at different gifted people, they got it from God.

Notice in the parable, it's called the Lord's money: "My money," that He gave to them. But the man had a wrong concept of God; he was a legalist. He had fear. He said, "I'm afraid of you. You are a hard man, so I went and hid my talent. I didn't put my ability to use." And he was called to give account for his stewardship. When? At the White Throne judgment? At the Coming of the Lord when He returns. Hallelujah!

That is why He said, "He is going to come to you, first and you will be judged for what you preach." Amen! He said, "The reward is at the end of the road. All that you love and love you are given unto you," He said, "Reward for my service." [1963-0322 The Fifth Seal pg. 383-4 (418) -Ed.] Hallelujah! He said, "If I had a thousand lives, I would give them all to Jesus." Hallelujah! He said, "Billy, do what you can now." Amen.

Let's turn to Luke, Chapter 19. Did you notice He rewarded them at His Coming that they could enter into the New World? "Enter into the joy that was prepared for you." Amen. He said, "Over There, you will be rulers." Some were going to rule five cities; some were going to rule two cities. Amen. They all were not the same over There, amen. Look at Luke 19, verse 11; Jesus is coming to Jerusalem, here, at the end of His ministry.

*11 And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear.*

Those Jews didn't understand when the Kingdom was going to come but, Jesus knew He was only in the legs of iron, according to Daniel. But the Kingdom was going to come, in the days of the toes of iron and clay when that Stone is going to come and the God of Heaven will set up His Kingdom. So Jesus knew the time hadn't come yet. Amen. So He opens up this Mystery here because He knew they didn't understand the Kingdom.

*12 He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.*

*13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.*

*14 But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.*

*15 And it came to pass, when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.*

I want you to notice that it is at His Second Coming, when He was placing this judgment. And that is exactly where the Prophet discovered it was going to take place. Amen!

“He will come and judge you.”

“Will Paul be judged too?”

“Yes, at His Coming!”

*16 Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds.*

*17 And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.*

*18 And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds.*

*19 And he said [unto] him, Be thou also over five cities.*

Notice, they were equal in salvation, they were equal in redemption but, they were not equal in reward. Jesus is teaching that!

*20 And another came, saying, Lord, behold, here is thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin:*

*21 For I feared thee, because thou art an austere man: [very strict] thou takest up that thou layedst not down, and reapest that thou didst not sow.*

*22 And he saith unto him, Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, thou wicked servant. Thou knewest that I was an austere man, taking up that I laid not down, and reaping that I did not sow:*

*23 [Why] then gavest not thou my money into the bank, that at my coming I might have required mine own with [interest]?*

Whether they did good or bad, they had to appear before His judgment seat to give an account of their stewardship; the deeds, done in this body at His Second

Coming. You say, "Well, how are we who are alive being judged, brother?" He is judging you right now by His Word; because He is the Word that judges them there.

That is why people here who don't live by every Word, who take away from the Word and add to the Word, who fail to fulfill the responsibility given unto them when this Word begins to open up and show us what kind of attitude we had... because that Word is quick and sharp and powerful. That very Word is seeing whether we are faithful and true to the very Message, to the very measure and responsibility that is given unto us. Amen.

You see, people went along for years with the concept, "Well, it's just to be saved. I just want to make it." because they were so shallow in their thinking. They thought, "We are just going to Heaven and have a good time." because they had the wrong concept of what Heaven is. Amen! And in the very time when they were to occupy till the Lord comes, many became slothful, many didn't have their priorities right; many let the work of the Lord go undone. Amen. And now, when the Word opens and God is showing them just before we cross over, where many of them have failed... look at the position He is finding them in.

Oh, it's a fearful time, friends, and it's also a joyful time.

He [Bro. Branham -Ed.] was watching Paul! He said, "I did it exactly as Paul did it." And his people knew he was faithful and true to that Word. What about some of us? Who were we watching for our example, to do things the right way? Amen.

If you are a mother, God put the kind of mothers in the Bible, you should be. If you are a child, God put the kind of children in the Bible, you should be. If you are a deacon, God put the kind of deacon in the Bible, you should be. If you are a father, God put the kind of father in the Bible, you should be. If you are a businessman, God put the kind of businessman in the Bible, you

should be. If you are a Minister, God put the kind of Minister in the Bible, you should be. He also put the kind that you shouldn't be. Amen! Who were we looking at? Where were we drawing our inspiration from? Do you see how many people are going to lose out?

Let's get down on this a little bit. Let's turn to 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 3, verse 8:

*8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor [reward according to labor].*

*9 For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's [cultivated field], ye are God's building.*

Then Paul goes on to talk about the foundation that had to be laid. And he, being a wise master builder laid that foundation.

And verse 12, he says:

*12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;*

*13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall [test] every man's work of what sort it is.*

*14 If any man's work abide which he hath built [upon], he shall receive a reward.*

*15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.*

What is that Fire? That is the Fire that came out of the mouth of a Prophet. Fire proceeds out of his mouth; that's the Word. That's that Pillar of Fire that came in this Day to try every man's work, from the Catholics all the way to the Pentecostals, to see what they're built

upon. And every man's work was tried and every one suffered loss. Amen!

He said, "A man could still be saved but he will lose his reward." We all are laboring and we all will get a Reward according to our labor. And this Eternal Life that is to continue on in the other Civilization; what we are going to rule over There will be in relation to the talent that is given unto us, how we used it in the Lord's service; how we fulfilled our ministry. In this Hour when the Fire is trying it, we are finding out whether we are going to go in for a reward and be rewarded for our service; whether God could tell us, "Those that you love, those that love you," or whatever your reward will be.

When David picked up those Gentile warriors in the time of his rejection, when he came into power, when he came into his kingdom, he made them rulers over cities because they stood with him. And Jesus knew that *that* was a type of Him. And Peter and they forsook everything to follow Him. He said, "When I come into My Kingdom, you will rule over the tribes of Israel."

They wanted another position; James and John wanted another position. He said, "You can't get that position. That position is appointed for somebody else: For Whom It Is Prepared. When that time comes they will go into It. (Hallelujah!) They will have to be tried in this life. They will have to see how they served God, how they coped with the Word, how they served Him in testing times, in the hard times, in the bad times, in the good times; (what kind of Christian you were)." He said, "Dark skies are no sign of God's disapproval neither is bright, clear, sunny skies any sign of God's approval. The proof of God's love is Election. It is His prerogative to commit you to suffer like He did Job or death like He did Paul."

When people are being tried and tested, they want to backslide, "Well, God doesn't love me. Well, I'm going through everything harder than everybody else. I am just unfortunate." And they make all kinds of excuses



(amen) and they don't realize that they are disqualifying themselves. Amen.

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 9; this whole ninth chapter is speaking about service: those who live by the Gospel; those who preach It and then Paul comes down to reward for a true ministry. And verses 19-23, he is talking about becoming a Jew to win the Jews. He is talking about being under the law to win those under the law; to be without law to win those without law; to become weak to win the weak. He said, "I am made all things to all men that I might, by all means, save some." And let's read from verse 24:

*24 Know ye not that they who run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.*

*25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.*

*26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:*

*27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.*

What is Paul saying? What is he talking about to be a *castaway*? Amen. He is not talking about salvation because if Paul had to lose his salvation, then his Sacrifice had to come into question, (listen to this carefully) because his security is based on his Sacrifice. If his salvation is in question, then it means to say, something is wrong with that Sacrifice because his standing is in Christ. God doesn't see you, God sees your Sacrifice because your standing is in Christ. Christ is Who satisfied the just demands of a Holy God, and Christ was raised for your justification, and Christ's righteousness was imputed to you. So God doesn't save you and then lose you.

What is Paul talking about? He is talking about his apostolic service. The context here is not about salvation. The context is about service and rewards because salvation is a free gift with no strings attached. But rewards are earned by service and Paul was speaking about his apostolic service. A dispensation of the Gospel was committed to him. He was given a certain experience. He was given a certain ministry to fulfill that he was responsible for. He said, "I beat myself blue and black. I made this body like a slave that I would fulfill my course." That is what he meant by 'holding it in subjection'. In the original, it means 'he abuses himself', almost.

They beat him; he went back and preached. They stoned him; he went back and preached. He was shipwrecked. He suffered everything for the Gospel. He was determined to fulfill his ministry. He said, "I am doing it, because in the end, I want to receive my crown." Hallelujah! He was looking forward to receiving his reward. He said, "In the natural, the Greeks and they run in the Olympics." Paul uses the Olympic games here; how the runner strives for the mastery, and the fighter doesn't fight as one who beats the air but day and night, they are training, lifting weights, running, going to sleep early, trying to get their body so toned, to be so fit and they are doing it for a corruptible crown.

The word 'castaway' means *'to be put to the test and after being tested, to be rejected because of not meeting that test'*. So Paul said, "When I'm put to the test and I fail to meet the test, I end up being rejected. I would still be saved but I will lose my reward. I don't want to go to Heaven poor. I want to finish my course, I want to keep the faith. I want to fight the good fight and receive my crown that the righteous Judge has for me." Hallelujah.

He is speaking here and he is showing us how a man can fulfill his ministry. If he doesn't know what is the 'true service' God wants done, he could do God a service

that is not God's will. He could give his body to be burned, give his goods to feed the poor; it profits him nothing. He may think he is doing it for the Lord but there is no reward for it. But a prepared servant knows what God wants to be done, in this Age and is willing to pay the price, and become a prisoner to the Word to fulfill that ministry, to be faithful coming down to the end to receive the reward, "Well done My good and faithful servant."

The heat, like, it wants to beat us again. So I want to make a jump; cut out some here and make a little jump. I want to compete with the heat for your attention.

On that *Fifth Seal*, I was saying, it opened up the Mystery of the theophanies this morning, about the Robes and all these Things. And Bro. Branham on that *Fifth Seal*, he said, "John saw his people but I saw mine." Amen. Now, watch something here—and he gives the testimony of going beyond the curtain of time and meeting those theophanies; he, himself, going into his theophany, and about being judged for service and receiving rewards for his service and he puts it on *The Fifth Seal* [1963-0322 -Ed.].

Then when he came to the *Sixth Seal* [1963-0323, para. 440-469 -Ed.], he told a dream. He said, "One time, my wife... we were talking," and Meda asked him, she said, "Bill, when we go to Heaven, who will be your wife, me or Hope?"

He said, "Well, both of you and yet none of you," he said "because over There, we will have a different kind of body." He said, "Let me explain it to you like this." He said, "What about if we go down the road and you see an ill-famed woman and she comes and she hugs me up and she just begins to show affection to me," he said, "would you like that?"

She said, "No, I wouldn't like that at all."

He said, "What about if you see her doing that to Jesus and saying, 'Jesus, I love You. I love You, Jesus?'" He said, "Would you like that?"

She said, “Yes, that would be nice.”

He said, “Well, so it is on that Side. It would be different.”

And he said [Para. 453 –Ed.]: *I want to tell you a little thing [that] happened. This was a dream. I was asleep. And I have never told this publicly before. I told it to a couple of people, but never publicly before...*

*I dreamed about a month after that, that I was standing, one day, and I was watching the great time ... Not the judgment [talking about the White Throne Judgment], now. I don't believe the church ever comes to, (I mean the Bride), goes to a judgment [the judgment for service, not the judgment for sin]. But, I was there when the crowns were being given out, ...*

Remember this morning? We were talking about those people who go in at the White Throne judgment; there is no throne, there is no crown, there is no dominion, none of these things. These things are promised to the overcomers in the Seven Church Ages, to the Bride; these rewards (amen) and a man could lose it. You say, “Well, I thought only unbelievers could lose their reward.”

Paul was saying, “I hope I am not a castaway. I hope I don't lose my reward.” Amen. You may not lose your salvation tonight but you might lose your reward. You have a stewardship. You have a ministry. Every one of us, we have a place of responsibility where God put us. After we are saved, how are we serving Him? Look what it cost Him to bring salvation to us. What kind of appreciation do we show? You are saved by grace but works are what you do in appreciation for God's grace. Amen.

So he said: ... *I was there when the crowns were being given out. See? And the great big throne set up here, and Jesus and the recording Angel, and all was standing there. And there was a stair-steps-like come down this way of white ivory (run down in a circle and made a*

*panoramic...)* so that all this great host standing out there could see what was happening.

Catch this. On *The Fifth Seal*, he's told he would be judged. He gave the experience of how he would be judged for his service. On *The Sixth Seal*, he puts in the dream where he is coming to receive his reward for the service. All these were Mysteries that had to be revealed to show when we go to Heaven, we continue this life in another Land; we take up a position There. "I go to prepare a place for you: for whom My Father has prepared that place." There is a position as well as a body. Amen.

[Para. 454-455 -Ed.] *And I would stand back over, way back to one side. [He said] ... never had an idea I had to walk them steps. ...*

[And I could] *see the recording Angel would call a certain name; and I recognize that name. I looked, and way back out there, here come the brother, walking with a sister, walked up to you, like that. The recording Angel standing there by the side of Christ... [He said] and was watching. And their name was on there. It was found in the Book of Life; ...*

It was found in the Book of Life. It is being preached out of the Book of Life for you. You take up that position, you serve in that position and at His coming, you are judged for your service and then you go up to your reward in the New World.

... [And I would look out there] *and He would say, "It was well done, my good and faithful servant. Now enter in."*

It was exactly according to the Bible.

*I looked back, where they were going. There was a new world, and the joys. And [He] said, "Enter into the joys of the Lord, that's been yours since the foundation of the world." ...*

He said, "When they went up to receive their reward," he said, "I looked to see where they were going. There

was a New World, a New Civilization that they were going into.”

... And, oh, I thought, “They [would] go through there and meeting one another, and just rejoicing, and going over mountains and great big place.”

But I thought, “Oh, isn’t that wonderful!”

“And I would hear another name called and I would know him.” Didn’t Peter, James, and John know Moses and Elijah? How did they know them? He said, “A little bit of ‘infiniticy’ will rest on you and you will know one another.” So he said, “I was knowing those names and they would go for their rewards. Another name would be called....”

He said: *Just say, for instance, like they say, “Orman Neville,” see.*

*And... “That’s old Brother Neville. There he is.” ... comes, out of the crowd.*

*And [then] a recording Angel stood there, and said, “William Branham.”*

*I never thought I’d have to walk that. [Amen.] So I went walking down there and just everybody patting me on the [back],*

“Oh, Bro. Branham!” and he is going up like that. He said, “You know, just like when you’ve finished a meeting.”

*And I was going to have to walk these great big ivory steps.*

*I started walking up through there. And ... as I made the first step, [catch this now] I stopped, and I thought... I looked at His face, and I thought, “I want to get a good look at Him this way,”*

When he was beyond the curtain of time, he wanted to see Jesus. Here in the dream, he still wants to see Jesus. Look what was in his subconscious because your dream is in your subconscious and your subconscious is your soul. That is what you are in your nature. He was no make-believe Christian. He was genuine from the inside! He said, “I’ll take a good

look. I'll come from this way. I'll be able to watch Him and observe Him real good." Hallelujah! I feel the same way tonight. Amen!

He said: ... *I felt something slip in my arm here. It was somebody else's arm. I looked around, and there stood Hope, those big black eyes and that dark hair hanging down her back, white robe on, [just like he saw beyond the curtain of time. And she was] looking up at me like that. I said, "Hope!"*

*I felt something hit [the other] arm. Looked around, and there was Meda; that dark eyes looking up, and that black hair hanging down, a white robe on. [Amen] And I said, "Meda!"*

*And they looked at one another, ... [And] I got them in my arms, and here we went, walking Home.*

He said: *I woke up. ... I thought, "Oh, God, I hope that [this] comes like that."* [Get it now.] *Both associated with me in life, and bringing children, and things like that; and here we are, walking into the new world, ... [Hallelujah!]*

They were associated with him in this life because when God calls a man, He calls his wife. They were part of his ministry on earth. He said, "All that grey hair she has; she stood between me and the public."

Let me show you something. When the Spoken Word was being manifested on human beings, it was for Sis. Branham with the tumor. And hear what he pleaded before God; he said, "Oh God, she never complained when I had to go out in Your service. She took care of the children. She kept the house clean. She washed and ironed my clothes, so I could go and preach the Gospel." He pleaded that before God.

And the Holy Spirit said, "Stand to your feet and whatever you say, it's going to happen."

Look at Hattie Wright when the Spoken Word was manifested. It was a widow woman; her husband had died; gone into Glory. She tried to be faithful, hold the home together; raised the children. They were becoming disobedient. They were behaving like two

little 'Rickies'. And she said, "What could I ask, Bro. Branham?"

He said, "Ask what you will." Hallelujah!

Then the Holy Spirit put it in her heart; she said, "I want my two boys saved." Hallelujah! It was a widow trying to raise her children, supporting the work of the Lord when they were building the building, doing what she can do in her position, in the service of the Lord. And there was a reward for them going into the New World. Amen! Glory!

He said, "They were associated with me in life. They bore children." The Bible said: they, who continue in childbearing will be saved, in faith and sobriety. Amen. Today, women don't want to have children. They don't want the responsibility. They are becoming unfaithful to a ministry because they don't see it as a position. They don't see it as a ministry. They fail to understand what God is doing.

Somebody asked him a question on birth control. [1964-0830M Questions and Answers#3 para.233 Q359 -Ed.] He said: ... *sometimes a child would kill a woman; if she had a baby it'd kill her. You want to watch that too. See? So just be real careful about that. See? See, that's bringing life, so what you're put here on the earth to do.*

Let me tell you, friends. Our lives are predestinated. It's God Who predestinates our experiences because when Jesus was talking to Peter and them, He wasn't just seeing them as some earthly fishermen from Galilee. He knew they were attributes expressed in flesh. He knew they were Eternal as God was Eternal. He knew they had amnesia but He, by His Word, began to remove their amnesia and He began to reveal their future and their place, in the New Civilization.

Now, in Revelation, Chapter 21, as we are coming to a close, let's turn to it quickly. Be faithful in your portion. If you are a deacon here, there is a place for you over There. If you are a song leader here, there is a place for you over There. Let me tell you; everybody



has a place, friend. Amen. And there is a reward for your service. It depends on how you render your service.

Look at the woman in St. Luke 7. She saw Jesus with dirty feet, rejected and despised. He needed a service done unto Him. She didn't know how she was going to do it but God furnished her with what she needed. He opened up the tear glands; He furnished the water. The long hair He had given her was used as a towel and she got a reward at the end. Amen! Glory!

Revelation 21. Okay, let me pick this up, here, quickly. Let's read from verse 9. (Would you read brother? Read from 9-12.) [Bro. Elias reads -Ed.]

*<sup>9</sup> And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.*

*<sup>10</sup> And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,*

*<sup>11</sup> Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;*

*<sup>12</sup> And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:*

*<sup>13</sup> On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.*

*<sup>14</sup> And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.*

Did you notice something there? Where were the twelve apostles? In the foundation of the wall; that was

their predestinated place. Where was the mother asking for (the mother of James and John)? To sit with Him in the Throne but their place wasn't in the Throne, their place was in the wall. Amen! The Throne was at the top where the Lamb is, where He is the Light of the City. And the ones who were given the promise to sit with Him are you. Amen!

You see, this Bride is put to the same test that Adam and Eve were put to, and the early bride was put to. Those first two brides, they fell but this Bride will not fall. Hallelujah! She will prove that She would live by every Word. She will prove She is not *that* kind of woman to go back to Eden.

Oh my, I have to try and close. [Bro. Elias tells Bro. Vin to take his time -Ed.] (Take my time? Alright.) To tell you the truth, I am about halfway. I have a pile of Scriptures here that I am just burning to go into.

You see, I want to prove this to you beyond a shadow of a doubt that it would help stimulate your desire to serve the Lord, with true service that He would reward at the end and not just be a slothful Christian. How could the Seven Seals be opened? How could you see there is a judgment for service and that people can lose their reward...?

You say, "Is that right?"

Sure, a man can lose his reward. Does the Scripture teach that?

We found in Matthew 25, what the man had was taken away from him and given unto the man who had ten. In Luke, the *one* the man had was taken away from him and was given to the man who had ten. Then when they went over into the New World, one was ruling ten cities, one was ruling five cities, showing that there were different degrees. They were different in glory. That is what I was talking about, 'positional greatness'. The position given to the Bride is the greatest.

We are all one Body but then in each Age had their own trial and their own reward. And then each member

in the Body have their own ministry. There are comely parts and there are uncomely parts in the Body. 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12 tells you about the different parts in the Body. Amen. Glory.

Then in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 3, we found out that every man's work would be tried by Fire because he would be rewarded according to his labor. Paul was teaching what Jesus had taught because Paul said, "The man would be saved but he could lose his reward." He even applied it to himself. He said, "At the end, I could be a castaway." Amen. That he too could lose his reward at the end.

That word 'castaway' came from the Greek. It was a technical expression that they used in the training program for the runners. And it means: '*to disqualify a runner from competing for the crown*' because he had broken the training rules. You see it in the Olympics today. They would try them to see if they are using steroids. They have certain regulations and rules they must abide by, in order to run and qualify for the prize. Amen!

They can't take away his salvation but he could lose his reward. Amen. Remember when this man had run the race – Ben Johnson? He won the Olympics; won the first prize and when they tested him, they found a substance in his urine and they took away the first prize from him. He lost his reward. All his training for the Olympics turned out to be futile. Amen.

I'm going to close. I just want to let you see I am backing this up with what the Prophet said. In the *Seven Church Ages*, in the *Smyrnaean Age* [An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages, Chapter 4 - The Smyrnaean Church Age -Ed.]—the reason I am not calling the pages, I know in the Spanish book it will be a different page.

He said: "*I will give you a crown of life.*" [If they were willing to give their life, suffer martyrdom in that Smyrnaean Age, the reward was a crown of life.] *Since not even a cup of cold water given in the Name of the Lord*

*fails to receive a reward, how great shall be the reward to him who gives his life as a martyr for the Name of the Lord Jesus. Perhaps we can get a small idea if we compare this crown with the crown won in a race.*

And the Prophet quotes 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 9:24. And then he goes on to say: *...one crown is for those who have striven; the other is for those who have given.*

There were five different crowns. Amen. There is a martyr's crown. There's a crown of righteousness. There's a crown of glory for the Ministers: 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:4, "You will receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away when the Chief Shepherd appears, for faithful service." Amen.

So there are five crowns. If you go to Revelation Chapter 4, you'll see where the twenty-four elders had crowns, had white robes and had thrones. He said, "Crowns and thrones are not associated with angels." And look at the song that they sang: they were talking about redemption. "We shall reign as kings and priests on the earth." He said, "These were redeemed men."

Notice there were twelve gates with the names of the twelve tribes, in the wall. The wall was one hundred and forty-four thousand cubits, speaking of the 144,000. The whole wall is Jewish. The twelve gates were the names of the twelve tribes, three on each side, just how they camped in the wilderness. The twelve tribes around the tabernacle, it was a type of the New City. Hallelujah!

Then also there were twelve angels in the twelve gates. On *How Can I Overcome?* [1963-0825M -Ed.] he said that was the twelve patriarchs who had the Word for their time. There are those twelve angels in those twelve gates. And the twelve foundations of the wall were the twelve apostles. Hallelujah! They weren't even part of the City; they were part of the wall. The mother wanted to put them in the City but Jesus said, "You don't know what you are asking for." He showed them their place.

When it came over to Eternity, (catch this) Revelation 4, they already had on their crown. They already had on their robe. They already had their throne, so it showed they had already received their reward. The rewards were already given out. And they were receiving exactly what Jesus told them while they were alive on the earth, under His Ministry. He was the Son of Man that Elijah revealed. And they were the Elect, called out by that Message and the Son of Man was revealing their place.

When Elijah revealed the Son of Man, in this Day, from the Words of the Son of Man, our place was revealed also. When he revealed the Future Home [1964-0802 *The Future Home Of The Heavenly Bridegroom And The Earthly Bride* -Ed.], *God's Gifts Always Find Their Places* [1963-1222 -Ed.]; *Things That Are To Be* [1965-1205 -Ed.] all these messages; it is the same Son of Man telling us in this Day, what our place is in that Civilization where we're going; what we are going to do. We are not going to be on a cloud, playing a harp. We're going to take up our position, that Eternal Life that is identified in you. You are only going to Heaven to pick up a Body, not Eternal Life, a celestial body. And you are only coming back in the Resurrection to pick up a body, not Eternal Life. You have Eternal Life in you now! Amen.

That Eternal Life, that Thought of God, is God's expression. It's what you are in God's thinking. It's how God saw you. It's where God placed you. You are only the expression of the Thoughts of God. Amen. As I said Eternal Life can't change. There's only one form of Eternal Life, Zoe, God's own Life. God can't change His nature. He might change His form but He can't change His nature. Amen.

When the rewards were being given, it was in relation to service on earth. What does that tell us? When you leave this life, your destination is sealed. You're not going to try to apply for a position over There. The mother of James and John was putting in an

application for a position because she didn't understand how the Kingdom was set up. Amen. But Jesus was showing, it's already designated before the foundation of the world. It is prepared for whom My Father has given it to and all that's happening now is revelation to make us know as we were known. We shall know as we were known, the way God knew us that we can see ourselves the way God thought about us. And the opening of the Seven Seals was to reveal to you, your true identity.

Let me give you all a little idea of the Prophet's place on that Side. All you have to do is read in the Book of Daniel or in the Book of Genesis or in the Book of Esther and you will get a little idea of the Prophet's place. Look at Ahasuerus and Esther in the kingdom and look at the honor given to Mordecai. It is put in the Bible. Look at Daniel; he sat in the gate of the king in the head of gold. The Gentile kingdoms have come down from the head of gold down to the feet.

The Bride's Body, the Gentile Bride has been built from the feet up to the Head, where we are coming back to the Golden Age, the Millennium, the great Hereafter, the New Heaven and the New Earth, coming right up to the Head. You'll find it in the message, *Christ Is Revealed In His Own Word* [1965-0822M -Ed.]. Daniel was a prophet who interpreted the handwriting, at the beginning of the Gentile dispensation. And, at the ending of the Gentile dispensation, there is another Prophet.

There was a message in tongues given back there. It was a sign of judgment and only a prophet could reveal that handwriting. And here is another Prophet that, that same Angel came to and revealed the Word, revealed the hidden Things, that great Gabriel, that great Archangel teaching a Prophet, doctrine. Could an Angel teach a Prophet doctrine? The highest order to reveal the Word is the prophet. When you see an Angel teaching a prophet doctrine, that's not an ordinary

Angel because the Prophet was getting his doctrine from an Angel. Angels are not the revealers of the Word. There is no Bible for that. The Holy Ghost is the Divine Revealer. He said, "The Angel of the Lord, the Holy Ghost, is standing there." Hallelujah!

Daniel was exalted to a position where he was right in the king's gate. And then also, Joseph, look where he was elevated to. He was given a position right there, at the right hand of the king. It's a position. The greatest position that was given to any prophet, from Adam to Bro. Branham, was given to Bro. Branham. I am talking about 'positional greatness'. If John was the greatest man born of a woman, more than a prophet, there was none greater than John, and he foreran the First Coming. Amen! And he is only a friend of the Bridegroom. He wasn't even in the Bride to begin with but this one, who foreruns the Second Coming is in the Bride, is the one who went out to choose the Bride, who had the Clothes of the Word to dress the Bride.

Friends, let me tell you, we are privileged to be called by the Message of this Hour and to be put in the Place where we are placed. And the Holy Spirit wants us to understand that Place in reality. We live so under-privileged. We complain to serve God. We are so selfish and self-centered. We always shun responsibility; always throw it on the next person. It's a lack of our revelation. How could we go home and be the same in the Light of these things? How could we go and be the same after the Holy Spirit in these services has shown us, we are fixing to change dimensions; that Glorified Body we are fixing to move into, that Robe that we are being furnished with now, the rewards for our service at His Coming; that we are going to enter into that new Civilization. And all these Things are tied to the Rapture. And many of us were looking for the Rapture without all these Things. It shows where we need to be in this Hour. Amen.

Bro. Branham said: *All too little time is spent on laboring for the eternal rewards of God. [This is in the Smyrnaean Church Age.] The [great] recompense of God is too lightly esteemed. If we believe in the reality of the resurrection of the body, and an eternal kingdom of substance, then we ought to lay up in heaven those good treasures that are available to the faithful saints.*

He said: If you believe in the resurrection of the body and you believe in the Eternal Kingdom of substance, how are you lightly esteeming the recompense of God? Why are you spending so little time laboring for reward when that Eternal Kingdom is a continuation of our lives in another Land?

In a message called *Jehovah Jireh*, 1961, he is praying here [1961-0209, para. 80 -Ed.]. He said: *Our heavenly Father, the Word is sharp, truly, Lord, and it cuts, but the people has sat just as patiently and sweetly. And, Father God, laying this foundation back to let these Christians know that they have not lost their covenant. It was given to them unconditionally. But they'll lose their reward if they don't come back into the promised land.*

Remember when the Prophet wanted to go in the woods and be a hunter? And while he was thinking about doing that, the Holy Spirit said, "You carry out your plans and you will see; your wife would leave you."

He said, "But Lord, the people said that I am a Prophet and I just want to go in the woods and be like a Prophet."

In *Standing In The Gap* [1963-0623M, para. 118-121 -Ed.], the Holy Spirit said, "You are called to a higher office, and besides, you have more gifts." He said, "Where is your reward? Do I have to keep pushing you to do everything?"

Does God have to push us to do everything? If we could only see what is at the end of the Road.

He [Bro. Branham -Ed.] said, "Friends, I could never be the same again." He said, "I'm trying to get every man into that Upward Place."



In a message, *Spiritual Adoption* [1956-0923, para. 94 -Ed.], he was talking about how people are going to lose their reward. He said, *God, in His appointed day that He will judge all men by Christ Jesus, the time will come when God will give out the rewards for those who were faithful, and the rejecting of those who fail to be faithful.*

In a message, *Father, The Hour Has Come* [1956-1002A, para. 58 -Ed.], he said: *The time has come for the Pentecostal church to make a stand. The time has come to circumcise the church, [take all] this foolishness [out]. The time has come to go back to the old landmark. The time has come for Jesus to come. The time will be here soon to give out the rewards.*

He said: *Brother, be careful that your crown isn't set on someone else's head. [Amen! Be careful that your crown isn't set on someone else's head!] The time has come. We're at the end time. If we are going to do anything, brethren, we're going to do it now. The time is at hand. Hallelujah! Glory! Amen!*

I am going to stop. I will be true to that this time, amen. Friends, what I can say to you is: be faithful. Go back to your church and be a better deacon. Go back to your church and be a better trustee; be a more sincere Christian. Realize that you have been given that position by Divine Providence; it's for your training and your development. You are only reflecting something from the Other Land and soon, we are getting ready to cross over to that Reality.

Revelation Chapter 3:11 says: "Behold, I come quickly. Hold fast that which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." Amen. Revelation 22, verse 12 said: "Behold, I come quickly and My reward is with Me to give to every man according to his work." Hallelujah!

So do you realize that *that* very position that the mother of James and John was desiring for them, which is the greatest position, could not be given to them? Their place was in the wall. Your place is in the City, the Lamb's Wife, the Gentile Bride. What part of the

Bride? The foundation part? No, the part at the Head where the Throne is (hallelujah), but it's going to take overcoming this test. The trial has been set. We are in the midst of the trial and if you overcome the test, there is an Adoption time. Hallelujah! There is a 'going into your reward' at the end of the Road. You take those Scriptures and you study Them out and watch and see how real It is and, what our service should be unto, in this Hour.

I trust that over these four services... You have been a great audience; I admire your character, your endurance, your patience. And I pray that God would take these Things and make It so real, It would transform your life. Let us do everything that we can in this Hour to serve Him, to live for Him. We all would have to give an account for our stewardship. When that time comes, we want to walk the Ivory Staircase, (your faithful wives who have been associated with you in life, who bore children for you and raised them and have been faithful, and ministered to the saints in the place, in the measure where God placed you) that, we can hear those words, "Enter into the joys of the Lord that hath been prepared for you." We are at the judgment seat of Christ.

How do we know that right now, they are not being judged in that sixth dimension before they come and pick up their bodies? How do we know that we are now being judged as the Holy Spirit speaks through his Ministers – the Voice of many waters? The Supreme Judge in the Lord's Day, the One with the White Wig; the Voice of many waters was the Voice of the Ministers. May our concept, our attitude, our atmosphere, our approach through service to the Lord's work; our relationship to one another be brought up into a higher order. Amen.

I believe God gave me the Things to speak that I came and spoke to you. I started with *Ascending Into A Higher*

*Order* [1993-0514 -Ed.] and I ended with the ‘reward for your faithful service’.

In this... [Glitch in audio -Ed.] ...in the Rapture is where it’s all happening. Amen. It’s a great time for us. *Leave this world far behind, (friends) there are new heights to climb, and a new place in Him, you will find. Whatever it takes to draw closer to You, that's what I will be willing to do. I'll trade sunshine for rain, comfort for pain.* (Amen) *I will leave houses and lands, all my dreams and my plans to be closer drawn to You.* [#267, Songs that Live -Ed.] Do you feel like that tonight? Do you really, really feel like that? Let us stand, to our feet.

I want to say a special thanks to Bro. Elias for the sacrifice he is making to interpret. It’s twice harder than preaching. He has to think the thoughts so quickly but I believe, it has come out clear because I can see he is making every effort, with the love in his heart and the concern for you, to make sure he says it accurately.

I wanted to stop about three times tonight and cut the message short, thinking about the heat and he kept telling me, “No, preach on, preach on.” I know he wants me to give It out because he knows It is the Word of the Lord and he knows It’s going to help you. He has the heart of a real minister.

Bro. Melchizedek, a real pastor with a burden for the people; he opened up his church that we could come and have the meetings. Bro. Lito, leaving El Salvador, his service with his people and coming here; God knows how I appreciate this. Our brother from San Miguel and all the other Ministers who have come here and we sat in the heat. Bro. Mario, even his health, I pray God would touch him and do a miracle for him, Amen.

All God’s faithful servants; you, the people that God has given under their ministries, stand with them. Rest upon the Word that they are preaching, as they are faithful to say what the Prophet has said. They will present you to the Lord Jesus and the Prophet would

present all of us, as an Age, to the Lord Jesus. Amen. And don't think you would not be their people in that New Civilization. You would still be under their rulership in that Civilization.

*Obey them who have the rule over you...* [Hebrews 13:17 – Ed.] Hallelujah! That is a rule that God gave that continues over in the Other Land. The deacons that God gave them, the helps that God gave them, the faithful musicians and singers, faithful ushers, (amen) faithful families, all of that was by Divine foreordination. It wasn't a political campaign. It wasn't a political election that got people, amen. God, in them, drew you to take a place to serve with them. Be faithful to it. That is our place, friends.

We might have liked to be with Moses but we are not in his group. When God was planning it out, He put you in the group with these men and, He made these men helpers to the Messenger of this Age, who was the preeminent Star in this Age. But God always gives them wonderful helpers to stand with them.

Look in the Bible, Paul said Timothy, Titus, Trophimus, he called different names. He said, "My fellow laborers, fellow prisoners, my faithful helpers whose names are in the Book of Life, (amen!) my joy and my crown." Hallelujah! Because under their preaching God brought salvation to you. God nurtured you and grew you up and taught you the Word under a faithful ministry that you are presented to the Lord Jesus, in a true relationship. Amen.

That's why the Bible says to give them their honor and, they who labor in the Word and doctrine are even worthy of double honor [1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 5:17 –Ed.]. Amen. Know them, friend, not after the flesh; know them in the position that God has given them, and, in the way God has used them in your lives and let it make you more faithful. It's a great Hour; it's very close. We can see it by the message. Let us bow our heads for prayer. I will

ask my brother to pray and close the meeting. [Bro. Elias Barjum prays -Ed.]

Thank You, Lord! Thank You, Jesus, amen. Press the battle, friends. Fight the fight of faith and when the battle is over, we shall wear a crown in the new Jerusalem. God bless you. Amen.







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