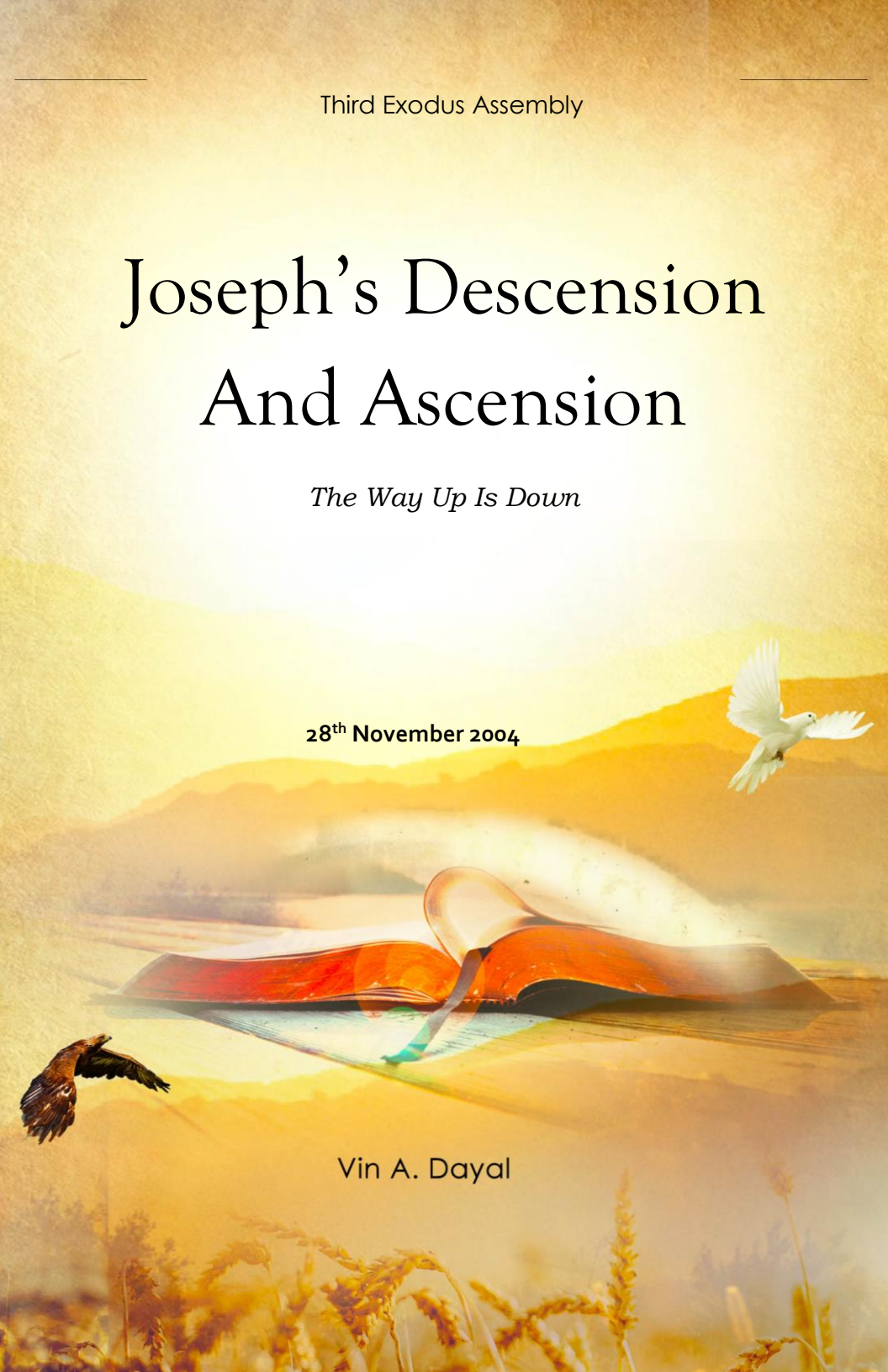

Third Exodus Assembly

Joseph's Descension And Ascension

The Way Up Is Down

28th November 2004

Vin A. Dayal



JOSEPH'S DESCENSION AND ASCENSION

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TRINIDAD

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The Way Up Is Down

TRINIDAD

SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2004

BRO. VIN A. DAYAL

[#2 - Songs That Live -Ed.]

*... dedicate my life to serving Him,
... so I could live.*

CHORUS

*And Jesus, I love You so,
And I want You to know,
What You've done for me is not in vain,
And I will stake my claim,
On Your Holy Name.
Oh, how I love, I love You so.*

*Oh, and when I think of how You took my place.
... my place,
Oh, I marvel at the wonders...
... the wonders of Your grace,
Your sacrifice...
Your sacrifice for me I can't replace,
Oh, what a gift You gave to me.
... me.*

CHORUS

*And Jesus, I love You so,
And I want You to know,
What You've done for me is not in vain,
And I will stake my claim,
On Your Holy Name.
Oh, how I love, I love You so.*

Oh, one more time: And when I think of how You took my place. He became us that we might become Him. Oh, He descended so low.

*... at the wonders of Your grace,
Oh, and Your sacrifice for me...
... sacrifice for me I can't replace,
Oh, what a gift...
... what a gift You gave to me.*

CHORUS

*And Jesus, I love You so,
And I want You to know,
What You've done for me is not in vain,
And I will stake my claim,
On Your Holy Name.
Oh, how I love, I love You so.
Oh, how I love, I love You so.
Oh, how I love You, Lord.
Oh, how I love, I love You so.*

Oh, just give Him praise, all around the building. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We thank You, Lord. We magnify Your great Name. Oh, how we love You so. Thank You, Jesus! We want You to know it this morning. And with a heart full of thanksgiving, oh God, we lift our voices in praise to magnify Your great Name; to adore You. We bow down in Your Presence, oh God because of the Love with which You have loved us, and the expression, Lord, and in the manner in which You have shown it. Behold, what manner of Love the Father has bestowed upon us (blessed be Your wonderful Name!) that now, we are the sons of God, redeemed and in Christ, oh God, quickened and raised up, oh God, into Heavenly Places to take this great position, (hallelujah!) oh God, in this Ephesians at the end of the Age. Blessed be Your wonderful Name. Oh how we love, we love You so. We want You to know it this morning,

that what You've done for us is not in vain, Lord. Thank You, Lord. Thank You, Jesus. Thank You, Lord.

Oh, how we love, we love Him so. Do you love Him this morning? Let's just sing this little chorus: He came to me when I could not come. [#4 - Songs That Live -Ed.] Amen. Hallelujah! Sing with love and gratitude and appreciation in your heart this morning. Oh my! I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord." Enter His courts with praise and His Gates with thanksgiving. You are in the building here, but now, enter through those Gates. Amen. Hallelujah! Glory be to God!

He, Himself is that Gate, friends. It is opened up: this Word, this Seventh Seal, to bring you back into perfect fellowship with Him again, into a perfect worship in this Hour that you can sing, you can express – the redeemed who has been redeemed; who has been sprinkled by the Blood that speaketh better things this morning. Oh my! What a great Love this was.

[#4 - Songs That Live -Ed.]

*... I could not come to where
He was, He came to me.*

Oh, sing it again: He came to me.

What condescension: God, the great Eternal Spirit changing His form; Jehovah of the Old becoming Jesus, the Redeemer, the Saviour, the Lamb of God, coming to slay the enmity; tear down the middle wall of partition to bring reconciliation, to establish peace and restore fellowship, to place back all His Divine favor upon us.

That's why He died...

He prayed, "Father, that they may be one as You and I are one." Oh, thank You, Lord.

When I could...

Because there was a veil there. But He tore that veil in two, from the top to the bottom, to give man access by a new and living way, through His Blood so that we can come again.

One more time: He came to me.

Oh, and you come right through that new and living way, this morning; come through His Blood; come with boldness before the Throne of grace that you might obtain mercy and find grace to help, Seasonable help; whatever you have need of today.

... could not come...

Oh, now, we have His merits, the merits of an all-sufficient Sacrifice (hallelujah!); coming in His Name, coming with that virtue of the victory He won. Hallelujah!

... why He died...

Oh, how we thank You for that, Lord.

... on Calvary,

When I could not come to where

He was, He came to me.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Aren't you glad He came to you? Aren't you glad He remembered you, that while He was on the Cross, you were on His mind? Aren't you happy for that this morning? Is that real in your heart? Has the Quickening Power quickened you and brought you to that realization, my friend? Hallelujah! When He took the Seals off of Himself in this Day and He opened up that Mystery of the Lamb's Book of Life and showed you your name and what part of the Word you are, that you are considered in the Plan of Redemption, doesn't that bring joy into your heart to know that you were one? Hallelujah!

He left the ninety and nine. Hallelujah! He traded His scepter for His shepherd's staff; came looking for you and now He has found you; called you by your very own name in this Hour (glory be to God!); took the amnesia away and brought you to know that you were there with Him before the foundation of the world. He made a way to bring you back to become the very Word again. Oh, blessed be His wonderful Name. Thank You, Jesus. Glory be to God in the Highest! Thank You, Lord.

Every head bowed, all around the building, in respect to His great mighty Presence, the great Shepherd of the sheepfold Who appeared in these last days with the Lamb's Book of Life opened in His hand to gather the sheep in this Hour, (oh my) that there might be one Shepherd and one fold (glory be to God): the Family in Heaven and on earth, named after the Lord Jesus Christ, Who through the Blood of the everlasting covenant laid down His Life, friends, to make this possible this morning.

Believe Him as you come into His house, into His Presence, knowing that He is faithful. You couldn't come, except He drew you. He desired for you to be here today; that's why you are here. And take the privilege, take the opportunity, embrace it this morning; capitalize upon it that you can receive because He thought of you being here.

You say, "But I am the one who thought and made the plans." He put it in your mind. He made it possible for you to be here, friends. Rise a little higher than your own thought and see God's Divine purpose and God's will. Oh, you could have been a million places other than this place this morning, but that's the grace of Almighty God.

Gracious Father, with bowed hearts, standing with the realization that we are in Your Divine Presence and, oh God, to know that this privilege was Blood bought; the very Blood of the Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, that by a new and living way, we can come and stand before the great Throne of Grace. And the Voice of this Blood that speaks grace and pardon, Seven Voices of the Blood that speaketh better things, oh God, the Light of this glorious Gospel shining into our hearts and giving us the Light of the knowledge of the Glory of God in the Face, in the very Presence of Jesus Christ, to know, dear God, when we stand here, we stand in the very merits of that Blood. We stand in the all-sufficiency of Your finished work.

And, dear God, by virtue of the Life of that Blood that has come back to claim everyone that the Blood was shed for, we can present our Token with our prayer this morning. And we can ask with faith, believing in the Almighty Name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the things that the Blood purchased, as the Quickening Power quickens and makes real to us what to ask for; giving us discernment to see our needs, to understand the time that we are in, to see what You require of us at this present Hour, how we should go, Father; looking back and reviewing how You have brought us to where we are standing and where You are taking us, oh God, that we can come in the rhythm of Your Word, under the influence of Your Holy Spirit.

And knowing oh God, that You stand here as the Giver of every good and perfect gift, and in You, there is no variableness or shadow of turning, that great is Your faithfulness, that You desire to give to us all that we have need of, but You provided the way that we should ask for it: by faith, oh God, and You Who said You shall supply every need according to Your riches in Glory will respond to that very prayer and give the answer.

I pray, dear God, that the Quickening Power, the Holy Spirit, Lord, will quicken the hearts and minds of Your children, Lord, that they can perceive this great grace that is overshadowing them right now, that they will be sensitive that they are in Your Presence and this privilege is theirs. May You grant it, oh God. And may faith, Lord God, that has brought us to the Power, that very Power produce the promise. Grant it, Lord.

We thank You for revelation. We thank You, dear God, for the eyes of our understanding being enlightened that we can see the hope of our calling and the exceeding greatness of Your riches towards us who believe. We thank You, dear God, that You have caused us, Lord, to walk out of darkness and to walk in this marvelous Light and to have the fellowship of the Mystery.

Lord, I pray that from the greatest to the least, as they would present their prayer before You, as they would make their request known before You, as they would hold the Token with unwavering faith this morning as a child of Abraham, as a seed of the promise, oh God, Father, believing, oh God, that they have received what they have asked for, Lord God, and You seeing that faith in their heart, God, that You will respond to it and You will supply that need, in the Name of Jesus Christ.

Not just here where we stand, but all around, oh God, the Caribbean, Father: in Tobago and in Grenada and in St. Vincent, Lord, in Dominica and St. Kitts and St. Lucia where Your children are gathered this morning, Lord, under this very influence, oh God, in union and in harmony with us, oh God; Father, God because they are part of this called-out group in this Hour being made ready. And I pray that the Word of the Living God would move in their midst today, Father, and You would provide and You would supply their every need. You would give faith to believe, and not just to believe, but to believe that they have received, and the courage to walk in it and see it be made actual in their experience. Grant it, Lord.

Bless us all together, and not only us, Lord, but Your children around the world, throughout this island, and wherever they might be, oh God, in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. May You do the exceedingly abundantly in this late Hour, oh God, when Your children are striving, Lord, for the mastery. Help them to strive lawfully that their faith can take a grip upon it, oh God, that they can run for the prize, (hallelujah!) that they might win Christ. Grant it, Lord.

Let everyone's faith be so focused. And may the Word that You have given today, may through the grace of the Holy Spirit, It be ministered with such unction and power; come forth with such clarity. May It be so directed into the very needy place in the lives of Your children, and may It create such an Atmosphere of faith

roundabout, Lord God, each and every one of them that is gathered here today.

And Lord, I pray that Your Holy Spirit will do the exceedingly abundantly, oh God; that You would pour out Your great blessings, Lord, in every way and in every form that it is needed and being pulled for through the faith in the souls of Your believing children, this morning? Would You do it, Father? Oh God, we come sincerely. We ask all these things in the lovely and precious Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, to Whom we give all glory and thanks and praise. Amen and amen.

Could we lift our hands and say, "Praise the Lord"? [Congregation says, "Praise the Lord." -Ed.] Amen. His mercies endureth forever.

God bless you. I'm certainly happy to be in His Presence and be with you. And what a tremendous time we had Friday. Amen. It just shows God, you know, the simplicity. You can speak so simple sometimes, but we realize how profound the Word is even though It is so simple, that It is not just like an admonition but It is a revelation that moves your heart and enlightens your understanding, to walk and appreciate God in all that He has promised and the way He has presented Himself to us, through the opening of the Word in these last days.

I'd like to invite your attention to Psalms 105 and Matthew 23. I would like to continue my series that I have been in since August, on Joseph. And we just can't seem to come out of it. And what a way, you know, it just keeps going in different ways.

I think, last time I was here with you, preaching on that series there. I was on *Joseph's Manasseh and Ephraim* [2004-1107 -Ed.] – "God has made me to forget all the toil of my father's house, and God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction." [Genesis 41: 51-52 -Ed.] Amen? Have you forgotten all the pressures, all the archers, all of them that wounded you?

God has lifted you far above those things (amen); no longer carrying any remorse. You no longer have seeds or roots of bitterness; you have broken through those hindrances. Amen. You are sailing now; there is no limit to your speed, by the grace of God. Amen. The things that would oppress so many, God gave you revelation, undergirded you, stabilized you, lifted you up in the land of your affliction. You realize all things work together for good. Instead of you, frowning, you begin to praise God for it and it makes you fruitful, by the grace of God. Amen.

Every Joseph has a Manasseh and an Ephraim; Manasseh first and then Ephraim after. You have to forget those things first and then you come into fruitfulness. Glory be to God. You don't want anything to strangle and paralyze that potential, that hidden resource that God put in you to make you fruitful. Amen. What a great thing!

Psalms 105 – coming back to This, but in a different way this morning. Verse 16, David, speaking in the Psalms here but reading the life of Joseph in Genesis 37-50. He had it under consideration because that's the whole Mystery of the perfection – the Seventh Seal. Amen. The Book of Genesis closes with Joseph's life; It opens with Adam. The Seventh Seal back in Eden closes with Joseph; the Seventh Seal back there, this Seed Book of the Bible, Genes-is.

Psalms 105, verse 16:

¹⁶ Moreover he called for a famine upon the land:

Look at how God now is doing something. And what was the famine? That was the thing that started to bring the brothers into Joseph's presence. Is that right? That's right. The famine began to break down their man-made security. The famine made them realize how vulnerable they were. The famine threatened their survival and it pushed them out to go where the corn was and to go find where Joseph was. Is that right? They

didn't know yet, but that was the meeting time. They would come into realization where the great unveiling, the climax, the 'I am Joseph'; where he was going to be unveiled. And that's the Seventh Trumpet, which is our Seventh Seal – how Christ will make Himself known to the elected 144,000. Amen. It is parallel. We are having ours now; they are going to have theirs under the Sixth Seal. Glory.

*... he called for a famine upon the land
[and that's what the famine did]: he brake
the whole staff of bread.*

*¹⁷ He sent a man before them, even
Joseph, who was sold for a servant:*

It was in the famine, Joseph became the saviour. He was sent before that he might save. But look what it took the savior before he could manifest the salvation that he was designed and predestinated to bring. Look at how the chosen vessel had to be prepared before it could do that good work; fit for the Master's use, prepared unto the good work, which was the saving.

*¹⁸ Whose feet they hurt with fetters: he
was laid in iron:*

So right there in verse 16, he picks up Chapter 42; that's the famine time. Verse 17, he picks up the rejection time, Chapter 39, when he was being sold into slavery. Verse 18, he picks up Chapters 40 and 41; that's the prison time when his feet were in fetters.

¹⁹ Until the time that his word came:

Amen. And that was when Pharaoh sent for him. A mystery in symbol form that they couldn't interpret, but there was a prophetic gift in a man becoming a prisoner, in a place of confinement, in chains.

*¹⁹ Until the time that his word came: the
word of the LORD tried him.*

He was tested and tried before the promise. The king sent and loosed him, "Unbind him; release him. Take him out of the prison." Because the prison sentence had run its full course, and what it was designed and

intended to serve had been accomplished. And now it was time; no more to be a prisoner. The caterpillar was going to come out of the cocoon. It was going to come forth there in all its glory now. Amen. It was going to come into a new ministry now. Is that right? It was a changing time now. It was the time that he had long seen and preached about. Glory.

²⁰ The king sent and loosed him; even the ruler of the people, and let him go free.

²¹ He made him lord of his house...

From the man who was sold as a servant and whose feet they hurt with fetters of iron, look how low they carried him down; into the very dungeon in the underground. The word in the Hebrew there is 'a hole', 'a pit in the ground', that dungeon. They put him down in it and he went so low down, but look how high he was going to be exalted. From his humiliation, he was going to be exalted. He was obedient and took the form of a servant, but now, the Father was going to raise him up so high, far above, and give him a new name: Zaphnath-paaneah. Hallelujah! That sounds to me like something Jesus did. Glory!

... and [made him] ruler of all his substance.

²² To bind his princes at his pleasure; and [to] teach his senators wisdom.

From a man whose feet were in fetters of iron, now he came to bind princes of the land, and now he came to teach senators wisdom. Oh, my. Glory be to God! From a man whose feet were in fetters, he became ruler of all the king's substance. John 14:12, St. Mark 11:23, you know, Mark 16, John 15:7 – all the King's Substance. Amen! Glory!

Matthew 23. I want to take for a thought this morning, **“JOSEPH'S DESCENSION AND ASCENSION”**. He who descended is the same also who ascended on high and received a new name. Amen?

I believe this is the Hour the Bride is being exalted to such honor and glory and power (amen): a perfect

Church. "Ask, even to half of the kingdom; whatever you say, Queen Esther. (Amen.) You speak it." She has THUS SAITH THE LORD. Satan is powerless before Her. What She binds is bound; what She looses is loosed. She is anointed with Agape. She has put on the bond of perfection. Glory!

Matthew 23, verse 11:

¹¹ But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

That word is 'slave'. Joseph was sold for a servant, sold for a slave; from a slave to a ruler. See?

¹¹ But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

¹² And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted. [1st Peter 5]

Jesus, teaching there when He saw man trying to lift up themselves; man trying to be lord over their brethren, and man trying to...you know, want a place of authority without humiliation and submission and obedience; their heads just full of nonsense. And Jesus didn't only preach It; He came down and washed their feet. Is that right?

1st John—1st Peter rather, Chapter 5, verse 5, talking about the appearing of the great Shepherd in the last days and the elders not to be lords over God's Heritage, that Nicolaitanism that is going to be so predominant in the last days when the Chief Shepherd appears: man over man, man wants to control man; man shut up in man's system. But we want prisoners bound with the chains.

⁵ Likewise, [you] younger [verse 5], submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another...

First, he said, "You elders, don't take lordship. You serve; you, be a servant." Then he said:

... [you] younger, [you] submit yourself to the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to

another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble [God resisteth the proud, and God giveth grace to the humble].

⁶ Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.

Humiliation and exaltation: to descend and become low that you might be raised up high. Except the corn of wheat falls in the ground and dies: come down to humiliation. The secret of life is through death; you know that. Except the corn of wheat dies, it will abide alone. That's the problem today.

⁷ Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Praise His wonderful Name. May the Lord bless the reading of the Word. You may have your seat.

JOSEPH'S DESCENSION AND ASCENSION. Trust everyone feels welcomed in His Presence and everyone is ready for the Word. Are you ready for the Word? [Congregation responds, "Amen." -Ed.] Amen.

Last week, I was speaking on *Joseph's Love And Faith And Forgiveness* [[2004-1121 -Ed.](#)] and how in this Hour, putting on Agape, the Capstone, upon the pyramid of our lives (amen); how Joseph, you know, dealt with his brothers in such a way and manifested such great forgiveness after all the persecution that they persecuted him.

Now, I want to look a little bit at his descension, and not so much Joseph coming down, but God Who had ordained to raise him up. Before God could raise him up, God had to bring him down. And if you are part of the Bride, you are predestinated and ordained to be lifted so high beyond any believer of any Age, to come into the greatest position that there has ever been given to mortals, which have been given to a little elected group in these last days.

But these, who will not see death – all the others saw death and had to go by the way of the grave, but these who will be alive and remain unto the Coming of the Lord, She who would be the victory and the reason of His death, She who would come to such perfection and such power and such oneness that She would be Life of His Life, Spirit of His Spirit, Word of His Word, acts of His acts, Power of His Power; She would be Him revealed that there will be such Power in Her, She will draw the sleeping ones and bring them back here.

But before we can come to this Place, this great Masterpiece that could speak, (he says) this great Perfect Faith, this great Perfect Love in the last days; a people who are called and predestinated to come into Perfect Faith, Perfect Love, to have such a perfect understanding in the Mystery of God, they have the very Mind that was in Christ Jesus, the same Mind in the Age of the Mind when the great Secret in the back-part of God's heart is put into the mind of the Bride, the Things that angels, nobody ever knew, have come down and been put in the heart of the Bride in this Hour!

You don't want your heart to be filled up with nonsense and pride and ambition, friends. Look what privilege you have: that the very Mind that was in Christ, in that very little place, that little vacuum in there, a little compartment where God ordained for His Throne to be established, where He can rule your life from the throne in your heart, where He can speak from His Throne in your heart and out of the abundance of your heart, your mouth speaketh. And you can speak as the learned; you can give a Word in due season. Hallelujah! You can become the final Voice to the final Age. You can become His very mouthpiece on the earth today because He has confounded the denominations. They are no longer His mouthpiece, but the Spirit and the Bride say the same thing that the Prophet said. And what the Prophet said was already said in the Bible, but She becomes that final Voice.

All of this is a prophecy. All of this is God's plan. All of this God purposed in Himself. All of this is the way that God purposed in His heart that He will wind up this great Plan of Redemption; that He will finish it. And if God by His omniscience, His all-knowing, His all-wisdom can think of something so great to finish up His plan to show His great achievement, then He has all power. He is also omnipotent.

That's why the Bible says, "He worketh all things after the counsel of His Own will." [Ephesians 1:11 -Ed.] It means He is omniscient and He is omnipotent. By His omniscience, He planned it, and by His omnipotence, He has the power to bring what He planned to pass and nobody could hinder His plan. And no matter how wrong it looks, He makes all things work together for good and for His Own Glory. It is impossible for Him to fail; His Word is creative. The Word that leaves His mouth could never return to Him void.

Aren't you glad to serve a God like that this morning; not some historical God, the Living God? And while you are becoming that, He is walking with you step by step, day by day, and the Holy Spirit, the inside Teacher is teaching you what your experiences are, is teaching you why are you going through that. He is showing you patterns in the Bible and saying, "Look, you are like Rahab; you have to go through that. You have to display your Token in the hour of judgment. You are like Sarah. You might have had some unbelief, but that has to be taken out of you so you might judge Me faithful because the promise has to come through you. You are like Esther, you might be a little, old orphan but I'm going to raise you up so high that you could speak even to half My Kingdom." Glory be to God in the Highest!

And so, you see when He makes demands on your life, it is not unreasonable (amen) because He shows you your end before you start. He always does that. He told Abraham, "Get thee out of your country. I will give

you a land. I will give you a son. I will give you a great nation. I will do all these things for you." Is that right?

He told Peter and them, "You come; leave your nets. I will make you fishers of men." Amen. He showed them the things.

He said, "Paul, you stop persecuting the Church; I will make you a light to the Gentiles. You might have to suffer many things for My Name's sake, but you are a chosen vessel to bear My Name." Is that right? And He showed them the things.

He already said, "Malachi 4:5 will come and he will turn the hearts of the children back to the faith of the fathers. He will have the Ministry of Luke 17:30; the Son of Man, being revealed in a son of man." Is that right? He will have to be formed in the image of the Word to bring that Ministry back into its full manifestation, and he will have to go through trials and testings. He has to be proven. Amen. He had to be chipped and molded to become that, so he could become one with that Word and that Word could reflect perfectly through him, that God could say, "This is My beloved Son." Oh my! And he could say, "Father, I do those things always that please You."

What a great thing, friends! And so, it is a joy for the believer while they are walking in this, to know: "Look what God planned. All these years, I'm being taught from the Scripture; from the Message, what God has purposed, what Age we are in, how He is going to bring It to pass, even bringing It down from an Age level to a church level to an individual level."

Even in your own, personal life, you can fellowship with the mystery of your life represented in shadows that hold the mystery of you and God's purpose for you. Amen? [Congregation responds, "Amen." -Ed.] And sometimes when God now has to take you down and break you and bring you low, you don't get discouraged. And people laugh at you and they criticize you. They say, "Look what you talked about didn't come to pass; you've failed," (amen)

and they scorn you. Then what is happening? Know it is God. Say, "God is doing His work," because that's His principle.

Let me get a Scripture quickly. I'm making a jump here. I would like to read this first. Turn with me to Philippians 2. Lay some of this background in quickly, while I have your attention here.

Philippians Chapter 2, verse 5, Paul was speaking about all lowliness of mind and, you know, how we should be as believers: let there be consolation in Christ and so on, the comfort of love, fellowship of the Spirit and so on, and how we should have the same love and be in one mind and let nothing be done through vainglory and strife and so on.

And now, verse 5:

⁵ Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

En morphé: came in the form of God, the Man, Christ Jesus.

⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

This great condescension of God; he is bringing us into view. This is what Bro. Branham used to preach *The Unveiling Of God* [[1964-0614 -Ed.](#)] to show this great en morphé; how God was changing His form. The great God Who was so mysterious, so difficult to understand, wanted to come down to walk with the cobbler, and the farmer, and the peasant, and sit and talk with them, and the shepherd, and the fisherman. God stretched the tent of His humanity and He condescended (oh my!) as He did in these last days. Down from His Glory, the Lord Himself shall descend. Ever living story: another Mighty Angel came down. "I am come down for deliverance." Glory.

⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

With all His power, they spat on Him and He said, "I forgive you." With all these things, He said, "I do nothing except the Father first shows Me." And there was nothing for pride, nothing for competition, nothing for strife; nothing to kind of pull people down so He could project Himself. No. It was obedience to the will of the Father. "Learn of Me, I'm meek and lowly in heart." He was preaching; He was opening this. He humbled Himself; He was born in a stable. Is that right? He had to borrow a boat to fish in; had to borrow a grave. He said, "The foxes have holes and the birds have nests but the Son of Man has no place to lay His head."

He came so low down, (see?) humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross, which is a cruel, shameful death; painful death, humiliating death. But He despised the shame and He endured the Cross, the Bible said, in Hebrews, because He looked to the joy that was set before Him. [Hebrews 12:2 -Ed.] And while He was dying there, they were taunting Him: "If You are the Messiah, come down from the Cross," ridiculing Him, "Look at Him, deceiver. He tried to save others and He can't even save His Own Self." Do you see that?

But watch:

⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

I was reading about Joseph just now; he became lowly. But what was God doing? That was God's plan and that was God's provided way to bring salvation to the world in Joseph's time. Joseph was the saviour. We took that a couple of weeks ago; Joseph was the saviour. You see, God only has one way to save.

God only has one method by which salvation can come, and no matter which way God showed it, it is that

way every time. Whether it's Noah, whether it's Moses, whether it's Joseph, whether it's Jesus, whether it's Paul, whether it's Bro. Branham; it is one way that God has. That's right. And that's why each one just opens up and unfolds and magnifies before your eyes, the great plan that God has revealed to us in Jesus Christ. But look at it first.

This great God Who has all this Glory, seraphim and cherubim had to put their wings over their faces and worship Him, that same God made Himself of no reputation. That same God came down and took a robe of flesh, born in a stinking stable when He could have planned the greatest birth, and in the most beautiful place, but God wanted to show He is revealed in humility. He wanted to show man who didn't know Him and who had gotten so far away and became Sadducees and Pharisees and was condemning everyone, they said, "Look, He is eating and drinking with sinners, and look at them over here. Look, that man didn't wash his hands. Look at this one here. Look at that man who didn't pray. I'm not like that man; he is a publican," and the man was making his long, long, long prayers and these things. See?

He had to come that way to pull a church that had drifted into darkness and had made the Word of God of no effect with all their commandments of man and all their vain worship. He said, "In vain do these worship Me; you are of your father the Devil," and everything else, because it had gone so far away from the Truth.

So when God started the New Creation, which He was the beginning of the New Creation, it started in a manger. From the womb of a little, peasant girl in the lowest city, Nazareth, and then down in a filthy, old stable in Bethlehem. And then the message came to the most humble herdsmen; ignorant and unlearned shepherds. Is that right?

What was God doing? He was tearing up man's wisdom. He was tearing up man's pomp and man's

glamour and man's education and man's civilization, and He was throwing that all on one side. He was taking the weak things, the things that were base, the things that look like nothing, to confound the things that were mighty. And Paul now, this great prophet-messenger of the First Age, he is looking now and he is showing the principle that Jesus Himself taught: humility first.

... humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

From the pit, from the prison, look where he came; he became ruler. From a slave in chains of iron, he became clothed with vestures of fine linen, a golden chain around his neck, and the signet ring of the king, and he was coming in that second chariot (is that right?) from chains and fetters in a dungeon. Watch.

¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow...

And how many know when he came out and he got that new name and that place, they had to bow their knees when he was coming? They had to blow the trumpet, is that right?

... in heaven, and things in [the] earth, and things under the earth;

¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Ephesians 4, verse 7. Turn with me a little quickly. If we can get through this little reading here—because I could just quote – I could have just quoted it, but I want to read It to put It on the tape. Because, you know, these things go out in the Caribbean here to all the churches there. And then you're sitting down here, we have a lot of new ones that I don't want to just preach where it is too high for them and they are not acquainted even with some of these Scriptures.

Ephesians 4, verse 7:

⁷ But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

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

Paul again here is looking at His ascension, how God highly exalted Him; how God raised Him up.

⁹ (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first [first; watch the order] ...he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?)

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

So before He could ascend so high, far above the heavens that He might fill all things, far above all principality and power, far above where He received a Name above all names and where every knee has to bow, He first had to become obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross; even go down into the lower parts of the earth, go so low down, even down into Hell itself; (is that right?) took the keys from Satan, of death and hell.

¹¹ And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

¹² For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

¹³ Till we all come [into] 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:

¹⁴ That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love...

And Paul was showing now, Jesus descended so low that He might ascend. And the plan of Him ascending now is giving gifts to bring His Church which is so low down now, to raise it up where it ought to be where He is, that we could have a very body like His Own glorious body (is that what the Bible says?) – all that He is. Is that what is happening in this Hour?

Is there a five-fold Ministry in this Hour? Is there a Message in this Hour, and Rapturing Faith is in this Message? And this Message, which is Seven Thunders, shows us how to prepare for this Translation Faith, is that right? And could these Seven Thunders be a Mystery that would open up in the Church to bring a Power back in the Church that these vile, old, marred bodies could be changed? Could it be, my brethren, that we will be changed faster than those Angels came? *Sirs, Is This A Sign Of The End?* [[1962-1230E-Ed.](#)]

So, watch. Watch there now.

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.

Is there a Bride in this Hour, sons and daughters of God growing up into the formed image of the Word, coming up to that perfect man, the stature of a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; growing up into Christ Who is the Head?

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.

So, what a beautiful thing it is, how God here is showing so beautifully, this great thing in Philippians and Ephesians! Also in Ephesians 1, I left out there, but to bring that before you to show you, the principle that He was obedient unto death, even the death of the

Cross; took the form of a servant, made Himself of no reputation that He might be exalted. Then He, Who ascended and gave these gifts and all this glory and power and this great victory, He first had to descend. He had to come down in His humiliation. Is that right? And in coming down, He became sin for us: Unto this end was He born; for this cause came He into the world. [John 18:37 –Ed.] But that was God's way, not of just paying the price, but how the price had to be paid. My!

See, it is not just paying the price, not just redeeming, but the laws by which Redemption takes place. Becoming flesh – what does Hebrews 2 say? – to become a High Priest that He could be touched with the feelings of infirmities; to become man that He could know what man feels. And He was tempted at all points, yet without sin so He could stand for us when we are tempted. Is that right?

So, it is nice that God became flesh; praise God! – the Power, the Word in flesh, but that means coming down, coming down, down. Kick You, in flesh You could feel that. In flesh, You have to battle that, in flesh; that is hard to take. In flesh, they talk about You and they whisper about You. You are not high and lifted up There in the presence of the cherubim or seraphim. Down here, You have no place to lay Your head. You are hungry in the boat and there's nothing to eat, hungry by the tree and no fruit on the tree, weary and tired in the boat, rejected and despised, yet trying to hold on to the pillow to sleep in the rocking boat. My! Weeping as a man; the one friend, good friend that You have, You have a place in their home You could stay, they stand behind Your Ministry and support You, is now laying in the grave. He wept by the grave.

As a Man, He came down so close, you could feel this. That is why it's God, the Holy Spirit in you. Some people think that church is just a church life; think it is this group and that group, and this group and that group. No, friends. Life is not about that, religion is about that;

man-made religion is about that. Life is where God put you here on the earth for a purpose, and this God that you are part of has a place in His Kingdom for you in the Faith Civilization when It is restored. Earth is His testing ground, how He trains you and He works in your life, preparing you, unveiling Himself to you, proving to this world, by your testimony, that He lives (glory!); showing He is still the same. And that is important to God.

He proves to Satan that the same people, man that he tried to deceive and bring in the Fall, God takes that fallen man, comes into that fallen man by Justification, Sanctification and the New Birth, then God grows up in that same man, and then God bruises Satan under their feet. He said, "Shortly, the God of peace will bruise Satan under your feet." [Romans 16:20 -Ed.] That's right. And this Bride in the last days, as the first Adam's bride fell so this last Bride, She will bruise Satan's head and go back in. Is that right?

So, that's a great thing. So our lives here, when we can walk and live there and say, "God, I thank You for leading me to deeper thoughts; raising me up to live in higher objectives; giving me a clearer vision, a deeper insight as to the reality of Your working behind my life, as to see Your wisdom expressed that You designed my makeup. You numbered the hair on my head. You allotted so many cubits for my stature, that I can't add one cubit to my stature."

A woman could wear a high heel shoe (sure) and look taller, but that is a man-made thing. She is walking on stilts. Do you get what I'm saying? But God – if it's a short foot, it's God to grow it. Is that right? And how many times He did that for who had one long and one short? That's right. Glory be to God in the Highest. Doesn't God think about everything; the smallest of things in your life sometimes?

You think of such a great, big God. Brother, you go by some big official: "Ah, get away with that, I don't have

time for that. Let this young, smaller man take care of that." But the God of creation Who is running the whole universe, He thinks about the little things in your life. He sees every tear that you shed. Is that right? He feels every hurt that you feel. Your very thoughts speak louder in Heaven than your very words on earth. Glory be to God in the Highest.

On *The Second Seal* [1963-0319 -Ed.], here is the Prophet:

What makes God big, is because He is big enough to stoop down. That's what makes Him big. There is nothing bigger. And He stooped the lowest that [nobody] could stoop, or any human being ever stooped. He was the King of Heaven, and He come to the lowest city on the earth, Jericho. And He got so low till even the shortest man in the town had to look down on Him, to see Him. Is that right? Zaccheaus. That's right. He was called the worst name that any human being could be called: a sorcerer, a devil, Beelzebub. That's what the world thought of Him.

Died the cruelest death. Didn't have a place to lay His head. Kicked out, by every organization. But when God exalted Him so high, till He has to look down to see Heaven. God, in humility. See? And He give Him a Name so great that the whole family of Heaven is named after Him, and every family of the earth. All the family on the earth is named "Jesus." All the families in Heaven is named "Jesus." And such a Name, that, every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess, that He's the Lord; either here or in hell. Hell will bow to it. Everything else will bow to it. See, but first [But first] it was humility, then [then] it become great. See? Let God exalt. He that humbles himself, God will exalt.

Amen. Glory! My!

On this message here on Joseph, *Joseph Meeting His Brethren* [1956-1230, para. 161 -Ed.], he said:

... And I'm so glad today that I can join hands with that long string of despised and rejected, and hated by the ecclesiastics down through the land. Here they are.

They are the lower. That's right. The [ecclesiastical sphere], speaking of the world, educationally, and socially speaking, they are above them.

They are above God's children. God's children are down in the low sphere.

... And we are glad to be humble. Because, those that will humble themselves, God will someday come the second time, in glory, to exalt His Church.

What is he talking about? He is talking about Joseph, the Spirit-filled Church in the last days [listen] when He comes the second time. Are we in the Second Coming? Is this the Hour that His Name might be glorified and be admired in all them that believe, and He will fulfill the work of faith with power? Is that right? Revelation 19, He comes back with glorified saints. Revelation 10, when He comes, He comes to glorify Himself in His saints. Are we to go to the Marriage Supper in a glorified body? Has the Holy Ghost already claimed your body for glorification? Is That the earnest of your full change?

Alright now. Now, follow this. [1956-1230, paras. 120-122 -Ed.]

Now notice, Joseph, being a type of Christ, a type of the Church, type of the Holy Spirit. He was a prince of prosperity, just as Christ is, just as the Church today.

Notice, again, that, when he was born, his father loved him and he made him a coat of many colors. Now, there's only seven perfect colors in all colors. All others are made off of those colors.

See, there are Seven Seals; Seven Spirits. All other revelations come from those Seven Seals. You could take one and spend twenty years preaching and can't finish it. That's right.

... And the coat perhaps had colors in it, of seven different colors, stripes of colors, into the coat that the father made. If you notice, maybe, Jacob didn't understand that at the time. But that signified "Promised One." When God gave Noah the rainbow sign, the seven colors, it was a promise, or a Covenant One. God had

made a covenant that He would destroy the world no more with water.

And God's covenant was also carried over through Jacob, into Joseph. Abraham was election, and Isaac was justification, and Israel was grace, and Joseph was perfection. That was the only one that had the colors.

Luther, Wesley, and Pentecost didn't have the colors. They had a color, but this one has the colors. They had a Seal, they had a mystery in part, but this one has all Seven Mysteries fully revealed, all Seven Voices; this one in the last days (hallelujah!), an undenominational Bride. He has opened up the Seven Seals, in the last days, to bring the Head and the Body as one.

[1956-1230 Paras. 123-126 -Ed.] We see Jesus sitting upon the Throne, with the colors, rainbow around Him, in Revelations 1. It was God's covenant with the people. Here it is. Oh, how I want you to see it! Christ is God's covenant with His people. Not denominations; but Christ is God's covenant. ...

As Joseph was hated, so is Christ hated today. They don't want to say they hate Christ, but their works prove what they do. ...

Notice, there He was, the Covenant. "Christ was to look upon as jasper and sardius stone," in Revelation. That was the breast stone [or] the birthstone, rather, from Rueben to Benjamin. [The brothers, you see?] That was the reflection of the sardius and jasper, as they reflected together under the Light of God, made the covenant around Christ, the rainbow. And what does it speak of? Rueben, the oldest; Benjamin, the youngest! From the first to the last, "He was the One that Was, Which is, and Shall Come; the Root, the Offspring of David. He is the Morning Star. He is from A to Z; the Alpha [and] the Omega; God's reflection from the [beginning] of time to the end of time. There he is, God's covenant with [the] people.

And all these other things, Joseph, David, all the prophets, was just a reflection. Amen. Reflecting, from

the true Seed from the garden of Eden, till the time that He shall come the second time, in Glory, to receive His people and His Church. There it is...

And that is the Hour we live in. The second time, He came to receive—the First Coming was to do what? Redeem His Church. Second Coming is what? To receive His Church. Third Coming is what? To reign with His Church. So, here we are, friends, in this Hour. It is a great thing. My!

Now, I want to go down a little further here for you.

“The Way Up Is Down”, that’s my subject. JOSEPH’S DESCENSION AND ASCENSION; my subject is *The Way Up Is Down* because he *first* descended that he might ascend.

In the message *Sir, We Would See Jesus*, 1962 [1962-0724, paras. 43-44. -Ed.], he says: *Now, Paul speaking here was speaking of yesterday... [talking about ‘same yesterday, today, and forever’.] ...speaking of yesterday, means the Old Testament [speaking of yesterday means the Old Testament]. What He was yesterday He is today, and will be forever. That’s the Old Testament, the New Testament, and for evermore: ...*

See? At the end of the New Testament, Seven Seals opened up to show what was, is, and what shall be, all the way into the New Heaven and New Earth. See?

Now, what [He was] yesterday? Now, if He was a great rich man yesterday, He’d be a great rich man today. But when He come yesterday, we find out that He didn’t even have a place to lay His head. That’s right. “The birds of the air have nests; [and] the foxes has dens; but I don’t even have a place to lay My head.”

Now, why do we sometimes get so... We want to see our lives in Christ’s Life. We want to see ourselves in the Word. And sometimes God gives you a little place for a season, where you don’t get a home to lay your head, and you feel kind of bad and you feel embarrassed; you are shunning people. No, you are missing it. He is letting you know how He felt. He could have provided.

He could have spoken the greatest one; had one floating in the air and coming down every day, but that's not the way. He wants us to teach you to know what He is, Who He is, how He operates, what His Life is because He gave us part of the same Life.

That is why Paul said, "I know how to abase, and I know how to abound." [Philippians 4:12 -Ed.] As we had on Friday night: in the good times, in the bad times, you praise His Name anyhow. Job said, "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away; blessed be the Name of the Lord." You don't live your life like some normal person who just, you know, meat for the belly and living in this present life without any consciousness of where they came from and where they are going. No. The Word has opened to you, that is why He called you out.

The Evening Light has come to you, It shined in your heart; It is filtering your thinking. It is lifting you up to another level where the Mind of Christ is coming in, and you begin to see God's plan in your life, in this Age when He has come to receive His Church. And you are part of that ransomed Church that is to be saved to sin no more. And that undergirds you; it establishes you and you walk through life – your Compass and your North Star. You are tied to your Absolute. Is that right?

You are not shaken in mind and troubled in spirit. You know tribulation worketh patience, and patience experience, and experience hope, and hope maketh not ashamed. And you come from one level to another, to another, to another, until the Love of God is shed abroad in your heart by the Holy Spirit. And you count it all joy when you fall into divers temptations, knowing the testing of your faith worketh patience. You are no hothouse plant that has to be babied and sprayed; you are rugged. You are original. Glory be to God!

You know it is a battle. It is the Contest on; the greatest battle ever fought. And as Satan starts to come toe to toe and throw punches, brother, you rock back and start to throw your combinations too. Yes, sir! And

you're trained for the knockout punch because he can't take the Word. And you start to cut him to pieces with the Word and he gets frustrated and has to leave you for a season. That's right.

You don't sit down and get beaten up and beaten up and say, "I don't know why I am a Christian for," and "I can't live this life," and "I never really wanted to live this life. I don't know what God had me this way for." No, no, no! You say, "We are more than conquerors, and what shall separate us from the Love of God that's in Christ Jesus?" Glory!

When He came, He wasn't saying, "The foxes have holes and the birds have nests, but I don't even have a place to lay My head and I'm the Messiah." No, no, no. "I'm glad I could even get so low, lower than the birds; lower than the fox. I could get so low, to all creation because I'm going to raise this fallen creation back up to put on its Eden beauty once again; (hallelujah!) not just man, but his very inheritance. I will bring man back to his Eden beauty. I will bring back the creation to its Eden beauty." Condescending.

That is why sometimes, God brings... People, when you start to scorn and you can't go there, and you watch and you want everything in a nice air-conditioned room with nice lights, and they're serving drinks and nice desserts, and the Bible is opened and you have markers out and you are explaining about God and you are showing your theology. Nonsense! That belongs to Bible school. Amen!

But where you get in the Presence of God, friends – Life, reality – you are sweating it out a little bit. The place is hot and the Devil is fighting the minds but you are holding the Word, and the Spirit creates an Atmosphere and down comes the Holy Ghost. And people don't care, brother, what time it is, and the time flees away and their clothes are wet, but they come out changed. They come out quickened and anointed with the Holy Spirit. My!

...When He came to the world, He borrowed a womb to be born in. They had no cradle to lay Him in, so they laid Him in a box of straw. [Para. 44 -Ed.]

Now, my thought is JOSEPH'S DESCENSION AND ASCENSION. Who is he talking about? Who have I been telling you for the last August, September, October, November, Joseph is? And I read it for you this morning: The Spirit-filled Church, type of the Church in the last days; type of Christ. That's right. Glory!

There was Joseph on a personal level who Joseph himself was; the history of Joseph. Then it was a Mystery of Christ, the greater Joseph. Amen. Then in the last days when that Ministry came back in a Prophet, Joseph again. Amen. Then in a Spirit-filled Church, called out in the last days that is going to come into perfection to bring the Resurrection, Joseph again (that's right): dispensational Joseph. Then I said, there is local Joseph, regional Joseph, international Joseph; there are all kinds of Josephs, too. If God gave you corn, you are Joseph. If you have vision, you could save people, you are Joseph. That's right.

You could take it and do what you want to do with it. I just want to stay in the message right here. Listen.

... When He died, He was nailed to a Roman tree under capital punishment. He had one robe to put on. It'd been made for Him, wove throughout without a seam. He had to borrow a grave to be buried in. So there's none of us that bad off. [Say that in your own heart: "There is none of us that bad off."]

He come to show what God was. [He come to show what God was!]

He said, "Bro. Branham, why do you let people do you those things?"

"Lee, put your thoughts aside. I'm not going to go out there and fuss with anybody. God didn't send me to fuss. I'm sent to show what God is. I'm sent to unveil the Mighty God. I'm not sent to try to make a name for myself. I'm not sent to destabilize people's faith and pull

and proselyte. I'm not sent to fight and battle with people and, you know, be on some ego trip. No. I'm sent to unveil God. I'm sent to unveil God in Bride form; Jesus Christ in Bride form, to show the submissive spirit of the Wife in submission to Her Head, and He can have the preeminence and the oversight and the leading, and a Wife that would love Him regardless!" We are sent to show that. Amen. Glory!

He come to show what God was. Anything that's high and haughty isn't God. God is low and humble. [God is low and humble.]

That's why you watch God take a lot of men who tried to exalt themselves in this Age, look where they are today. That's right. Do you know why? God resisteth the proud and giveth grace to the humble. And they who could not humble themselves and tried to exalt themselves were abased, and they who could humble themselves, God lifted them up.

Listen. I'm coming down to reading *Humble Thyself* just now; coming to read *Humble Thyself* [1963-0714E -Ed.]. He preached *Why Cry? Speak!* [1963-0714M -Ed.] in the morning. He said, "If that isn't me." God had to shake him. It was a time of consecration.

He had his experience with the seven everlasting peaks, on *Standing In The Gap* [1963-0623M -Ed.], where he had lost his feeling for the people. He had gotten a complex and he started to get resentful and bitter in his spirit, and then God had to shake him up a little bit, and let him see the danger he was slipping into. He was planning to go into the woods with his wife and all these things. You know the story. And then when he came to *Humble Thyself*, he had come down there, and now he wanted to have a deeper feeling for the people. Because he started to see what it was going to take to get them out, and that, though God has all the Power, God wanted a man who can lose all his will; who can get his will shorn.

And after he preached *Humble Thyself*, he went and preached *Paul, A Prisoner Of Christ*. [1963-0717 -Ed.] Do you get what I'm saying? One who could come and stand in the gap after, one who could speak and bind senators, and loose. That's right. It is a place he was walking. It is a place he was living. And as the Mystery was unfolding in his life, he was speaking it out and laying the footprints, the Bloody footprints, the Blood, the Message of the Hour for us to walk in, coming behind.

And last week I preached on (what?) Love, Faith, Forgiveness. [[2004-1121 Joseph's Faith, Love And Forgiveness -Ed.](#)] Friday I preached on (what?) Thanksgiving. [[2004-1126 Giving Thanks From A Grateful Heart -Ed.](#)] This morning, I am preaching about (what?) Humility. Don't miss what is happening, you know; love, faith, forgiveness, thanksgiving, gratitude, humility, this morning.

That's what made Him God. See, something that comes low, not them that goes high...So God doesn't dwell in hierarchies, and things. He dwells in humility. The way up is down. Humble yourself and you'll be exalted; exalt yourself and you'll be humble. That's right. See? God knows how to do it. [God knows how to do it, and that's how He did it.] So you have to remember; humble yourself before God. [And] Don't try to think your own thoughts; think His thoughts.

Now, when you think in the Scripture, and you see how, way up in Heaven, Lucifer... It says [Isaiah 14:12-15 -Ed.]:

12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

He has fallen to the ground and he is cut down from the lofty place he was.

13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon

*the mount of the congregation, in the sides
of the north:*

*¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the
clouds; I will be like the most High.*

He is only seeing ascending. He has no descending first. Do you get where I'm coming from now? Hear what God said now.

*¹⁵ Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell,
to the sides of the pit.*

In Heaven, he tried to exalt himself. Eve went to get more knowledge so she could become a woman teacher and come and teach Adam how to bring the promise. And she went to a seminary of a teacher who only had a tongue; he wasn't formed in the image. All he had was a tongue that could give sensation (see?) and she got deceived; little Pentecostalism. Lucifer tried to ascend without first descending.

That is why I keep reading all those things for you to show you: Philippians, Ephesians; He first descended. He did not have any reputation first, He descended.

He started in a little log cabin. He brought him down to a place where he got so low down, until he tried to kill people in cold blood; tried to commit suicide and everything else. Is that right? But then when He came down in the cave, He began to raise it up. After everybody had called it the Devil and the man was going out of his mind saying, "Lord, if this is of the Devil, I don't want to be of the Devil." But when God came, God started to raise him up: First Pull, Second Pull, Third Pull, (is that right?) until after a while some started to think he is God and wanted to worship him.

And he said, "No, no, no. I am a sinner saved by grace. I would have been a murderer, had it not been for the grace of God!" And started to point them back to where God came so low down, in a little, old cave, to take him out, like when God met Elijah in a cave too, (is that right?) all neurotic and everything else. "What

doest thou here, Elijah of this day, in Greenville? What doest thou here in this cave, so neurotic?"

"Lord, they are telling me this is of the Devil, and I can't understand this, and I'm going out of my mind. How could it be the Devil and I love You, Jesus?"

But He knew how to calm the fears; isn't that right? What did He do? Open the Scriptures; started to show him, himself in the Bible, so he would not see himself the way they were trying to paint a picture of him as the Devil. He said, "No. You are not a devil, don't bother with them." He said, "The devils even have more revelation than they do because they were calling Him, Beelzebub, and the devils were saying the Holy One of Israel." He said, "So don't bother with them." He said, "This is an old, old thing; this happens every time in every generation. Don't bother with that. This is only identifying who you are. Let them write their books, let them call you what they want, let them do what they want."

He said, "I have already shown you who you are in the Bible here. You go and face the world with a seventh-grade education." Hallelujah! That's right. "And you don't have to get sarcastic either. They could try to tell you, 'Bring your Divine Healer here, I will pin His skin – His hide to the wall,'" and all these different, you know, 'bad-John talk'. He said, "You just say, 'I don't think Bro. Best would call himself a Divine Saviour because he preaches salvation, neither would I call myself a Divine Healer because I preach healing.'"

Oh, my! That is soft wisdom to turn away the wrath, and just keep going on about your purpose and leave the Pillar of Fire to come down and take out His Own picture, whether in a Bow, in a Cloud, in a Halo; whatever He wants to do. Let Him come and do what He wants to do, by the grace of God. You just keep going on. Amen. You just say, "The Lord bless you," and keep going on. Hallelujah!

I'm talking about the God of the Bible; the identified Christ of all Ages now being identified in His people. Amen. Glory be to God in the Highest! Because it is not a sermon to me, it's a reality, it's the Life; it's Hebrews 13:8. Let us see God; we saw Him in His creation. We saw Him in His Word. We saw Him in His Son but now we must see Him in His people. Glory be to God!

Lucifer tried to ascend without first descending. What does the Bible say? Pride goeth before destruction; pride is a forerunner. If you see a man getting lifted up and only wants to ascend and ascend and ascend, and he has not descended as yet, you watch that. Sometimes, God is breaking down people, breaking them down to get them humble, to see it is not by your might, it is not by your power; don't try to take things into your hand; you are beating your head against the Light. You are only beating your brains out; you can't out the Light. That's right. But they can't learn.

You say, "Is that so?"

Look at Korah; a man called out under a prophet's message, baptized under the prophet's message, great position in the prophet's message, but the thing was the fellow wanted to ascend up into the high priest's office to be the chief priest. But he started to manipulate the people: "The people," and "the people," and "the people," as if he cared for the people. But the thing was to ride on the people's back into power; personal power, to fulfill personal ambition, and trying to ascend before he descended.

And Moses came and Moses said, "Korah, do you mean you are not contented with the place God gave you? That vision came from the Cloud. Korah, remember I went down in the mud pit. I was full of all the wisdom in Egypt. I was Pharaoh's grandson. I'm the son of his daughter. I taught the Egyptians wisdom. I was the greatest man in Egypt." He said, "And I forsook *that* to go down in the mud pit. And it was from down in the depths of the mud pit when God showed me I had

to leave *that* and descend, first. I wanted to stay up here and sign a decree and let the people out. God said, 'No. It doesn't come like that; that is politics. This is Redemption. You're a Shepherd; (amen! Glory be to God!) a Shepherd over My people. You are born to be a Shepherd-prophet; a deliverer.'" Is that right? And so, when Moses got confronted, he had to face the realities and the facts of life because if he had looked back in the Bible, that was God's way.

God made Abraham leave Ur of the Chaldees, this great, mighty city; great man over there and everything, and God said, "Leave all of that."

"But my investment, Lord? But the land I just bought? But Lord, so and so and so, and my father's inheritance down here?"

"Leave that and follow Me. I will give you a land."

And the man was coming out, not knowing where he was going and didn't possess so much as an inch of ground yet, until one day God came and said, "Hereby I will show you of a surety, you will inherit it." God came down and confirmed the covenant. Is that right? And said, "Now, walk east, west, north, and south, and all this land, I give to you." Is that right? He reproved kings for his sake – Pharaoh in Egypt; Abimelech. Is that right? "Touch not My anointed; do My prophets no harm." He reproved kings for their sake.

Then finally, God came down and sat by the man's tent and ate with him, opened up the mysteries, and said, "I know Abraham; he will command his household." Is that right? Exalted him so high and God said, "That's My friend." Abraham became the friend of God.

So, Moses could have looked back there. When we come to junctions, it's not somebody trying to force that on you; that is the principle of God's Life. That's God's way. That's how God does it. And He is doing it in some of your lives but you can't understand it, and you resist it, and you get vex.

And sometimes He demotes you, (for Bro. Peter in Dominica). He demoted you and He put you down from being the big manager, down to the window dresser because He has to bring you down first. You have to descend first, but He is going to exalt you, so take courage (amen!); take courage! He will give you a Name far above every other name that you have that man can give you. That's right. He'll give you a Glory and Power far beyond what politics and religion could give you and money could give you. That's right. Glory.

Now, watch. The way up is down. He that humbles himself shall be exalted; he that exalts himself shall be abased. And Korah tried to ascend without first descending. And then what did God do? Abase him...abase him! The earth opened and swallowed him and all of them who tried to exalt themselves. Is that right? The Prophet said, "Worldliness took them over." The earth, the world opened its mouth and swallowed them; swallowed up in the world.

Look at Absalom. He had a false humility. "I will ascend," and he started as if he was so humble. "Oh, brother. Oh, my! Brother, do you mean to say that is what you are going through and nobody attended to you for so long? Oh, brother, come, let us go and drink a juice and sit down and talk this over." See? The Bible said, "He stole the hearts." [2nd Samuel 15:6 -Ed.] That is the word It used. He told a tale and he started to pull down David's stars into a lower order so he could ascend up into a higher place. And he who tried to ascend, pride was going before the fall. Is that right? And a haughty spirit was going to have a fall. That's right. And do you know what happened? Down he came, crashing. Is that right?

How many remember Nebuchadnezzar, "Look at this Babylon I have built"? Walking about, oh, he felt so important. He felt: "My goodness! I'm a great tree. All the fowls lodge in me and eat fruit of me; all the cattle take shade under me." And then one day, he got a

dream. He saw a man coming down with an axe after the watchers pulled up his file and said, "Cut it down," and the chips were just flying, and God brought him down.

And Belshazzar tried to ascend himself so high too, and the writing came and said: "You are weighed and your kingdom shall be found wanting. You are coming down, you and your whole kingdom; I give it to the Medes and the Persians!" Is that right?

That is why God burst up man's church; man, trying to make themselves all kinds of different things, lift up themselves, exalt themselves, make themselves so super important (brother), the man of the Hour, challenging people and everything else. And you watch and see; watch and see, friends. You watch this Bible here; Joseph descended; you descend first. You descend first.

Do you remember Uzziah? Brother, he was ascending so high, you thought he wasn't going to stop ascending. And He ascended so high and when he reached the limit of ascent, he felt in his heart: "I still want to go higher. I will be priest and king; I want to be lamb and lion." And he stepped in there. Do you know what happened?

They begged him: "It appertaineth not unto you. Brother, behave yourself. Brother, you can't get your head full up of nonsense." Do you get what I'm saying? That's right. Then what happened? Down he came; ended up in the leper's house. All the glory faded away; the man-made glory that man attached to him. No, friends, you descend first. You descend first.

Joseph, he felt he was something. He felt he was something.

Paul, A Prisoner Of Christ [1963-0717, paras. 166-168 -Ed.]; listen. He said: *Have we got another ten minutes there, to make [a point]?*

I'll real quickly get to another character: I see one before me now. His name is Joseph. He was an elected son.

He said, "I see one before me." He was preaching here under the little inspiration. Maybe a vision flashed; maybe he had it in his notes, who knows? He said, "But I see one: Joseph."

He said: *He was an elected son. He was a perfect type... [get this] of Jesus Christ. He was borned a prophet. He was a prophet, also. See? And now he could see vision. And when [he was] yet a little boy, he saw a vision of himself sitting on a throne, and his brothers bowing to him. ... He felt like he was a great guy. See? [And all the others]...*

But what did God have to do?

See? But watch. He felt like he was a great guy. See? [He said: And all the others]...

[And] *what did God have to do? He done the same thing that He did to the rest of them. Because, Moses was a deliverer...*

Do you remember Moses? We just had Moses. Moses came down into the pit. And when he came down into the pit and God started to raise him up out of the pit, he raised right up into the mountain, went up in the Cloud, the Supernatural Cloud; came back out with the Tent Vision to bring God's Presence right down among the people, (is that right?) and he came back out with the Glory of God shining through him, that the people couldn't even look upon. And God made Moses, God, to the people (is that right?) but he first descended down into the pit!

Are you trying to work in a way that is not God's provided way, my brother, my sister? Are you trying to work through the genius of man? Are you trying to work with your brains or are you submitting your heart to the Holy Spirit and the Word, and laying yourself open before God that He can wash your insides? You can lay down your head, you can lay down your feet, you can lay down your fat, you can lay down your inwards, and then God can consume all, and it comes up before Him in a holocaust: an Olah, a sweet-smelling savor. It

ascends up to God and God says, “Ummm. This is My beloved son in whom I’m well pleased; this is My beloved daughter in whom I’m well pleased.”

Look at Ruth left her nice, big place in Moab; family estate; nice, young girl down there, aristocratic family and everything else, and she left there to come and do what? Be a gleaner in the field. When she saw the Truth, she was willing to take the low place. She humbled herself and she was obedient, and she even begged: “Entreat me not to leave thee,” and she was coming down; (is that right?) coming down. And she went out like a beggar to pick up the leftovers, but then God said “Okay, it’s time. You’ve shown yourself.” Amen. “You’ve learnt your lesson. You’ve proven you could serve. You’ve proven you are not on self. You’ve proven you could be trusted. You’ve proven you have what it takes to receive power and to share My Kingdom.”

And then Boaz came into the field. And Boaz came into the field (is that right?) and she started to ascend. He said, “Throw the first handfuls.” He said, “Throw the first handfuls.” Then she went down to the threshing floor: six measures. Then he stood up by the gate. Is that right? Then he said, “This day, I take her for wife!” Glory! He started to raise her back up, high.

My brother, my sister, what do you think He is doing with you?

Look at Rebekah leaving all that family down there. This man came with this message. This man came with this ‘power prayer’, prayed that power prayer by the well, brother, the place got charged; the Angel dropped down. Because Abraham said, “That Angel will go with you.” Is that right? Oh, my! This little damsel came around that well, but brother, that well had an Anointing from that man’s prayer. That man just prayed... Every day, normally, she would have come without that Anointing, but that was the Evening Messenger, there was an Angel with him, and there was

a special Anointing after prayer. He was born with a gift to pray. Yes, sir!

He said, "You are born with a gift to pray, (is that right?) and be sincere when you pray." And he stood there and he prayed that prayer, like he prayed that mass prayer and thirty thousand (to show you the power of Eliezer's prayers) ...brother, thirty thousand blanketed natives broke their idols under a prayer. He challenged Jains, Buddhists, Hindus, everybody; Muslims, in India, in Bombay. One prayer and ten thousand Mohammedans came to Christ. Is that right? One prayer in Germany and sent that thing back, that storm back.

Eliezer stood by that well and started to pray, and the place got anointed, and he was praying, "And Lord, let it be the damsel," and he started to get specific in the prayer. "Let her come and ask me if I want a drink, and then let her say that she is going to..." and the prayer was traveling, going up in another octave, so definitive, so direct, so precise like a radar. And this girl came and walked under that Atmosphere of this prayer, and brother, she got drunk in the Spirit. She started to talk to the stranger she never met. She must have said, "Why am I talking to this man? Why am I trying to be so hospitable? I don't even know the man." But brother, it was Agapo Love moving this girl, giving her power for service (hallelujah!) – power for service! Something was happening. Glory! Oh, my.

She said, "Mammy and daddy, I love you all. Bro. Laban, I love you. I love my city. I love my family. And don't think I'm a fool; don't think that I'm making any wild decision here, but I'm following that Voice that led me all through my life. And something in my destiny tells me this is the time to leave here." Amen. "I think I'm linked up with the Supernatural here." She said, "I will go!" That's it. "I will go!"

And he said, "Here is the camel, ma'am."

And she sat on that camel and she fit the saddle.

He said, "Oh, my!"

Oh, brother, from the time that camel – she saw that camel bow down; she got on that camel, it fit her just right. That was the beast sent to pack her to the unseen bridegroom. A Word that She fits, a Power that She waters that is taking her into a Rapturing Grace.

Coming down, descending, Joseph had to descend, and he had to go down in the prison. We are getting him here now. He thought he was a great fellow, oh, having dreams and revelations and everything else, and preaching; oh boy, power!

God said, "Okay, time to go now." He says, "I'll make you descend a little bit." Take your daughter; take your books. Take it a second time. "Now, I'll start to bring everyone to hate you now and persecute you, let all kinds of things start to happen to you; bring you down now a little bit. Learn to be a prisoner. Get some self-crucifixion in your life now. Don't just want to run all over the place and preach and behave like these bunch of Pentecostals running wild in the Message on their ego trips. You were called for a different work. You will be separated for a different kind of service. You will not be like them. You will be a humble herdsman laughing like the sheep and talking like the sheep." Amen. That's right. Glory.

[Para. 169 –Ed.] *What did God have to do to him? Put him in prison, put him right straight to the prison. ...*

[Paras. 168-171 –Ed.] *... same thing that He did to the rest of them. Because, Moses was a deliverer, Paul was a deliverer, and now Joseph was a deliverer. He saved his people from the famine.*

... Yes, sir. [He remembered], he was sold by his [brothers], to an Egyptian. And they sold him to Potiphar. And Potiphar [gave] him a little bit of liberty, and, the first thing you know, [things went nice for a season, and then it got back bad again. See?] ... that was taken from him. And there he [set] in the prison, crying, crying. God had to strip it. [God had to strip it.]

He sat down there with all those prophetic visions in a prison and he couldn't preach it to anybody. He was among all kinds of evil nature who only wanted all kinds of things that jail could offer. Nobody was interested in sitting down to understand or even look into him. They said, "He is different, you know, but..." They were not staying long enough.

...God had to strip it.

Now notice. But, all the time, I believe, he, in that prison, he could remember that the vision said that he was going to sit on a throne, and his brothers was going to bow to him, because he knew that his gift [came] from God. And he knew that it had to come to pass.

If we could only keep that in our [minds, that] according to the Word of God, that in these last days He's going to have a Church, He's going to have a people. And these things that He promised, He's going to do them. He said He would, and we're living in the time. We're there. He's just trying to get us to be real prisoners now, locked in with Him.

All these things He promised for the last days, He'll do it! But He gave us the Message. They ran out with the Message and started to beat everybody; everybody is a Jezebel, everybody in denomination is going to the Devil! Nobody has love. Nobody has faith to believe for their brother. Nobody has virtue to give out what they have with meekness and to strengthen. Nobody has knowledge to know what is God's provided way, to have the right discernment, how to approach that; what Word to apply for that. No knowledge, no temperance, brother, they'll go after... who fell with women, who fell with money, who ran after popularity; all these things.

Patience to wait: in patience, possess your souls. The testing of your faith worketh patience. There is a testing time of your revelation. There is a time—the vision will speak at the appointed time, but until the time comes, the Word tries you. And the testing of your faith worketh patience, and patience, experience.

Now, watch. And godliness: “Learn of Me, I am meek and lowly” – humility; humility to be like God. God is not a big haughty up in the sky, self-praise, self-adoration, wants everybody pat you on the back. No, no. God is a humble Servant. He that wants to be the greatest must come and become the least and serve.

And brotherly kindness to put yourself in your brother's place. And Love: even though you know this and you know that and you know that, Love covers a multitude of sins. Love is not puffed up. Love doesn't vaunt itself. Knowledge puffeth up, but Love is not puffed up. Knowledge boasts itself, but Love humbles itself, thinks on the things of others, rejoices not in iniquity. Love rejoices in the Truth.

People are looking for power, friends. People are looking for things but they, knowing the God Who is the Potter and Who is forming the vessel and His objective and purpose, there is very little fellowship with that God. They could tell you what they heard on that tape. They could tell you what that man preached, what that person is not preaching, who has the revelation, who doesn't have the revelation. But what does God say? They have no fellowship with God. They are living in a religious realm of a lot of religious politicians, and people who want to establish their own person in the hearts of people, and set up their own little camps and their own man-made systems – Nicolationism. See?

But God – where are the people who are talking to God and God is talking to them, and God is teaching them His ways, and when they go out, they are reflecting this God; and the Presence of that God is coming close among the people, and the people are falling in love with that God Who is their Saviour and Who shed His Blood for them; and that God is coming into their hearts because now they are yielding and opening up their hearts when they see how lovely it is to be in the Presence of that God? They want to serve that God and they want that God to live inside of them,

not come and join our group, and come here and so... Nonsense!

Now, watch. [Paras. 169-173 -Ed.] ... *he [set] in that prison, crying, crying. God had to strip it.*

But he could remember that; he could remember his gift came from God.

If we could only keep that in our mind, and according to the Word of God, that in these last days He's going to have a Church, He's going to have a people. [See?] He said ... and we're living in [that] time. [God is going to do these things, friends. But] He's just trying to get us to be real prisoners now, locked in with Him.

[Did you know the] *old song [we used to] sing, "And then I'm a shut-in with God"? I want to be shut in with God. Now, it's where I thought about this. Being shut in with God, nothing else...*

That is where he thought about this message: being shut in with God in a secret Place between the Gentile Prophet and Jewish prophets; shut in with God in a secret Place, where Revelation 10:1 comes down and the Spirit and the Bride come into union; invisible union where She becomes the final Voice and thou must prophesy again.

... he was thinking. He also [though] became a total failure, to himself. All that he knew, all that he understood, and everything, he became a total failure. It didn't work.

He knew all kinds of things but he was in prison, shut up.

... became a total failure, [even] to himself. ... he become a total failure. It didn't work. He was put under a situation to where that nobody would listen to him. [And] He was a prisoner.

Did you ever want to try to tell everybody your revelation and they did not listen to you? Sometimes you are talking the deepest of Things that mean so much to you, and then somebody tells them about some soft drink, or somebody cracks a joke and they take off

and they go off on that and they forget. And you stand up, right there, saying, "Wait, what is happening here?" And then you are watching them and about minutes pass, and they forget they were listening to what you were saying. God does that. God does that. That's right.

He was put into a situation, that unbelievers would not believe. Do you see what I mean? His ministry was of none effect. The people turned their [heads]. They wouldn't pay no attention to him in prison. What good would his ministry do? He might stand [through] the prison bars and preach to them; they'd walk on down the street. See? But he became a prisoner. And God kept him, a prisoner, until the wheel got rolled up right.

God held him there and kept him a prisoner, kept him in a non-effect place.

The Prophet with this great Ministry; forty in the desert because when he went in the big meetings, they couldn't take any doctrine. They couldn't take the long preaching; they wanted half-an-hour; they wanted to pick up the offering.

Here are the five offices and the nine gifts, here is the Messiahic sign, all these things back here in one man, bottled up. Here is the Mystery of the Seven Seals, Seven Thunders, Capstone revelation, and all the great Pentecostals only wanted to roll on the floor and dance. They said, "Don't preach those things here; you are ruining your Ministry. Teach those women to get gifts and so on. You are only talking about dressing and the condition of the women and you are blasting. No, we can't take that." And they started to disfellowship him.

And that was when he was preaching this, after all man had forsaken him – of no effect – and he was walking around there with such a great Ministry, seeing visions, hundreds of thousands of visions. The Angel of the Lord was here and they wanted to listen to a woman preacher. They were more interested in listening to a woman preacher, trying to teach her theology in tight, tight, tight pants with her underclothes showing, trying

to speak in tongues and nobody understood what she was saying, and they were packing stadiums with that. And he stood up there with forty in a house, in a trailer house.

Isn't God strange? God is strange. But isn't that the same God Who came down in the manure pile? Isn't that the same God Who sent down a man in the mud pit? That is not nice history for us to read and feel exempted from it, you know. The time comes, once you are a part of This, He will put you in it. And in your little world and your little environment, where you are a little Joseph with the Word in you, you will start to feel your word and your testimony, and all these things become of no effect.

Afterwards, they laugh at you. They could make a joke of you all in the office; all in the job. They could ridicule you. When you come in, they have a special name for you 'preacher' or all kinds of different things; 'self-righteous' and all kinds of things they want to tell you. And you are going through that, but that is where many break and get discouraged because they don't understand because they are not into the Life and the Mystery. They think 'the Life' means come to church, dress up nice, listen, go through the church program, and they are getting ready to go to the Rapture with that.

They don't realize: No. 'The Life' is the walk with Him; the path He ordained for you in your walk with Him in life's journey; the road He mapped out for you. He chose a time for you to be born; He chose a time for you to die. He mapped out the plan of your life and the route that you will take and the way He will reveal Himself to you.

Watch, quickly; Paul.

[Para. 174 -Ed.] *Finally, God came to him in his prison. Like Paul, [Joseph, just like Paul] He came to him. And He used the gift that He had give him, to get him out of there. ... He brought him from the prison. What did he do? [Get it now.] As soon as He [was] brought...*

We are coming to his exaltation. God put him down there first.

He thought with all those visions and seeing these things: 'Super Race and Super Church in the last days', and 'when the Third Pull comes', and 'we would speak the Word just now'—sometimes, they sat down there and they calculated: "Seventy-three and three and a half are seventy-seven, and the Prophet said '77, so the Rapture is going to take place, so between here and there, we are supposed to have the Spoken Word." And so, they started to get ready.

Then they wanted to kind of manifest that. And somebody spoke a rat out of existence in a church and went crazy. Then somebody tried to speak a cockroach in a church there and said that was the Spoken Word. You know, it was flying and it dropped, and threw a whole church into chaos.

Then some had the ministry to gather the Bride all over the island and started to prophesy; ended up in politics and all kinds of different things. Do you understand what I'm saying? Crazy; spiritual insanity in the Message. Then some had a special man that you had to get it from, and if you did not get it from that man, you are not in the Bride. Then the poor man wants somebody to help him where he is right now too. See?

This is the thing. Why? They tried to ascend without first descending. They took the route Lucifer took: "I will ascend. I will be great. I'll be just like God. I'll have the kingdom. I'll have the glory. I'll have the power. I'll have the music. I'll have the place charged."

He said, "Thou shall be brought down to Hell, to the sides of the pit!"

Joseph there (boy!); he was with all these things walking around the house there, and then the time came and God said, "No, no, no, no; pit for you."

Pit follows vision, prophetic vision, then blessing for a season, and you rise up, and you come into position. And you start to talk about, "I'm the steward and I'm in

charge of all Potiphar's substance, and I start to see myself in so many different ways in this."

And then God said, "You think it's done there?" He said, "Prison now for you."

Before you know it, prison! And inside of there now, you say, "Oh, God, what is going on here?" Then now you have all this pressure on your mind, and false charges, and everybody is seeing you. And they come and they say, "Oh, you are the raper-man. You are the young fellow who went after the man's wife? You...you, isn't that so? You are the smart child, right? Come here, I will teach you something; come, come, come. Come, let us take this fellow across here. Come, bring him. You all are Hebrews who come down here; want to mess with the Egyptian woman? That is what you all like?" See?

It doesn't happen so, friends. But did that change who he was? Did that change God's plan for him? [Congregation responds, "No!" -Ed.] What was God doing? Teaching the one who was ordained for the thing His way; bringing him in condition. And that involved: bad name, people seeing you the wrong way, people persecuting you, your ministry becoming of no effect. You are trying to defend yourself and explain and explain and explain in the jail; you didn't touch the woman and so and so and so, and this and that, and you are trying to get somebody on your side and to give you a little support.

And somebody is saying, "He could talk. He could talk, but his tongue is too smooth." He says, "Boy, I don't accept what that fellow is saying, you know. He explained a good thing; I'm feeling sorry for him; he really touched my heart, you know. But no, boy, that fellow, you see that kind of nice 'dudy' way, he is there?" Because the Bible says he was comely, he was attractive; he was goodly to look at. [Genesis 39:6 -Ed.]

Brother, you see, you all sit down, and say "Joseph..." – when you just watch the types and say, "Joseph, a type of Christ, and Joseph so and so, and the fourteen-year prophecy, and Joseph this and Joseph that." It

looks kind of sweet, right? Then everybody gets caught up in that and nobody is seeing the chain, the prison, the slap, the humiliation, the degradation, the victimization, but that is God's way: you have to first, descend – they, that humble themselves.

When God is breaking and stripping, you have to humble yourself under the mighty hand of God and He shall exalt thee in due time. It wasn't in due time when he was trying to tell the butler to tell Pharaoh. That wasn't due time. God said, "That is not due time. Due time – time will be due... You still have two years in here, then time will be due."

You must descend. How many are willing to descend? How many are willing to let go and say, "God, I want to descend. I realize it is not by might; I must first descend, then I can lead captivity captive."

Jesus descended (is that right?) and then what did He do? He raised up the Old Testament saints. He raised up the Old Testament saints. He came so low first until the lowest man in the lowest city, the shortest man was looking down at Him.

Are we to raise the sleeping saints – by and through the members of the Bride? When I say, "Are we to raise them?" you know what I mean. When Jesus comes for Perfection, it brings the Resurrection. The Power will draw the sleeping ones. They are waiting until we come to be made perfect first. And when that takes place, then the next part comes.

Then watch. If that is to happen, friends, then how do we know there is a low part; to get low? And that's why many feel disappointed because they haven't seen the kind of manifestation they wanted to see. Because they don't know: no, you have to first descend. God has to strip you to get it right.

But in-between there, he was causing Potiphar's house to prosper. He was revealing things to his brothers and them; he was revealing things to the butler and the baker, but he had not ascended yet. So it is not

like you don't have anything. You have: 'and the Lord was with him in Potiphar's house', 'and the Lord was with him in the prison house'. God is with you. Sure! And things are happening in your life, and you have testimonies. But the prison part was over when that hour came.

[Paras. 174-175 -Ed.] ... [And] As soon as He [was] brought ... from his prison, he was given power by the king, his king, that he set on the side of ... he was under. He was brought from the prison house and given power, to, whatever he said, had to happen. ...

In his prison, he constantly remembered, he was born for a purpose. [...to that. He was born] to sit by a king. [And] All the rest of them was going to bow a knee to him. His vision told him so. [And] before his vision could be completely fulfilled, [completely fulfilled,] he had to become a prisoner. ... then he become a ruler. And when he come from his prison house, and become a prisoner [to] the Word of God, that he could only say what God put in his mouth to say, then God moved through him.

Because all the other things were little, small prophecies that led up to the real big one that's going to save the world. Paul...

[Paras. 176-181 -Ed.] ... Oh, I just got about three more minutes... [he said].

He said: ... he become a prisoner ... from a prisoner [of] the world. From...Paul, the same way. And Moses, the same way, from a prisoner to his own thinking, to a prisoner to God. ... When the own thinking of Moses, he ... surrendered it, [he was] stripped of it, he become a prisoner to Christ's Word. [He] Could only move...

"He esteemed the reproach of Christ greater [riches] than [the treasures]." So he was a prisoner to Christ, ... like Paul was.

Remember, all three of them [Moses, Joseph, Paul; all three of them] were prophets. ... they had to be stripped of their own thinking, in order to become a prisoner to the will and the ways of God.

[And you] *remember, now, that he had power to bind, at his own word. He had power to loose, at his own word. ... "I loose you, in the name of my king." ... Pharaoh made Joseph his son.*

Catch this. I want to strike something in another part of the Scripture to close with, but I want you to catch the thought here.

... Pharaoh made Joseph his son.

Christ makes His, prisoners of love, His sons. And He gives them power, the same thing He had. ... John 14:12, "He that believeth [in] Me," see, "the works that I do shall he do also. Even more than this shall he do." Now the prisoner of the love of Christ becomes empowered by his King, Who is Christ. Amen. "And verily I say unto you, if you say to this mountain, 'Be moved,' [Do you see the power He is talking about?] and don't doubt in your heart, but believe that what you've said will come to pass, you'll have what you said. If ye abide in Me, and My Word [abide] in you ... because Him and His word is the same.

How did that open to him? He was rejected; everything came right down, down to the lowest, all man forsook him; rejected. The shuck that supported the husk—the seed rather, for a season pulled back and let it out. All man forsook him. The seed left the shuck. The church rejected Him as Son of God, so He could be revealed as Son of Man between Son of God and Son of David.

Watch. Watch what happens, friends.

[Paras. 182-183 -Ed.] *Notice, before he come out, he had to be taken out and shaved. A few things had to be shaved off before he could meet his king. ...*

Oh, God...

You say, "Well, I've come out of my prison."

Maybe you are being shaved now – the razor. Have you ever seen a man sharpen a razor; those old-time barbers? When he is sharpening that razor so, he sharpens it and he does so [test to see how sharp it is -Ed.] and it

still doesn't do what he wants it to do, and he sharpens it again. Who do you think he is going to use that on? The man in the chair, you know. Whew! The man's in that chair there and this thing is sharp and it's coming here; sharp. Then they hold here like that and stretch the skin (Mister!); shaving it. Things you can't normally see, he stretches that skin and pulls it back, he passes it there and he shaves down this way and shaves it clean. You pass your hand on both sides, it is shaved clean.

Do you know what is happening? He is getting him ready to meet his King. What is He shaving off? Your little 'I will's'; "I will do this, and I will do that, and I will... I will ascend and I will be like God, and I will be like the Most High, and I will be" not "God will," you know, "I will, I will, I will." Shave it off.

Oh, God sometimes takes His people out like that, and shaves a few of their own wills off, [He] shows them that they can't do just what they wanted to do. You know what I mean. [They are] not [at] liberty to do what they want to do. Before they [can] come into full power and be a love-slave to Christ, they have to be shaved off and then presented. [Shaved and then presented; prisoner first, shaved and then presented.] Sometimes He takes them to the [deserts], to do that, to shave them off. And then bring them out, the anointed [ones], to fulfill the purpose that He's ordained for them to be. See what I mean?

He said: [Brothers], *we're at the end time.*

He was seeing these Josephs – the Church in the last days. Oh, how God is stripping them and they are not understanding. And God makes their lives as if it is of no effect, and they are in confinement in prison; they have no rights. They tell you when to get up, they tell you when to sleep, they tell you when to eat, they tell you when to exercise. You can't say, "Well, I feel to do this today." No. The chains are upon you, and they pass every time and they check to see if you are in your cell

and they rattle that chain. When it's time to wake up; you get up. You are dreaming; they don't care. They rattle that chain, beat those bars, and you jump out of your sleep. They throw water on you, "Time to get up," and you get out. Why? Your rights are gone, you are in confinement; your privileges are taken away.

You go in there with your nice, special cut and your long sideburns and your little, thin, pencil beard, and you have your nice cologne and you spray it up, and your special mirror that you want to see the back of your head and the side of your head; they take all of that away from you in prison. And all the little dainty things you like and you want to wear your special shoe that matches with certain pants, they take away all those clothes and they give you prison clothes with a number on them. And they give you a prison identity, you have no more civilian identity. It's a prison; this is another world inside of here.

That is what God does...that is what God does. That is the mystery of Joseph, this End-time prophecy, this Seventh Seal Mystery where this Perfection, this Church He is going to come for, this Rainbow one, the Covenanted one is going to come up in the last days. That is the condition, that is the environment, that is the way it is laid out; it is marked out to bring Them into Power.

Then when God sent the Prophet who was that spiritual Joseph on a personal, individual level here at the end of the Age, he came, and what happened? He started to live the Mystery out, and then It led him back to the Bible to open It and show us how we will come into Power that the promises might be fulfilled in this Hour. Amen?

Oh, my! You have got to give me a couple more minutes. Whew! I want to get 2nd Samuel 9, quickly. I want to close with this. I'm going to close with this.

Gosh! I just got in about one-third, but aren't you enjoying this series on Joseph? I tell you, it is Joseph

from a different view. We are really looking into his heart and seeing our own heart, seeing our own self. We looked into God dealing with him and seeing our own.

Oh, my! This Book of Genesis, I tell you. It started with Genesis 1: The Spirit of God moved, "Let there be light." That was Revelation 10 right there – God spoke, called for a Ministry of Light to come into manifestation, loosed that attribute that was bound in darkness, transformed it into an Eden until there was an image of a man reflecting God that God was in union with. It ends with, what? Joseph. Adam, Eve and Eden – Joseph and his bride, in the land where Joseph had dominion with his brothers; same thing. That's the Seventh Trumpet; that's the Seventh Seal. Genesis, so beautiful; seven feasts in the life of Joseph, all these Things.

Okay, quickly. You want to be humble.

Do you remember Solomon in the Bible? After David died, he said, "Lord, I'm a child, I'm a child. Look at this great people, how could I lead this people?" Adonijah was trying to take the throne, Absalom was trying to take the throne; they all wanted the power. When Solomon came in, he said, "Oh God, I'm a child. Who could rule such a great people like these people? Lord, you have to help me, for my father's sake. Give me wisdom, give me understanding, Lord; I want to lead your people right. This is such a great responsibility."

God said, "Because you didn't ask for money and riches and all these things, I give you all of that. I give you honor and glory like no other king had." And a man with one gift of wisdom led them into a Golden Age, (is that right?) greatest Age in all of Israel. Do you see how those things are, friends?

Ruth and Rahab – look at Rahab, a little, old girl down there, descended so deep into harlotry and whoredom and these things, but look where God came down and took her out, and raised her up to be (what?) great-grandmother of Jesus Christ. My! Little Esther, look where He raised her up from.

But all those who wanted to ascend, God abased them: Korah, Uzziah. Herod, worms ate him. He tried to vex the Church. Is that right?

People said, "Wow, he is a god!"

God said, "They've said enough; you've exalted yourself too much." He smote him. The Bible says worms ate him.

Miriam, one or two little prophecies, and she thought she was so great. See? And brother, look what happened: God abased her; leprosy in her mouth, on the face, and everything else.

Look at those who tried to ascend; those who by pride tried to ascend without descending. Korah, look where he ended up.

Look at that woman Jezebel. She came up there; took over the country. Oh, her word is all... "I'll deal with him, I'll fix him." Whew! God ended up feeding her to the dogs; she became dog meat. The horses trampled upon her. They picked up the bone and the skull in the end. She used to walk around with her big self there.

Strong is the Lord that judgeth her, friends. In her was found the blood of the saints and the martyrs of Jesus Christ. She might rule over kings of the world and merchants in this Hour, but the time has come because Elijah has already put that curse: a bomb on the Vatican, Revelation 18. You know that too; Old Testament and New Testament.

But, you know, there were some who had to descend so that they might be ascended again. Do you remember the prodigal son in the Bible? Left the father's house and look where he ended up, among the pigs and the swine. He descended so low, down in the filth. He refused to be under the authority of his father. He became under the authority of the swine feeder who had him mixing and mingling with swine, down in there in filth.

Sometimes you don't want to be in subjection to God, you don't want the Word of God to rule your life; God

will teach you differently, friends. That is why these things are put in the Bible for example. We must first descend, that we might ascend.

Nebuchadnezzar had to descend, and God said, "It's seven years you are going to stay there and eat grass like an ox, then I will bring you back to the throne."

Manasseh, God let him rot in a prison; tried to put all kinds of idolatry in the church and everything else. And then when he was rotting down in that prison there, then God had mercy as he began to cry and repent and beg and plead with God (Manasseh, that was the son of Hezekiah), and then brought him back on his throne.

Sometimes, God teaches man what it is to descend. He that wants to be the greatest, let him become a servant and serve; let him become the least. Think on the things of others. Prefer one another; have a meek and lowly spirit in all humility. And this 2nd Kings 9 [2nd Samuel 9 -Ed.] opens up something here which I'll close with.

¹ And David said...

This was after Saul's house had already been destroyed; David had become king now. Abner, and all the folly, trying to play the politics to try for David not to come to the throne and keep the house divided. And then they had the long wars. And Saul, who had one of the greatest houses in all of Israel, his father was a great man, he was a son of Kish; all of that thing was so destroyed. All the great princes, all the great Saul, Jonathan, everybody had already died and everything else and here it came down to such a place. All the politics they tried to play: Ishbosheth rose up there, you know, and came to the throne afterwards (one of Saul's sons), and even tried to bring more problems upon David. But then in the end, God brought David to the place that he was elected and called and anointed for.

2nd Samuel 9:

¹ And David said, Is there yet any that is left [in] the house of Saul...

What is he thinking about here? Here he is now, he is getting ready to do some kindness. He said:

... Is there yet any that is left [in] the house of Saul...

So much had died, the house had broken and stripped right down that he wondered if there were any more of Saul's children. Where was that great big church that used to fight and persecute David? Where was that great thing that used to pelt the javelin and had the soldiers hunting him down all in the wilderness, and everything else? It had gone. He said:

... Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I might shew [them] kindness for Jonathan's sake?

² And there was of the house of Saul a servant whose name was Ziba. And when they had called him unto David, the king said unto him, Art thou Ziba? And he said, Thy servant is he.

Imagine one of Saul's men in David's presence here now. He said, "Are you, Ziba – you?"

He said, "Thy servant is he."

³ And the king said, Is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I might shew the kindness of God unto him?

Look at David, full of brotherly kindness. Look at David here anointed. Look at David here; the beloved, God's chosen. Look at him just like Joseph; from the sheepcote, he had come to the throne; like Joseph how he had come, himself. David had to descend; he was rejected. They had him down in the low things. Down there, he first descended in the sheepcote, then he went out there as Saul's armor-bearer, still low; playing as a minstrel to cast off little demons off of Saul to soothe the king, but God had a great place for him, friends. When Samuel called him that day when they wouldn't even invite him to the feast; when Samuel called him, Samuel anointed him and now he was king.

Now, he was placed with all authority in the kingdom, and instead of looking for revenge like Abimelech, Gideon's son, in Judges 9—do you know the story? Abimelech, after Gideon died, usurped the leadership over the father's house, and then he killed seventy of his brothers; established himself. That was how he came into power; killed them out. This one, he killed them, assassinated their character; assassinated this one, assassinated that one. Brother, with that kind of tongue he had there, he slew everyone on a certain stone, the Bible said – spiritually I'm talking about. And then, he set up himself like the big man.

But watch. It's the same kind of spirit that Athaliah had when Jehoram died, and she took over and killed out all the king's seed so she could control afterwards all the royal seed. And the same way he killed out those seventy sons, there was one God spared and the same way Athaliah killed, there was one God spared.

David came into power now, but he was not looking to kill his enemies; he was looking to offer kindness. Did you catch something? Do you see when you first learn to descend, friends? Do you see when you are not looking to grab power? Remember when Abishai said, "Let me cut that dog's head off"?

He said, "You put back your sword. Touch not God's anointed!" He pulled up Abner, "Abner, is that how you are guarding God's king?" The man who was sleeping there to get up in the morning to come and hunt him down to kill him; he was upholding and pulling up the king's guard, you know. In other words, he was saying he was sparing the man's life so the man would get another chance to kill him in the morning. He was trying to tell the man, "Guard Israel's king better than that." If you are a deacon, hold your post correctly!

Oh, my! Brother, what kind of man was this man? He was a man after God's Own heart, friends. He was not a man there for fame and popularity and those things. No, he was a servant first. He learned to serve Saul, the

same man whom he was serving (like Elisha poured water upon the hands of Elijah), David carried around Saul's armor.

You see, people like people to walk around, but the time comes when you serve; when you humble yourself. God raised up Elisha and gave him Elijah's robe. Is that right? God raised up David and gave him the throne Saul had. Is that right? Joshua was around Moses (is that right?), then God raised up Joshua and put him in Moses' stead. That's God's way, friends. That's God's way but you have to be humble and serve. But there are people, who sit down there and they want that, and they try to ascend without descending.

Oh, I feel this is a good message this morning. I feel this is a Word in a place. I feel this is the one needed to follow Love, Faith, Fellowship, and Thanksgiving – Humility. If this church has love and faith, if this church has forgiveness, and if this church has thanksgiving, and if this church has humility—what am I trying to teach you; that that other church is false and this church is right? What am I trying to teach you inside of here? Are you listening to what I teach inside of here? Do you see where I'm trying to point you to walk with God? That's right, friends.

Sometimes people sit down here and that Word would go forth like that, and other people would come and destabilize their faith and manipulate their minds. And they can't see; look at the purity, look at how unadulterated; look at the motive and objective behind the Word, to bring the people to Jesus Christ and into a union with Him. That's right.

³ And the king said, Is there ... any of the house of Saul, that I may shew the kindness of God unto him? And Ziba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, which is lame on his feet.

David didn't know that this boy was still alive. Remember, David and Jonathan were friends because,

in 1st Samuel 20, David had made a covenant with Jonathan. Jonathan made David swear and take an oath and they established a covenant. He said, "You are coming into power, you know. My father is trying to kill you right now and I know my father is wrong." He said, "But the thing is you are going to come into power because we believe what Samuel said. He is the prophet of God. And we see the anointing on you and you are the man who delivered Israel, and all of Israel's heart is to follow you. But these men, Abner and Saul and they are not letting them follow you. (See?) All man want control and political power among the people."

So watch. So there now, David, he did not know that but God had established a covenant between David and Jonathan. And Jonathan said, "When you come into power, and God is using you to cut off everything, and set His kingdom straight (he said), you spare my seed, my house, please. Don't exterminate them." And he said, "Swear to me."

You will find that in 1st Samuel 20 if you want to follow the continuity of that. So that is where now... This is years after; long after Jonathan had died.

⁴ And the king said unto him, Where is he? And Ziba said unto the king, Behold, he is in the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lo-debar.

It means: *with no pastures; without pastures*. Where was he? In Lo-debar; crippled, down in Lo-debar.

⁵ Then king David sent...

Do you hear how it was written here now? All the time... It changed from David to King David because now the Scripture is unfolding a mystery here to you.

⁵ Then king David sent, and fetched him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lo-debar.

Why is he taking him out of there? He has a plan for this boy's life.

⁶ Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence.

The boy, crippled in both feet, and yet when he came in the presence of the king, who sent for him and who called him out of Lo-debar where he was – while his father's house and his grandfather's house had come down to almost nothing and extinct; here he, one of the last remnants of that house – he comes now into the presence of the king and he falls on his face and does reverence.

... And David said, Mephibosheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant!

Because in 2nd Samuel, Chapter 4, verse 4 tells you how he got lame; his nurse was running and fleeing with him and he fell out of her hand and became lame. Because Mephibosheth means 'extermination of the idols'. What a great thing!

⁷ And David said unto him, Fear not...

Because he could see the boy was shaking: "Would he judge me? Did he call me to judge me? I stand before the king, the one God's anointed; the one my father was a friend of, but my grandfather hated this man."

This boy was a prince; his father was a prince; his grandfather was a king. This boy was from a royal house. Now, the kingdom of his father—grandfather had come to naught. And here was God's true anointed standing there, and he was trembling.

⁷ And David said ... Fear not: for I will surely show thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

Oh my! Are you seeing something there? Could you see the Mystery of Christ? If you read the Scriptures and do not see Jesus Christ in It, go back and read It. David was Christ, friends. Here we were, brother, the whole

house of the human race, fallen, rejected, cursed by God, brother, in sickness and death, laying there.

Here is the king, the beloved, and he is coming now in his kingdom. But look at him, he is looking now, he is remembering his covenant. He is remembering there could be some seed there. And when he finds out that Jonathan, the one he had a covenant with, had a son there and that son was still alive, and that son, brother, was laying out there—Saul's inheritance was gone, had been forfeited because he said, "I will restore you, Saul's inheritance."—this man was living in the house of Machir. He was like somebody putting him up and feeding him and clothing him because he had no family to do it for him.

The servant who used to take care of Saul's land came and said, "Yes, he has a son, you know, one son remained, Mephibosheth. He is down in that house with that man, Machir, son of Ammiel. He is in that house there."

He said, "What! I made a covenant with Jonathan who loved me beyond the love of women, and loved me as his own soul," (the Bible said). He said, "I swear to him, I wouldn't cut off his seed." He said, "And here now, I am in my kingdom; I have to bring him and change his position."

Friends, that is what the sinner was. That is what we were outside the economy of God, outside Jerusalem; outside the City of the King. Where the king is in all his glory, sitting in Jerusalem in the midst of his people; the anointed king, the one from Judah, the one who was born in Bethlehem, the one who they tried to persecute and reject who came so low down in the cave of Adullam, though he was the anointed king; the one who used to play mad and crazy sometimes, even among the Philistines and everybody else because of Saul hunting him down, his own church people, his own church brothers hunting him down day and night, but because of the mighty men who were around him, anointed with

his desire who understood something; brother, they came through those troublesome, perilous times.

But now, the Word, the anointed Word is coming into power, and instead of him looking for revenge, he was looking to display kindness and love and mercy. Hallelujah! And he remembered his covenant and he said, "Go and get him." And this boy is coming in now, out of nothing, under this new ministry of this anointed one. Brother, he is coming to get full restoration of all inheritance. He's coming in to eat at the king's table to have communion with the king. He is coming out of the house where somebody was putting him up and he was getting a little lodging, and they had to bear with him down there. And now he is coming to become, as one of the king's own sons.

After Joseph came out of prison, he was made Pharaoh's son. He said, after we prisoners become prisoners of Christ, we become His sons. [1963-0717 A Prisoner -Ed.]

Now, watch this here.

⁷ And David said... [verse 7. Let the musicians come for me.] ...for I will surely show thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shall eat bread at my table continually.

Oh my! The best of the wheat in all Bethlehem, the best of the water, the best of the wine.

⁸ And he bowed himself, and said, What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?

The man fell on his face, revered the king. He said, "I am a dead dog. My father's house and my grandfather's house are under wrath, judgment; the sword. The great house and all the great estate are gone, all the inheritance forfeited. We are in poverty. I am taking lodging down there; I, who came from a kingly, royal house."

When Adam threw the whole kingdom into chaos—we should have come from a Royal House. We were born here and we are subjected to sickness and we are crippled up, and everything else. Is that right? Oh my! And brother, here we have no continuing city; we were going from pillar to post. Amen.

But then one day, the beloved, the king himself, the one that was born in Bethlehem, the anointed one, God's chosen, the one after God's own heart, after he executed his righteous sentence, after the sword went forth to clean up the land of all those who tried to win a lot of popularity, who compromised, who refused to kill everything, who tried to fight the true Word, look at him, he was going out there now, in kindness.

He sought for him and he found him. The king sought for him and found him. Then the king separated him from 'no pastures' (Lo-debar), and brought him into Jerusalem into the city of the great king;—Heavenly Jerusalem, Mt. Zion, City of the Living God, where the Glory and the Presence of the great King are here, in the City; the City that is built foursquare, spirits of just men made perfect; innumerable company of saints where the Voice of the Blood speaketh better Things, where there is worship and praise, where there are psalms and spiritual songs written by the inspiration of David. Oh my! Thank You, Jesus!—and he was brought into Jerusalem, and then he was brought into the very presence of the king, and he was brought to the very table, the place of fellowship, the place of communion with the king.

This, friends, is what grace is. God giveth grace to the humble. This is the action. This is the operation of grace towards the alienated, towards the lost sinner this morning. You might be drifting through life crippled up; you can't walk properly, can't stand on the promises of God, can't walk straight, but you can have humility in your heart.

The Syrophenician woman said, "I am a dog. I am willing to even eat the crumbs that fall from the master's table. Yea, Lord." She said, "Yea, Lord, I am willing to even eat the crumbs." And anger and resentment wanted to rise, and she said, "Anger, you get out of my life. Resentment, you are conquered. Anger, you are conquered. I put you under my feet. Yea, Lord. Humility, come forth. Humility, reverence, come forth." He came as a dead dog, she said, "I am a dog, too."

He said, "For this saying..."

What do you say? "I am not going back to that church; the way he talked to me." What do you say? What do you say?

He, Who first descended; He, Who cometh down from His Glory; what condescension! *'What condescension in the dark of night, when there was not one faint hope in sight. O glorious Mystery, the Sacrifice of Calvary... Stooping to woo, to win, to save my soul. And, O how I love Him, and oh, how I adore Him. My breath, my sunshine, my all in all. The great Redeemer became my Saviour; this great Creator! And now I know Thou wert the great I AM'.*

Mephibosheth humbled himself in the presence of the king, and he called himself a dead dog, and the king said, "Restoration of all your inheritance." The king said, "Continual communion for you at my table feeding on this seven-course menu, and this royal wine in my royal cup, and you will dwell in Jerusalem. Lo-debar is not the place for you."

*... As for Me-phibo-sheth, said the king,
he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's
sons.*

And verse 13 says:

*¹³ So Me-phibo-sheth dwelt in Jerusalem:
for he did eat continually at the king's
table...*

Think of it, friends: the king's presence, in the king's city, and feasting at the king's table to have communion

with the king, as one of the king's sons. A man who was with no pasture; he was led into green pastures. He was brought into the presence of the great shepherd who had laid down his life for the sheep, the shepherd who had become king, to sit at his table and to feast with the sweet psalms that the king had written, and the music played on the harp that the king had made. And there in the presence of the king in Jerusalem, in the city of peace, Jerusalem; in the city of truth, in Jerusalem; there he was in the City of the Great King. Is that what happened to us?

We were out in the wilderness, out in the deserts out there; out in those dry, parched places, in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water, but He sent for us and He found us, and He fetched us and He took us out. And He didn't give us a better house than we were in, no. He brought us into His Presence, into His City, to be at His Table to feast with Him as one of His own sons because He remembered His Covenant and He wanted to show to us the kindness of God.

Look where he ascended to. He rose up from that floor saying, "I am a dog. I am a dead dog"; came in fear, "Is he going to kill me? What is going to happen here? My father's house is gone. We are poor. We have nothing again. We can hardly stand. I am hiding out in this house down there by this man who is giving me a little lodging." No, friends, that's grace.

Moses humbled himself and was exalted. David humbled himself and was exalted to the throne. Joseph humbled himself and from the prison house was exalted to be governor of all the land of Egypt. Mephibosheth humbled himself and was raised up to such a great place. God took a Prophet with a seventh-grade education; he humbled himself. He did not try to put on anything. He did not try to go and make a name for himself. He did not try to go out there and fight everybody. He tried to present Jesus Christ, and God

was pleased with him and God loved him. And everything that tried to rise up against him, God cut off.

That's the story, friends, all through the Bible. Man, in the Word-image in Eden having dominion; then man, born by sex in a sinful nature, shut up in the prison of sin and sickness and death, a nature of wrath, but then God came down, delivered man from that prison by a New Birth and raised him up into Heavenly Places in Christ; placed him positionally with all power and authority. Look at the Church where it was; Perfect Love. No fear, no sin could stand among them, nothing; all things in common.

Then at Nicea Rome, it began to fall; went deep down in the Dark Ages, but it began to ascend in Luther in the horse and buggy [Age -Ed.]; in Wesley in the motorcar [Age -Ed.]; in the Pentecostals, in the aeroplane [Age -Ed.]. What was happening? It began to ascend. And then under this Last-day Message, the Astronaut Age, it began to ascend with a Rapturing Faith with a power to lift the Church off the earth, friends.

But God is exalting the Bride in this Hour. This is the Hour of Her exaltation. This is the Age of the Restoration. This is the Message that takes us back to the Faith Civilization. This is the breaking of the New Day, the Shalom in the conjunction. This is that Time, friends. So, what is happening in our lives, 'think it not strange'. It is so beautiful; He is stripping everything away.

You must descend, first. Don't try to ascend. You see what happened to Korah. You see what happened to Uzziah. You see what happened to Lucifer. You see what happened to Absalom. All through the Bible, look and see those who tried to ascend. Look at Paul tried to ascend with political power; God slapped him off the horse and brought him down to the dust, blind. And then out in the desert of Arabia, God began to raise him back up, and he was caught up into the Third Heaven and saw Things not even lawful to speak. Is that right?

When they rejected that Prophet in this Day, while they put him down and humiliated him and everything else, he humbled himself and took the form of a servant, and would still say, "My precious brother." And he said, "You draw the circle and put me out, I will draw a bigger circle and bring you back in." And stood between the Oneness and the Threeness, and they tried to say, "Make a denomination, make yourself something."

"No," he said, "I brought my Fruit to the Cross," pointing people to Jesus Christ. He said, "Tony, it's only one thing I know: to point them to those Bloody Footprints, that is going to take them over into that Other Land."

Can you feel what I am feeling this morning? Have you fellowshiped? Have you drunk deep from this Cup this morning? To descend – He who first descended that he might ascend. Some of you in your ascent—they that wait upon the Lord, they shall mount up with wings of an Eagle. Is that right?

Elijah went down so low, running from Jezebel and everything else; nervous and neurotic. But then God met him, gave him cake and water, fed him; new commission, and then raised him up into Glory straight off the very earth. That's our God, friends. That's the God of this Bible.

I want to serve Him with all my heart. I believe we saw God unveiled to us out of the Scriptures, out of the pages. We saw what He intended for our lives to be. We saw the great example He gave us; the greatest example of humility was our Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us stand on our feet and sing *Down From His Glory*. He came down, went right down to the very pits of hell, opened the prison doors, and led captivity captive. In this dark Age, He has come down again; after another two thousand years, He's come down again.

In Noah's Day, He came down, picked up that humble farmer, raised him up above the flood and over into the new world; rested him on Mount Ararat. When he came

out, he saw the whole new world, and he went forth and made his altar to offer sacrifice and thanksgiving; burnt offerings, and the Glory of God moved forth in that rainbow.

The second two thousand years, Noah, the real Noah: *Rest and Comfort*, came down. He took man who was shut up in the old birth, like Noah took them out of the old world to bring them into a new world, He took them out of the old birth to bring them into a New Birth. They were shut up in the prison; kept shut up, Galatians says, under a sinful nature. Humble yourself today under the mighty Hand of God. God always loves the humble because He is humble. Don't have any false humility like Absalom and all this guile and people playing humble. No, friends. Be genuine in your heart. How could you sit under the Word like this, so clear to you, so lovely...?

And this third, two thousand years, when it is all dark again, the Lord Himself has descended again, and He has found a people and He broke them; many of them. And now, He is raising them back up, raising them back up. Every tree comes to its winter, friends. Sometimes, it's like all your leaves are gone, you die, your life is gone. Everything you had to give you some identification, some fruit, some shade, some bark, it is all gone. You seem so naked and bare, so destitute, but then that Son comes around a second time and there is a promise of Springtime, and the Life is made anew again, and you begin to bloom anew, It begins to raise you back up.

Look at Job when he went down so low, lost everything, but in the end, look how God raised him back up. Isn't He wonderful? He had to break many of us but that was the tender Hand of Jehovah, my brother. My sister, that was the tender Hand of God. He had to let us see things in our own selves many a time; He had to cut it out of us. It doesn't change who you are; you are His son and His daughter. He wants to

bring you out of Lo-debar. He wants to bring you into Jerusalem. He wants to bring you into His Presence. He wants to bring you among His people. He wants to bring you to His table. He wants you to feast with Him continually. He wants you to be one of His own, this morning. Do not turn that down, my brother, my sister; whoever you are this morning. Receive that. That's Jesus Christ's free gift to you.

As we sing sweetly, reverently, *Down From His Glory* [#167 Songs That Live -Ed.] honoring this Great One; having this great desire in our heart to be a more humble people. "If My people who are called by My Name shall humble themselves, confess their sins and pray, and look to Heaven expecting, I will hear and answer from Heaven; I will heal them." Amen! Hallelujah! Oh, my! What a God we serve this morning! Blessed be His wonderful Name.

... and Jesus was His Name...

Jesus was His Name. He was Born in a manger and to His own, He was a stranger. That's our Lord Jesus we are singing about; a Man of sorrows, a Man of tears and agony. Do you love Him? Do you love Him, this morning? You can sing it.

CHORUS

O, how I love Him.

O how I love Him! ...

[And] how I adore Him!

Is He your Breath? Is He your Sunshine, that Light of your life? Don't just come and stand there; just kneel at this altar. You, pray. You, talk to Him yourself; you are a believer.

*The Great Creator, became my Saviour,
And all God's fullness dwelleth in Him.*

What condescension...

Think about it. Look where He came from. Look how high He came; look how low He came for you and me, my brother, my sister.

Bringing us Redemption...

That in the dead of night...

It was so dark in my life. I did not know where I was going, just drifting aimlessly.

Not one faint hope in sight;

I could remember that so clearly. Back in Santa Cruz, 1973, then one night out of the darkness.

God gracious, tender...

...to woo, to win, to save my soul.

Taking me out of Lo-debar. Oh my!

CHORUS

And O, how I love Him, for that this morning. And I just want to lift my voice, lift my hands and praise Him. And I just want to tell Him that I want to give my whole life to Him, and ever live for Him and serve Him and be the prisoner of His Love that He will bind me with the chains of His Word today, and make me a love-slave locked up in His prison. Take away my will and my rights; shave it off, Lord, then bring me into Your Presence. Oh, my God!

...became my Saviour and all God's fullness...

That's right. The Fullness of the Godhead bodily dwelleth in Him. There was no reluctance.

Without reluctance...

Like little Isaac, He laid down His life. He was bound by His Father and put on the Altar.

He took the form of man...

God from Spirit to Man – en morphe because in the back part of His Mind, that Lamb had been slain before the foundation of the world.

...revealed the hidden plan.

Oh thank You, Jesus.

O glorious Mystery, [hallelujah!]

Sacrifice of Calvary...

And now... as I stand here. Worship Him.

...now I know Thou wert the great I AM.

Doesn't it make you just love Him, a little more this morning?

CHORUS

O how I love Him!

Oh, won't you adore Him? Come let us adore Him.

My Breath, my Sunshine...

My All in All.

Oh, thank You, Lord.

This Great Creator became my [my!] Saviour!
Hallelujah!

And all God's fullness...

Oh, one more time: What condescension...

He came so low, friends. He humbled Himself. He was obedient unto death. He took the form of a servant; made Himself of no reputation, and was obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross.

...not one faint hope in sight;

It was all lost, no man could bring a clean thing out of the unclean, but then He came. Then Jesus came.

God, gracious, tender,

He laid aside all that splendor, all that worship of seraphim and cherubim, and all that Glory of Heaven.

Stooping to woo ...

Coming down so low to become a foot wash flunky, to show us how to humble ourselves that we might be exalted in due time.

CHORUS

[And] O how I love Him!

All around the building, all in the rooms, wherever you are; all on the outside wherever you are, in one voice with one praise, with one heart and soul let's magnify the King. Hallelujah!

... in all!

The Great Creator...became my Saviour

And all God's fullness...

And all that God was, He poured in Christ and all that Christ was, He poured in the Church. And here She stands today, God in us – God Who was above us, God with us, and God in us; God's great Mystery of Love expressed. God and man were one back there and God and man are one here in this Hour. Oh, friends, love-slaves, prisoners of Jesus Christ, like Joseph was; stripped, but then brought into the presence of his king where he got power. He could bind and loose (oh my! What a great God! What a great God.); he could save, he could deliver, he could redeem, he could comfort, he could preserve life, he could be a redeemer, he could be an intercessor, he could be a provider; a little Elohim like Abraham was, (hallelujah!) amateur redeemers, amateur intercessors, amateur Gods, the anointed ones, the messiahs of the last days; a Super Race, a Super Church that God raised up.

As we bow our hearts and close our eyes.

I'm going to read a little quote out of *Humble Thyself* [1963-0714E paras.77-82 -Ed.] he said:

You know, people want power, and really they don't know what power is. ...they don't really know what goes with it. The way up is down If you want power, see how humble you can get. Just get away from all your worldly thinking, and humble yourself before God, [let us all do that today] ...and then you've got more power than the man that runs all over the building and makes a big lot of noise; see, because you have been able to conquer yourself, and commit yourself to Christ, you see, to humble yourself before Him. That's [real] power.

You show me a church that's humble, real humble, not a [arrogant] church, just a sweet, humble church, I'll show you a church that has the favor and power of God in it. That's right. That's the thing it takes, humility, humbling ourselves before God, and letting God just work through us. Don't have to make a lot of noise.

Sometimes, as the farmer said, he went out to the field with his wagon, and, every time he hit a bump, it just

rattled and went on. But when he come back, he hit the same bump and it didn't make no noise at all, because it was loaded with good things.

So I think that's just about right, see, that we get filled up with the good things of God, that the fruit of the Spirit might be known through us. As he referred so much to First Corinthians 13 ... "Though I give my body to be burnt, and have all these things, and have not charity; it's nothing, [It] profiteth me nothing." See, we want to do that.

Above all things, it's our individual souls that we're responsible before God. ...it's you going to Heaven. It isn't whether I go, or he goes. It's you going, see, and you first. And you've got to look this out and come sweet before the Lord.

And I've always found out that the man that humbles himself is the man that God exalts. When you take a person with his chest out and knows everything, and you can't tell him nothing, and he is arrogant, [then]... that's the person that never gets anywhere. ...you take that person that humbles themselves and walks sweetly. Amen.

As we bow our hearts, I'd like to invite Bro. Samuel Johnson to come and pray. And let's all pray that God gives us this humility that our Jesus Christ expressed so clearly as an example for us. And, in this Last-day revealing of the Son of Man, we saw a man with such power, with such favor before God, so many gifts. And he was such a humble man, such a yielding, simple, honest, sincere vessel, a chosen vessel that bore God's Name; a Light that shone in every Gentile nation.

And here we are today, my brother, my sister, standing here, knowing that we must first descend that He might ascend. And Christ in you is giving you power to lay your life down, and Christ in you will raise you up into that very position, where you can manifest the fullness of the blessing that goes with that position; the same God, in you causing you to descend first that you

might ascend. Who shall ascend into the Hill of the Lord? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.

Let us today take a deep look at this. And as we stand reverent, let's think of Mephibosheth. It was the king who desired to show kindness, it was the king who was searching out, it was the king who found him, it was the king who fetched him, it was the king who brought him, it was the king who restored his goods, it was the king who gave him the place at his table, it was the king who made him dwell in Jerusalem; it was the king who made him as one of his own sons because the king remembered his covenant.

That's what He is doing for us, my brother, my sister. Why don't you let go? Would you, sinner friend? Why don't you let go today? Come from Lo-debar; there is no pasture there. That's the condition of the sinner; that's what he is, that's where he is. He is in a place with no pasture before he is fetched, but then he is brought into Jerusalem to feast with the King, to become the King's son because of a covenant the King will not break. That was what we were, friends. It is God's free gift to you, my brother and my sister. Receive that, today; would you?

Let us just bow our hearts and unite our faith with our brother. Let us all pray as he would lead in prayer. May we find this great grace and favor that things can be settled today. All these things that God has been giving to us which is so needful for us at this time.

[Bro. Samuel Johnson prays -Ed.]

Could we lift our hands around the building and give God thanks? Just tell Him, thanks. Lord, we thank You. In everything give Him thanks, friends. Be thankful when He has blessed you. Be thankful when He has spoken to you so expressly. Be thankful when you see what He wants to do for you. Be thankful when you see His grace and His mercy so richly and freely given unto us. Be thankful that He can come so close to us. We

thank You, Jesus. Blessed be Your Name, Lord. We thank You, Lord.

Now, turn around and greet your brother and sister, and tell them, God bless them. The stranger and visitor – just greet everyone by God's grace. I just want to sing that little song, *Do You Know Grace* [#247 Songs That Live -Ed.]; *I was down so low as one could go.*

You see where God sometimes, friends, He can reach down His Hand and raise us back up; so low as one could go, then you begin to ascend. He raises you up to become His very Bride.

You can have your seat. Just worship Him a little bit. Let's start with the chorus: *Do you know grace?*

CHORUS

Do you know grace,

Amazing grace?

Have you heard [this morning],

... how sweet the sound [of grace]? Amen.

... how sweet the sound?

[Oh] There are many dangers...

There are many dangers, toils and snares,

[Oh] we've already come, [look at that low place.]

Look where you came from,

[And look] where you are, [friends].

... "Do you know grace?" Amen.

I was down as low as one can go,

I was down as low as one can go,

I had no strength of my own; [oh my!]

Everything I worked for all my life

Everything I loved was gone

...was gone;

Oh, the lowest valley of my life [like Mephibosheth].

I was flat on my face,

[Oh, my! But then King David...]

... the great Hand of Jesus

reached down and He picked me up,

... I know grace.

CHORUS

... know grace,

Oh, Jesus, we thank You. Hallelujah! Oh, worship Him and praise Him this morning. Be full of thanksgiving today.

... how sweet the sound? [Hallelujah!]

There are many dangers, toils and snares,

We have already come.

... where you are,

And I'll ask you, "Do you know grace?"

Oh, and when it comes time,

[And that time has come, friends.]

For Him to take His Bride [oh, my!]

To that evergreen shore,

...evergreen shore,

And He chooses you and I

...chooses you and I

[Oh] to live in that land... [Oh, just think about it.]

When we've been there ten thousand years,

And you see me in that place.

[Oh, my!] You could ask me this question...

[And] I'll say, "Yes! I remember grace."

I remember when He reached down His hand and raised me up. Oh, I know Grace. If you know Grace, you sing it! Oh, Jesus! We love You, Lord!

CHORUS

...you heard how sweet [how sweet] the sound?

Amen. There are many dangers ...

There are many dangers, toils and snares,

We've already come,

[Oh] Look where you came from,

And [look] where you are,

... "Do you know grace?"

[Oh] Look where you came from...

You're sitting here clothed in the beautiful Gown of the Promised Word, the Marriage Certificate, the Wedding Band of unmerited Grace, and His Name sealed in your forehead.

... *you came from*

And where you are,

And I'll ask you, "Do you know grace?"

Oh, my, isn't He wonderful? I know we are supposed to have a little meeting for the thanksgiving service, but I just feel like singing one more little song here, *When He reached down His Hand for me*, one of my old-time favorites. Amen. When He lifted my feet and began to raise me back up—I sank so low, that is why I love Him. That is why I live for Him. Live or die, sink or swim, friend or no friend; whatever it takes, no matter what it costs, I want my life to be expressed to this world that I love Him because He first loved me. Amen.

I give my life to Him. If I had more than this, I would give it to Him. This is what I have and I give it to Him unreservedly, and I want to influence you to do the same if you have not done that, and if you are a stranger and a visitor, you are a sinner, and never made the decision to be baptized in His Name. Oh my, can't you see this is not religion, friends?

This is not some denominational program. Can't you see This is the Word? Can't you see this is Jesus Christ? Can't you see this is His Presence? Can't you see this is the reality of God? Can't you see this enlightens us and shows us how to live and how to walk, and gives us hope, and shows us our future, and shows us how to travel that Road to get There by the grace of God? Oh, my! My, my, my!

[#146 Songs That Live -Ed.]

Once my soul was astray...

... *wretched and vile as could be;*

But my Saviour above...gave me

peace, joy and love,

[Oh] When He reached down His hand...

He is reaching down His hand for you. Take it from Him today. Freely He is giving it to you, without money, without price.

CHORUS

[Oh] When He reached down His hand...

When He reached down His hand for me,

When He reached down His hand for me;

[Oh] I was lost and undone,

I was lost and undone...

... without God or His Son,

When He reached down His hand for me.

I was nearing despair, [without hope; all hope seemed gone and...]

... when He came to me there,

Like He came walking on the water in the fourth watch of the night. Coming there, sister.

... And He showed me...

Coming into that dark prison and opening the prison doors.

... could be free;

Then He lifted my feet, gave me glory complete,

When He reached down His hand for me.

Let's sing the next verse: How my heart doth rejoice.

... doth rejoice, since I made Him my choice,

Make Him yours today. Put Him first in your life. Give Him the best place in your life. Let Him rule on the throne of your heart.

... Him now I flee;

Now I lean on His arm, I'm secure

from all harm,

Since He reached down His hand...

If you strayed away, get back to your first Love. Remember from when you were falling when He reached down His hand for you. Can you remember that night, that day, that place when Jesus came to you, when He touched your life; when He called you from a life of sin; when He offered you a pardon written by His Own Blood; when you followed Him in the waters of baptism and you promised to live for Him? If you have failed to do that, come back to Him this morning, turn back around. Mark the spot here today. Give your life back to Him, and promise never to turn away from Him anymore. Hallelujah!!

CHORUS

*... without God or His Son,
... down His hand for me.*

[Oh, and] Since the Lord gave me peace...

Let the storms blow how they want. Let the people say what they want. The world is falling apart, but the Lord gave me peace.

[Oh my, and] Heavenly joys... Oh, to you stalwarts who have stayed faithful, who have stayed true to His Word, may He ever bless you and give you a charge of the Holy Spirit; a new burst of faith. A new burst of joy in your life that you can rise up and be the standard in this Hour, to be His ambassador; to shine your Light to a dying world that they can know He lives when they see you. Amen. Hallelujah!

...reached down His hand...

Come on sisters, you sing it: When He reached down His hand.

Look where He took Mary Magdalene from. Look where He took the woman by the well from. Look where He took the woman in Simon's house who washed His feet with her tears, look where He took her from. Look where He took you from, my sisters; [amen! Hallelujah!]

little lilies covered in the muck and the mud, the miry clay, to shine with His Glory, to honor Him with your praise, in this Hour.

...for me.

Isn't He lovely? Isn't He altogether lovely? My young brothers, my young sisters, when you are in God's Presence like this, this is the time you worship Him and say, "Lord, give me the Holy Spirit. Lord, fill me with the Holy Spirit." You do not sit there and let your mind drift. Say, "Lord, give me Your Holy Spirit. Make a real man out of me. Make a real woman out of me. Let me know Your Will, Lord. Let my life have meaning and purpose. Let my life be blessed. Let my life be accepted."

Don't just... no, you get in. When the Holy Spirit, when the Grace of God is coming down, say, "Lord, let me be a servant of Yours in this Hour. Lord Jesus, reveal Yourself to me. Make Yourself real to me, oh God. Give me strength so that I don't just live anyhow; so Lord, I live close to you; I reflect you, oh God."

That's the way you want to be, my brother, my sister and God will respect you. The Bible says, remember the Creator in the days of your youth. [Ecclesiastes 12:1 -Ed.] He took little Samuel. He took young David. He took young Joseph (seventeen years); young Samuel, a little boy, a little child. He took young David (seventeen years). Look how He called them in their youth, friends. Oh, my! This is the same God.

Do you think I came to God as an old man? I had a riotous life, sure, but I came to God as a young man, twenty-one going on twenty-two, and I saw It. Oh my, when I was eighteen years old, I was hungering and thirsting for It. We began to comb this country back and forth, trying to find It; making plans to go to Tibet in the Himalayan mountains to find It. And then, one day that Grace came when I was so low down, so low down.

Today, I am so thankful to know Him because He gave me courage to go through life; His Presence and His Promise, His Love and His Grace, His tender

mercies. I have made my mistakes and failures and sometimes I say, "God, how could You put up with me? God, I feel I am such a poor representative of Yours." And that's the truth.

I see myself as such a failure as I read there. He became such a failure in that prison. He became of non-effect inside that prison, being stripped of God. God brought him down to a place until there was self-crucifixion. There was no ability to depend upon; nothing to rely upon. The only thing was to hold to God's Word, and the Word was trying him. But there was an appointed time when God was going to start to bring him out, and bring him out of the prison, and bring him out of the prison clothes, and bring him out from among all those evil natures. And then God began to wash, and then God began to shave, and then God began to clothe, and then God began to place with authority, and then God began to honor, and then God began to magnify.

Oh, my! Isn't that wonderful!

