God's Eagles (As The Eagle Stirreth)

Tulsa, Oklahoma April 03, 1960

Let us remain standing just a moment for prayer. Oh, these last meetings always just gets next to me. Somehow when we find one another and learn to get acquainted, why ... and just begin to fellowship, then it's time to go somewhere else. It always gives me a little sad feeling. But looking on ahead, I'm looking for the day that when we'll all meet again and we'll be in a place--perhaps, if Jesus comes before we meet on earth again--where we'll never, never part no more. I wonder how many would like to be remembered to God this afternoon as we raise our hands in prayer? The Lord bless you. Shall we bow our heads just a moment.

Almighty God, the creator of heavens and earth, and the author of everlasting life, and the giver of every good gift, we come in the shadows of Thy mercy, by prayer through the name of Jesus, Thy Son, to offer to Thee our thanksgiving for this great Tulsa meeting, for what it has meant to us--a place in our heart that we shall never forget, of these fine people, Thy Holy Spirit in them. What fellowship it has been--a little touch of heaven in our lives, an experience that we never shall forget.

3 We pray, Father, that Your Spirit will always remain in these people. May from the essence of this little gathering cause a revival to break out in every church throughout the country. May great signs and wonders be accomplished. We pray, Lord, that You'll grant these things.

4 Laying here on this desk this afternoon is handkerchiefs and little pieces of goods that's going to the sick and the afflicted. Almighty God, I pray Thee in Jesus' name that whoever these touches that's sick, may they be healed—not only as my own prayer, Father, but the prayer of this great auditorium full of Christians this afternoon. We offer it with one accord for those who are needy. 5 Lord, we pray that You'll bless us in the further exercises of this day. We pray for the churches tonight. May there just be glory and joy unspeakable in every church. Give us a great outpouring of Thy presence this afternoon. May the Holy Spirit come into the Word, and may the Word become in our flesh and dwell here with us this afternoon, for we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen. You may be seated.

To each and every minister, to all of the workers, the custodian, and to the ushers and all, for myself and my crew--Brother David, Brother Roy, Billy Paul, Loyce, Brother Fred Sothmann, Brother Jim Maguire, Brother Gene, and Leo--we all want to thank you all for your kindness and what you have meant to us in this meeting. You've certainly been so nice. Such a respect and love that we have gathered in our hearts for you, it'll never be rubbed out. It's indelible. And we are trusting that God will give you the exceeding abundantly above all that you could even think or ask for. May God give it to you in the riches of His Son's grace, Jesus Christ.

⁷Brother Tommy Osborn--he's here in the meeting--the Lord God be with Brother Tommy. Brother Oral started this afternoon, and I think sprung a ligament or something loose in his leg; and as soon as the service is over, I'm on my road to pray for him. And now, to all Brother Robert's staff and Brother Tommy's staff and to the churches and all, God be with you is my prayer. You'll always be in my heart for this time. And long may Tulsa stand, long may the work of God remain in it, is our prayer.

And we hope to be back again sometime with you. And if we can ever be a favor to you in any way.... I used to make this statement: The night never gets too dark or the rain never falls too hard, but what we would do anything that lays in our power to make life a little more comfortable and blessed to you. If we can be any help to you, just let us know. Just call us at Jeffersonville, Indiana, Butler 2-1519, or just call me at Jeffersonville. We can send you a prayer cloth, pray for you--just anything that we can do. We are your servants in the Lord.

9 So, it's kind of bad to come to the end of a service like this, when we're having such a wonderful time, but sometime we have to go anyhow. Knowing this, that just across the river--some day when life is all over and I sit at that great table that'll be spread through the skies, the wedding supper--and we look across the table from one another, we'll remember these times at Oakland.

10 No doubt a little tear might trickle down our cheeks for joy, and the King in all of His beauty will come out in His lovely white robe, and wipe all tears from our eyes, and say, "Don't cry no more. It's all over now. Enter into the joys of the Lord which has been prepared for you since the foundation of the world." That's the hour I live for.

11 I look down across my cooperating ministers here and see many of them older than I. Probably out here on the street with a guitar and a tambourine, paving the way, putting down the cobblestones and smoothing out the rough places, that this ministry that the Lord has given me might ride smooth down the road.

12 My precious brethren, I feel little to stand up here and you down there. That is right. If there's any honor to be given, it goes to you. May God ever richly bless you. That day when the reward's given out, I hope to be standing present when I see you crowned in His glory.

13 A few moments ago I was talking to a minister back there. His name was Brother Nathan, he said. He works among the Jews. And he said, "Brother Branham, the first night when you were here [him and his wife--she was sick]," and said, "you called out in the meeting, and told me who I was and about my wife and her sickness." Said, "She's been getting well ever since, just doing fine." And so many fine letters and testimonies.

14 Now, maybe you didn't get your handkerchief in here. If we can help you in any way, send you a little cloth.... Now, there'll be a little form. We've got a prayer list that goes around the world. People get up at all hours through the night to keep this prayer list. On the Eastern Standard Time, we pray at nine o'clock at morning, at twelve o'clock and at three o'clock. That's the sacrifice hours of the old Jewish testament. And we pray that, and people around the world gets up at different times in a great prayer chain that we all pray together, one for the other. So, I'm sure God will hear prayer. Such marvelous things come in that He has done. And we want to put you on our prayer list to pray with us at those hours.

15 And now, no doubt but pretty shortly I'll be overseas again, the Lord willing. We accumulate a little finance here.... And by the

way (the Lord let me say that so I could remember), they have taken two love offerings, I believe, for me. You know how I appreciate that. Now, not one cent will go personally to me. It goes into the church foundation for overseas missions. And we'll do the very best that we can to see that that money goes to people who can't hear the gospel, not able to come. And we'll do our very best. God ever richly bless you is my sincere prayer.

16 And now, if you want one of these prayer cloths, just write to me. Just Post Office Box 325, or just Jeffersonville, Indiana--it'll come to me. And if you want to keep it in your Bible, put it in Acts 19. So many people have told me. . . . One lady said . . . I believe her son had got run over by an automobile, and he was bleeding to death from an injury from glass. And so she run real quick and got this ribbon (she lived in the country), and put the little ribbon on the boy, and the blood stopped immediately. And many things like that--a woman in Germany, paralyzed. (It tells you what to do. Gather in your Christian neighbors when these cloths are put upon you, over your heart.) And she said after everything had been done just the way it was (she'd been paralyzed for several years), and said, when she got that fulfilled she said, "Satan, now you have no more room for anything else. Get out of me." Got up out of the chair and walked away. It's just that simple, see.

17 So, if you would wish one, it's without cost, without price. Just send and we'll send it right straight to you in the mail. Now you'll get a mimeographed sheet on how to do it, but remember I have prayed myself personally over the cloth that will be sent you. If my baby was sick, my wife, or my father and mother, and I had confidence in somebody's prayer, I wouldn't want it to be the secretary's prayer; I'd want *them* to pray over it. "And do unto others as you'd have others do unto you"--the Golden Rule.

18 So we'll certainly be glad to help you in any way that we can. God ever bless you now. And everything that's been done has been done so sweetly and lovely, and we just appreciate it so much.

19 Now, when I'm overseas it's always hard, because witches and wizards, they're not afraid to attack you. Here just recently in a certain place, there were about fifteen witches on each side, throwing a spell across, and said they'd call a storm and it'd blow me away. And believe it or not, the storm came. About thirty thousand people in the place, shaking just as hard as they could. Brother Arganbright of the Christian Businessmen (you brethren know him), he was sitting behind me. He said, "Brother Branham. . . . "

I said, "Just sit still. The Holy Spirit sent me here." That's the reason I don't go no place unless He sends me first, then I know I can come in the name of the Lord, see. I said, "He sent me here."

21 And they had a great big place built, just where they ... just like two by four's and canvas tacked over it, and that place was just raising up and down. Right about two o'clock in the afternoon, just as clear as it could be--and that storm came up in thirty minutes. And I just stopped, and I said, "You don't have to interpret this." Feel that evil power from either side, and them sitting there, turning their hands with a cut feather, with the scissors. You know how they do.

And I said, "Lord God, creator of heavens and earth, You were the one that sent me here. You're responsible for the ministry that I carry for You. I rebuke that storm in the name of the Lord Jesus."

And it just parted back, the thunders roared away, and the sun was shining in less than two minutes, right down. And thousands rushed to the altar, communistic thinkers and everything. And how . . . I can't stand here and tell you testimonies, because it was in my own meeting. It would be better if the others do it. But libraries . . . I'd say there'd be an encyclopedia, there could be so many books written that I have seen the Lord Jesus do in my own little ministry. What do you think it would be in such men as Brother Tommy Osborn and Brother Oral Roberts? It's great. Our Lord is great. Certainly is.

Now, I want to read some Scripture this afternoon. I've got a few places written down here, if I get to it. And then I believe my son told me that he gave out some prayer cards, and we're going to pray for the sick. If I never lay eyes on any of you all again, if I never see you in this life, when I meet you at that gate, before we go in to stand before Christ, the visions from God are true and real. The angel of the Lord in that pillar of fire and light, so help me--the Almighty God my judge--it's there. It's true. So that you'll know that it's true. God is true. He cannot be false and be God. He cannot be false, because He has to be real. If anything's false, it's Satan.

But that light, I have seen it, looked at it, and to me. . . . Please forgive me if I'm acting sacrilegious, but to me it's the same pillar of

fire that followed the children of Israel, because it dwelt in a man called Jesus, which was the Son of God, and the life that He lived is produced again today by the same thing. He said, "I come from God; I go to God." We all know that. "I came from God, and I go to God." He said, "I am the I AM." That was the pillar of fire, that was the angel that was in the bush. It was made flesh and dwelt among us, returned back, and it's in the same form today. Did you know that?

You say, "Jesus was...." Well, I'm talking about God that was in Jesus. When Paul was on his road to Damascus, a light struck him down, a pillar of fire. None of the rest of them saw it, but Paul saw it. It was so much till it blinded him. And he said, "Who are You, Lord?"

27 He said, "I'm Jesus." He had returned back to God where He came from. To me, it's Him again today, finishing out His work in we, the church, in the last days.

Let's turn to Deuteronomy 32:11 for a little background of a text. And we'll try to have the prayer line and out within an hour, if possible. [A prophecy was given by a woman in audience. "Yea, the Lord has given to thee a sign, and thou art to stay firm in the deliverance of Him that hath sent thee, and always around thee the overshadowing presence of the Lord. The anointing is with thee, and thou shalt break through and divide; and the glory of the Lord shall be with thee in all places where I will [unclear words], and the Lord hath chosen thee to be unto this people a sign."]

29 Oh, Father God, how humbly in my heart I accept that. Guide my feet, hold my hand, Lord. May I never become a stumbling block to anyone, but may I be a stepping stone to every wayfaring traveler. Grant it, Lord. May I never do nothing in my life that would put a shadow on Your name or on Your cause, and I'll do all that I can to serve You. I thank You for this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

30 How that humbles my heart. Deuteronomy 32:11. [More prophecies are given.] Amen. Blessed be the name of the Lord. [Another prophecy comes from the audience.] How we thank the Lord to have His Spirit working among us, in the midst of us.

As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings:

That's not very much of a Scripture reading, but it's the Word of the Lord. It's enough there that maybe God will give us a context from this in the next twenty or thirty minutes that'll cause people to wake up and to think of the Lord Jesus.

32 You know sometime . . . I read a story a few years ago in the life of Abraham Lincoln. There was a man in prison, and he was under a federal charge. And he was going to be shot, and a good friend of his went to the President, Abraham Lincoln, a wonderful Christian man. And he said, "Mr. Lincoln, I know that you are a good man, that you are a Christian, and under this federal indictment that this man has trespassed a law of the regulation of the army. He is my friend. He didn't mean to do that. He's guilty of doing it. He didn't mean to do it. Won't you please . . . you're the only man who can spare his life. Won't you spare his life?" And the courtesy of Mr. Lincoln . . . picked up his quill and wrote across the piece of paper, because he wasn't at his desk at that time to make an official stamp, and so he wrote across it: "I pardon this man," and signed his name, Abraham Lincoln.

The precious friend of this man ran just as hard as he could to the prison, and said, "Oh, my friend, you are free! You are free! Here is the President's name on this piece of paper. You are pardoned!"

And the man said, "Do not mock me, for I'm ready now to die, because I am sentenced to death, and here you come to mock me with a piece of paper. If that piece of paper was Abraham Lincoln's pardon, it would be all decorated up with seals and so forth."

35 He said, "Sir, this is the President's name! You are pardoned." And the man turned his back on it and would not listen to it.

The next morning at daylight, the man was shot before a firing squad.

Now, here's a pardon from the President that says, "Do not kill the man" signed on one day; the next day the man was shot. Then the case was tried in federal courts. And when the Federal Court of the United States of America tried the case, and here was the decision of the court: "A pardon is not a pardon unless it be received as a pardon."

And that's the way that the Word of God is. It's healing to you if you receive it as healing. It's a pardon to you if you receive it as a pardon. Every blessing in here is yours if you receive it in the way that God has wrote it.

³⁹ "As the eagle stirreth her nest, fluttereth over her young, taketh them on her wings and beareth them...." How many times have I thought what... God likened His heritage to eagles. And I find in the Bible that God calls Himself an eagle. He is Jehovah-eagle. And how would He do that?

40 So, I am a naturalist, so I.... My first Bible was nature. If you'll just watch the way nature works, you can find God. Anywhere you look, you'll see God, if you get God in the heart, and watch it. Now, when they talk of reincarnation and stuff, that's foolish. It cannot be. We find out that a plant dies, goes into the ground, the seed rots, it lives again--it's resurrection. And all Christianity is based upon resurrection. And we can see that that's true--death, burial, resurrection. The summers, the winters, all nature blends right in.

41 My first Bible was watching how those trees died, how the sprouts came up again, how the wind would blow it over, it would come back again; how the little flower died, lived again, and all those different things. It made me know that there was a power of resurrection somewhere.

42 Now, the tree has perpetual life; we have immortal life. The tree will come to its final end; we never can. We have immortal life.

43 Now, I began to study the eagle when I read this. What about the eagle? I find out that the eagle is a very odd bird. He can fly higher than any other bird that there is. He's a special-built bird. He builds his nest in the rocks, way up high. He's a very odd bird. And another thing, his feathers are so tight you can hardly . . . you can't pull them out with a pair of pliers. He's a huge mammoth bird, one of the biggest there is. And he's a very odd bird, but he's built special because he has a special work to do. The word *eagle*, means "ripper with the beak." And he feeds with the beak—a very beautiful thing of the Word of God. Feeds from mouth to mouth--God, feeding His children.

And then he builds his nest high. He has that for a purpose. And everything . . . now, if the eagle had a great powerful wing, that's for deliverance. And another thing the eagle does that's strange, he renews his youth. The eagle, after so long a time, just rotates and comes right back to a young eagle again--brings himself right back. He renews his youth. That's another type of the church, of God's people. We'll get all down and kind of stale, then all at once the Holy Spirit comes and renews us again--God renewing the experience and the youth of His church, giving them a new experience. That is a type of the eagle.

45 Some years ago, I used to do a lot of riding, ranch, and we were up on the Troublesome River in Colorado. The Hereford Association grazes that Arapaho pastures there and so forth, and up around on the mountains. And we used to take the cattle up there, and then in the fall of the year we'd have to hunt them out again. Put them on the National Forest, and then we'd raise our hay down in the bottoms to feed out through the winter.

And I'd go out there each year to hunt. I do yet. And a friend of mine, we'd go back after all the people from the city had got down there and shot around the does, and fawns, and young cows, and old straggling bulls of the elks that's down low. Why, we always go way back high, where you can't get in, and camp out back there. He takes the east or west fork, one, and I'll take the other. We'll be several days before we meet one another.

47 And I'll never forget, one year it hadn't snowed. It was along in October when the season come in. And if it snows up in the mountains, why, maybe in October it'll come a real pretty afternoon; maybe in another hour it'll be snowing. Then it will rain it off, and then the sun will come out--just changing weather. But then when the snow comes, it runs the elk and the deer--those big ones that stay high, away from the noise of civilization--it runs them down into the valleys. That's where you usually get the trophy.

This year the snows hadn't come yet, and I was way up high. I had left my horse several miles behind and tied him up so he'd have plenty of room and some hay so he could eat, and I had went all the way around timberline, up in there looking.

49 That afternoon there come a storm sweeping across the mountains, and the roaring of thunder and lightning a-flashing. And I got behind a tree, and I stood back behind the tree till the storm was over--dropped down into the timber. There'd been a blow-down there. And I was standing behind the timber, waiting till the storm passed, standing there thinking. I had my rifle sitting just against the tree. Then when the storm was over, I was thinking about God, how wonderful He was. And while the storm was going on, the cold wind set in, and it froze much of the water on the evergreens--like icicles hanging. Then when the sun came out, way back over in the west, I could see the sun just peeping through the crevice of the mountain, and looked like the eye of God.

You know God's everywhere. You can just see Him anywhere, if you'll just look for Him. He's there; you have to see Him. He'll be here. He's here right now. If you'll just look around, you'll see Him. And then, when I was standing there, I looked at that sunset, and I raised up my hands and I said, "Oh, great Jehovah God, your eyes run to and fro through the earth." Just then I heard the bugle from a bull elk. He had got scattered away from the herd in the storm, and he was making that real sharp squeal of a sound like that, and I heard the herd answer him over here in another place.

51 Way up on the side of the mountain, the old gray wolf begin to howl. The mate answered down in the bottom. I looked around across the valley from one mountain across the divide–-there was a rainbow. Why, just everywhere I looked, there was God.

52 My mother is a half Indian. She came off the reservations, a Cherokee Indian, and her mother drawed a pension. My conversion never took that out of me. There's something about the woods and outdoors that I love. When I heard that old wolf howling and the mate answering it, tears began to run down my cheeks. I heard that old bull elk screaming up there for his herd; it answered.

53 I looked at the rainbow, and I said, "Yeah, there's God again." He's Alpha and Omega. He's the colors, the covenant in the rainbow. God's everywhere, if you'll just look around for Him.

I got so happy I just raised up my hands, and the tears running down my cheeks. I run around and around and around that tree. I was just having me a big time. Nobody in thirty miles of me--just jumping up and down and screaming to the top of my voice. Honestly, if there'd been somebody watching me, they'd've thought somebody out of the insane institution was out there. But I wasn't caring--I was having a good time. I was worshipping the Lord, my God. It didn't make any difference to me what anybody else thought.

⁵⁵ I was just having a good time, just around and around and around that tree. And I'd stop, listen to that wolf, and listen to that and scream again, and around and around the tree I'd go again. And I excited something.

And there was a little pine squirrel—I don't know whether you know what they are here in Oklahoma or not—just a little bitty noisy thing about that long. He's a blue coat policeman of the woods. He just . . . he makes so much noise, and there's nothing to him. He jumped up on a stump, and he begin to "chatter, chatter, chatter," just as hard as he could. And I thought, "There's no need of you getting excited. I'm worshipping the Lord. If you don't like that, watch this." And around and around and around again I went, just as hard as I could. And I said, "Isn't that wonderful? Your creator, my God. Here we go again!" And around and around and around like that. And I noticed the little fellow cocking his little head sideways and looking down in that blow-down.

57 It didn't seem like that I'd excited him. There was something else excited him. Well, I thought, "Don't think I'm acting funny, because I'm not acting funny to myself. And I know He's a-blessing me. So, you might as well join right in with me." And, so, I happened to look, and the storm had forced a big eagle down. It had forced him down in . . . he'd been down low, probably eating. He couldn't get his . . . gain his . . . to get above the storm, so it forced him down into the bushes. And there he was down around these bushes here, and that's what was exciting the little squirrel.

He was watching it real close like that, and going "chatter, chatter, chatter, chatter," like he was going to tear that eagle to pieces. Well, he wasn't big enough to tear nothing to pieces. So he was standing on that stump, his little tail curled up like that and he was, "Chatter, chatter, chatter; chatter, chatter, chatter."

I thought, "Well, don't get excited; he ain't going to hurt you." And that big eagle jumped out on a limb like that and I thought, "Oh, God, there You are in that wolf call. There You are over here in the call of the wild. There You are in the sunset. There You are in the rainbow. Why did You put that eagle before me? What's that eagle doing there? I can't see You in that eagle."

I watched that eagle. I said . . . looked at him, his great big gray-looking eyes. He wasn't noticing that pine squirrel so much; he was watching me. I could see those great big eyes watching me. And I thought, "Well, yeah, I can see God in that eagle, because that he's not afraid. There's something about him that he's not afraid." I said, "I'll try and see if he's afraid."

61 I said, "Say, fellow, you know I could shoot you?" I said, "This is my rifle. I could shoot you."

62 He just looked up at me like that. I kept noticing him feeling his wings. I said, "I see now. That's the reason. You're not afraid because that God gave you two wings, and you know good and well you could be in that timber there before I could even get that rifle in my hand."

I thought, "If you could trust your God-given wings to get out of danger, how much more ought the church with a God-given Spirit of the Holy Ghost among us to get away from things, get out of it!" I watched him, how he felt them wings. As long....

64 Someone said to me one time, "Brother Branham, aren't you afraid you'll make a mistake?" No, sir, not as long as I can feel that something around me, that's all right, that's okay. As long as He's there, it's Him doing it.

And I watched the eagle for a length of time. He seen that I loved him too much, I wasn't going to hurt him. And so, he wasn't afraid of me, but he just got nauseated with that "chatter, chatter, chatter; chatter, chatter, chatter." And he got tired of it, so he just made a great big jump, flopped his wings about twice, and then I seen why He broke in on me shouting.

66 That big eagle never flopped his wings anymore. He just seemed to know how to set his wings. And every time the wind would come in, he'd ride up higher. And the wind would come in; he'd ride higher. I stood there and watched him till he become just a little bitty speck.

And I said, "Oh, God, that's it." He got tired of that, "chatter, chatter, chatter." It isn't run from church to church, join this one and join that one; it's just knowing how to set your wings in the power of

His Holy Spirit. When He comes riding in, just ride on, ride on--on and on and on. Get away from this "Chatter, chatter, days of miracles is past!" "No such a thing as the Holy Ghost!" "You're all wrong in this!" "There ain't no such thing as divine healing." Just ride on above it. Just let the Holy Ghost ride in and ride on away. Just carry on way up and above, plumb out of hearing distance.

68 My! God made the eagle. Now, if he didn't have. . . . If the hawk tried to follow the eagle, he'd disintegrate in the air. A crow try to follow him, the feathers would fall out of him. He's a special-made bird.

God likened His eagles unto His prophets. A prophet rides high into the spheres where he can look way away. Now, if the eagle has got great powerful wings that can take him up there, and his eyes isn't compared with his wings, he'd be blind when he got up there. That's the reason a hawk, trying to become an eagle, when he got so high, he couldn't see anyhow, so it wouldn't do him no good to climb up. See, he is a special-made bird. And a Christian is a special-made person. That's exactly right.

There's no need of going to church unless you've got something that tells you that it's all there. It's something special that God does for you. That eagle can go so high till you can't see him, and he can see anything moving on the ground, the least little object, his eye is so great.

Some time ago--three or four years ago--my little girl and I were walking up at the zoo at Cincinnati. I had them up there one Saturday afternoon, showing them the different things, and little Sarah and I walked down... She was a little bitty girl then, just about three years old. And we were walking around, and there was a big eagle in the cage.

⁷² I always hated to see animals caged up. I don't know, I just hate to see a canary bird. Now, I'm not throwing off on your parakeets and things, but I don't like to see anything in a cage. I know how it is to be caged up in a religion where you ain't got no freedom. I want to... I like to be free.

73 It's just like giving your canary birds all the vitamins you can to make good feathers and good wings, and then keeping him in a cage. What good does it do him? What good does it do to send preachers away to seminaries and so forth, and educate them and everything like that, and then cage them up by saying, "The days of miracles is past. There is no such a thing." What good does it do to educate them?

74 Brother, I like something free, where you can fly, exercise yourself, a religion that lets you get free.

⁷⁵ I noticed this big eagle. They had just caught him, put him in the cage. And I thought that was the most saddest sight I ever seen. That great big fellow—he was laying there on the floor when I got up, his great big wings laying out. The feathers were all beat off his head and around his neck and over the ends of his wings.

⁷⁶ I looked at him. He crawled across the cage. He looked back across the cage like that. Here he come! And he hit that cage, with his head and wings just flopping. The feathers would fly; he'd fall back. He'd get up again. He'd drop back this way, he would look up. And he'd fly just as hard as he could and hit his wings and head against it and fall back. He laid there and his big eyes rolling around, looking up.

Oh, I thought, "That's one of the saddest sights a man could look at!" He's a heavenly bird. He was born to soar the heavens, and here, by the trickery and devices of man, he's caged up. He can't. . . . He's a heavenly bird. He knows nothing about the ground hardly. He's got to live in the heavens.

Laying there looking up where he really ought to be, where his heart longs to be, but there's bars between him and that.

⁷⁹ I thought that was a sad sight until one time I saw mankind, that God created in His image, caged into denominations and things that didn't believe in divine healing; caged into places where they couldn't be free, their heaven-born, God-sent spirits in them like that, but caging them up so they can't get out.

80 See men and women walking on the streets immorally dressed, in saloons, caged down, where they should be free, sons and daughters of God; and beat their brains out nearly against something, trying to get free.

O God, if I'd have had the power, I'd have . . . or the authority, I'd have bought that old eagle and let him go. Let him go free where he wants to. That's a horrible thing to cage him up.

82 But how horrible it is to take the sons of God, and to cage them into a place to where.... Really, their spirit wants to get out there and do something. Then somebody says, "There is no such thing as divine healing." "There is no such a thing as the power of the Holy Ghost." "There is no such a thing as this." Puts them in a cage. Brother, let me tell you, there is a freedom.

83 One time a man caught an old crow and tied him up, because he was in the corn field. And the birds begin to fly over, saying, "Come on, Johnny Crow, let's go south. Let's go south, the wintertime's coming."

He got so poor, he couldn't hardly walk. There was a good man came by one day and said, "That poor old crow," and just cut him loose. And when he did, the other crows came over and said, "Come on Johnny Crow, let's go south." But he had been tied so long until he just walked around and said, "I can't do it; I can't do it." He didn't know he was free.

That's the way man is today. You don't know that Jesus Christ made you free, brother. Let's get out of it! Let's get somewhere! God made us free. Don't starve to death. God has got Pentecostal blessings all through the skies and untapped resources of His goodness. Let's get to it! "Whosoever will, let him come, let him come, drink from the waters of life freely."

The eagle, he builds his nest high in the rock. He's like the church. The church of Jesus Christ is the church that's set on a hill, that gives light. It's high. It's got high ambitions. It ought to have high expectations. It should have high expectations, because we've been expecting God to do something.

If you come here this afternoon saying, "Well, I'll go up. If I get in the prayer line, all right." "Well, if He'll tell me that I'm well, if the Lord will let me know I...." Oh, don't have expectations like that! "But if He don't do it, then I won't get nothing."

88 Your expectation is not much! Come to the church this afternoon. If you're sick, say, "I'm expecting to go home well! I'm not going to leave till it happens!"

If you haven't got the Holy Ghost, say, "I'll stay here and rot in this place, or I'll get the Holy Ghost. I come here amongst Holy Ghost people, I come here where the Spirit's at. I'll stay right here till I get it!" 90 Be like old Buddy Robinson was when he got out in the corn field. He said, "Lord, if You don't give me the Holy Ghost, when You come back to earth, You'll find a pile of bones of Buddy Robinson laying right here." That's the way to do it. Exactly! We take it too haphazardly.

A man one time was trying to seek God, and every time he'd say, "I'm saved," the devil would say, "No, you're not." One day he drove down a stake. He said, "Satan, from this on, I'll point to this stake. This is the place where I met God's requirements right here."

92 You drive your stake down right beside your seat this afternoon, saying, "Satan, right here is where every doubt's going to lay, and I'm going to fly away with Him this afternoon. I'm going to accept exactly what He told me I could do." If you'll believe it.

This old eagle, when she gets ready to build her nest, she goes way high in the rocks, and she builds her nest high, because she's got. . . . She wants to protect her little ones.

⁹⁴ That's the way God does. He lifts His church into a place, if you'll just let Him, and He'll put you into a place where you'll be away from the vultures of the earth. Certainly He will.

95 How much different is it from the chicken! The chicken is a bird, too, but he builds his nest out in the barnyard somewhere—down on the ground where weasels, and snakes, and everything else can get his young. He don't know nothing about the heavenly. Yet he's a bird—maybe a denominational brother—but he's on the ground. He don't know nothing about the heavenlies, flying high, somewhere way up there where it's blue and pretty.

⁹⁶ The old mother eagle, when she makes her nest.... How I've watched them many times--go out and get the big sticks and put them down into them rocks and pull it over here with her big beak, and tie it down, and take briar vines, and tie it around. And the inside of the nest is made of briars mostly to tie the big ... kind of poles-like together that she packs up there. But she anchors that nest so there's no storm can blow it away.

⁹⁷ I'm glad. "Upon this rock I'll build my church, and the gates of hell can't prevail against it." What kind of a rock?--a spiritual revelation.

98 "Who does men say I, the Son of man, am?"

99 "Some say Elias, some say Moses."

100 "But what about you?"

101 Peter said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of God."

102 "Blessed art thou, Simon, the son of Jonas. Flesh and blood didn't reveal this to you [You never learned this in a seminary. You never learned this by somebody telling you.], but my Father which is in heaven has revealed this to you. Upon this rock I'll build my church, and the gates of hell can't prevail against it." The storms of life will never shake it. That's the reason He said He was an eagle. He built the nest.

103 Then the old mother eagle, making ready for her little ones to be born, she goes out, and she gets everything that she can--soft leaves. She takes her big beak and puts them back in the corners, and fixes up all the stickers around, so they won't stick the little ones. She goes out and gets her a lamb, or either a rabbit or something, eats the meat of it, and then takes the hair, the fur, off of it and daubs the nest up. Oh, she makes it real pretty for her little ones to come.

104 That's the way Jehovah-eagle does, too. He just fixes it all up. Oh, my, when the new baby is born in the kingdom of God, he thinks he can walk, but he's always bumping up and down and running around. But he's having a good time—he's in the nest where it's all feathered, you know. The falls don't hurt. And so, that's the way mother . . . Jehovah-eagle does. She fixes her nest real fluffy and nice for her little ones that's going to be born. After awhile the eggs come. Along comes the little eagle, and she goes down, her and papa eagle, and they feed all their little ones till they get pretty good size.

105 Then when they get to a certain size--now mama eagle is going to be positive that them eagles ain't going to be anything like chickens. That's right. She don't want them earthbound. They're eagles, and she knows they're eagles. 106 That's the way Jehovah-eagle does. He don't want us chickens, barnyard chickens. He wants us to be eagles, up in the blue. The nature of us, to be up there where we're free. "He who the Son has made free, is free indeed." There . . . wants them up there.

107 So, a few days (how I've watched them so many times), a few days before the nest-stirring time comes, the old mother eagle would get up there on the side of that nest. I've laid many a day in the warm sunshine watching them, and just cry like a baby. See that big mother eagle--they're large. The mother eagle is bigger than the father eagle. Some of their wings spread fourteen feet from tip to tip.

108 She'll get up there, she'll strut around over that nest, like that. And she'll go up to these little ones. She'll spread her great big wings and scream! And when she does, sometimes the little eagles will fall on their back. She wants them to. That's what she wants them to do. Then they'll get up. And she'll scream! Why? She's training them to her voice. "My sheep know my voice."

109 She wants them to know what it is when screaming-time comes. And she's screaming! Oh, my! "I want you to catch every note of my voice," she says, "because there's a lot of scavengers. I want you to know you're eagles. I want you to know eagle voice." Amen! Hallelujah! "I want you to know what an eagle sound is." Then she spreads her great wings, says, "Look here, I'm fixing to give you your first solo flight. But first, I want you to look how big I am."

110 Oh, how sweet it is. Maybe sometimes sickness knocks us on our back, maybe something else, when we can look up and take them two big wings of Jehovah, the Old and New Testament, and say, "How great Thou art. How great Thou art, Lord!"

111 Oh, she likes to show them. "Look here how strong I am!" She screams, "This is my voice!" And how could a preacher say then that that eagle don't scream the same in every day, every time it screams? Sure, "He's the same yesterday, today, and forever."

112 The Old Testament said, "I am Jehovah. I opened up the Red Sea. I brought the Hebrew children out of the fiery furnace. I'm the one that raised up the Son of God." Hallelujah! "I'm the one that sent the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost." Looking through her great wings, don't you like to see that? Doesn't it thrill your heart?

113 Them little eagles, say, "Oh, Mama, we sure trust you. You're powerful and big."

114 Go out some night and look up at the solar system. Here some time ago I was taken up to Mount Palomar, and there through a glass you could see a hundred and twenty million years of light space. Figure it up, how many miles it is. How fast does light travel? And a hundred and twenty million years of light space, and beyond that was still moons and stars and worlds. How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

115 The little eagles begin to look around, "How great Thou art."

116 Here's a flower. It died, it went into the ground. But here it comes back again. How great Thou art!

117 Here's a poor old cancer-ridden man, just a shadow, and a prayer is made over him. The next thing, you see him a great big red-faced man. How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

118 See a little old woman out on the street, out there, not fit for the dogs to look at. Let the power of God catch her attention one time, she'll scream, "How great Thou art!" She'll lay aside every weight and the sin that does so easily beset her. The first thing you know she's a sainted-looking person. She's out with a gospel tract under her arm, doing something.

119 Let that bootlegger down on the corner, that foul man, let him one time look up and see how great Thou art. Watch him quit selling his whiskey, quit drinking, and smoking his cigarettes and cigars, quit telling his lies and so forth; and out on the street with a Bible in his hand, testifying to the glory of God. How great Thou art!

120 Let God spread forth that New and Old Testament over you one time. Look through its pages and see what it is. You'll hear a voice screaming from there, saying, "The same yesterday, today, and forever. What I did for them, I'll do for you. I am the same. I'm Jehovah, I change not!" I feel real religious right now. Oh, my! How well I know that it's the truth.

121 Now, the mother is determined them little eagles are not going to be chickens. But she's determined that they not be. You know what

she does then? After she struts up and down on the nest and spreads her... "Look here, Honey, how great I am. See here, you've got to trust me. I'm going to take you somewhere where you'll have to trust me."

122 How do I know that God hasn't sent some sick people in here this afternoon the same way? Put you to a place where the doctor. . . . You say, "I'm a Christian, Brother Branham." I know it. "And I've got the Holy Ghost, and here I am suffering."

123 How do you know that Jehovah is just not trying to get you to look through the wings and see how great He is? "How great I am. I'm going to do something for you that you'll have to trust Me." There you are. "But I want you to know what you're trusting in first. See My great wings?"

124 Then after a few days, you know what that mother does? As long as that bed is made soft, them little old eagles don't want to leave it. That's right. You know what she does? Then she gets right in there and takes her bill and rips every bit of that fur out of there and throws it out of the nest. She's determined that they'll not get customized to the world. That's right.

125 That's what God does sometimes. Oh, you think about everything big, and everything swanky, and everything.... Don't look for that. Why, you're a million miles from Pentecost. The Pentecostal people didn't look for easy things. They sold what they had and give to the poor and went out with Christ alone! And today we have to own a fleet of Cadillacs before we're spiritual. What's happened? Something is wrong somewhere.

126 Let me take the way with the Lord's despised few. I've started in with Jesus, Lord, take me through under any circumstances. The people are afraid of the new birth. That's what's the matter. They're afraid to be born again!

127 Anybody knows that any birth—I don't care where it is—it's a mess. If it's in a pig pen, or if it's in a straw stack, or if it's in a pink decorated hospital room, a birth is a mess. And people don't want to get messy. But, I'm telling you, I don't want to meet God on my part. I want to meet the new birth on God's level. I don't care if I have to cry, squall, speak in tongues, whatever I have to do. I don't care how many neighbors talk about me, let me be born again! I don't care what kind of a condition. 128 If I have to spoil all the reputation, I don't have any anyhow. That's one thing I didn't have to leave. I had no prestige or reputation. I was just a hillbilly to start with. So, I had nothing. But I don't care what it is, I'm ready to lose anything and become a fool for the kingdom of God's sake. You want to call me a holy roller, or a spiritualist, or a devil, or a mind-reader—I don't care what they say, I want Jesus! That's my main object. On what level it is, I don't care. I want to meet Him on His level. Not on what I think is right, or what somebody says is right, I want on what God says is right. That's right. If He said He's the same yesterday, today, and forever, I want to see Him on that level.

129 If I have to preach to a bunch of posts and eat soda crackers and drink branch water, I still want the gospel. I want Christ on the level that Christ would come.

130 She gets in there and throws all that softness out. Every time them little eagles start to sit down, they're on a briar. It's kind of sticky. That's what.... Let the devil.... As long as they....

"Oh, did you get saved last night?"

"Yes, uh-huh. Yes, I did."

131 "Oh, I'm so happy for that." But you start living the life, directly they'll say, "Holy roller, so-and-so." "Oh, I see what group you're with."

132 See, He lets you stick once in a while. He don't want you to get accustomed to this world, you see. He wants you to get. . . . That mother don't want them eagles to ever become chickens. She wants them to get out of that nest. No matter if they're in the rock or where they are, she's got something better for them. God's got something better for the church. Don't just settle down, "I'm a Pentecostal."

133 Somebody said one time, said, "Brother Branham...." An old man down in Arkansas. He'd been healed. He was walking around the next day with his crutches. He'd been selling pencils on the street for years and years—walking around, with a big sign: "I don't need them anymore since Jesus came to me." Going around. And that night he was standing up in the audience, about like this, at the Robinson Memorial Auditorium in Little Rock, and he said, "Just a minute, Brother Branham." I was preaching. He said, "Just a minute." Said, "You know when you preach [he was a Nazarene], you know you preach just like a Nazarene. And then I noticed most of the people here are Pentecostal, and now somebody tells me you are a Baptist. I don't understand it."

134 "Oh," I said, "That's easy. I'm a Pentecostal Nazarene Baptist." That's just exactly it. Yes, sir.

135 Oh, brother, them brands! I used to sit there when we'd drive the cattle up in the mountains, with my knee across an old saddle horn there, and watch that ranger watching those cattle coming through. Ours was a Tripod. Grimes was up there was a Diamond T-Bar. Many of them different bars and different brands went through. The ranger didn't pay much attention to the brand. He watched the blood tag. Amen!

136 That's what God is going to watch! He's watching the blood tag. He don't care what brand you got on you! Why? Nothing could go in that pasture but a thoroughbred Hereford; and nothing can enter the gates of heaven but a born-again through the blood of Jesus Christ. I don't care what you do, how intellectual you are, or how good a preacher you are, or how good a church member you are, except you're born through the blood of Jesus Christ with a blood tag on you, you'll never go in. That's just all there is to it. "When I see the blood, I'll pass over you." That's all. He will let you in when the blood tag is right. God will watch the blood of His own Son on the church.

137 This old mother eagle, she watches them little eagles. Oh, every time.... They can't sit down. It's just everywhere, it's just thorns, thorns, thorns.

138 Now, there's something else has to be done with that Pentecostal church in that nest, so they won't be nest-bound. That's . . . all right, now, I'm not kicking against the organizations now. Don't get that in your mind. But I'm trying to say just don't let that be the stopping place. They're fine. I like the organizations. I belong to every one of them, see. Sure, I do. Yes, sir. I was born into it. Every one that's in the church, I was born in there. But just don't stop at that. Just don't stop at that organization. Go right on with God till you get out there to solo flying.

139 Now, the first thing you know, when the old mother's decided she's going to give her children a little experience, now, they're . . .

joined the church and everything's fine, but it begins to get sticky. There's something wrong.

140 Then the old mother comes up there before the nest one day. She looks them little fellows over, and there's a lot of loose feathers on them. She knows if she takes them little fellows up in that air with them loose feathers, they'll break their neck.

141 And I tell you, if the Pentecostal church don't get a good cleaning up, they're going to break their neck, too. You just remember that. There's too many loose feathers. That's what's the matter.

142 You know what she does? She gets up on the nest, and she takes her big wings and begins to fan them like that. Oh, you never stood behind a plane before, till you find out. . . . Loose feathers fly every way when that rushing mighty wind begins to sweep through them little fellows' feathers. I tell you the church needs a nest-shaking today with a mighty rushing wind to take all the world out of the Pentecostal church, where we can solo.

143 We need another old-time gospel, Holy Ghost, God-born sent revival. That's exactly right. We don't need a new president. We've got one--a dandy. We don't need new mayors of the city. Whatever, that's their business. But what we need is ministers that'll preach the gospel and bring the church back to Pentecost again, bring it back to the eagle experience again. That's what the church needs. Oh, you don't want to be chickens. You're eagles! You have to take eagle food.

144 And here she was sitting there, knocking all those little old feathers out. Because if she don't.... If they ain't got enough feathers left to take the flight, she won't take them--until all them little old baby feathers blow out of them. Then she comes up there, and she screams. She's ready to give them some experience then. She throws her great big fourteen-foot wings out like that. Those little eagles reach over, climb up. She's talking to them then, because they have heard her voice. They know to trust her.

145 Say, "Now, children, I'm going to take you on a solo flight." Each one goes over and gets his little foot and catches into the wing, puts his little bill against one of them feathers. Why, it can't pull out. It'll hold fifty eagles for the power of that feather in its wing. And he holds across the feather like that, and the old mother lifts her wings like that, flies off the rock. Here she goes, sailing up, up, up, up, up, till she gets wa-a-a-y up into the blue, wa-a-a-y high. Them little fellows have never been there before. Oh, they're just having them a wonderful time.

146 The first thing you know, you know what she does? Turns right over and shakes them every one off. They're eagles, they ought to know how to fly. That's exactly right. She shakes them right off to theirself. Well, some of them little fellows.... She hollers, "All right, children, you're eagles. Fly!"

147 As long as you say, "Well, I belong to this church. I tell you, I don't know about that," you'll never fly. You need to get shook off one time up in the air. Them little eagles begin to fly. She hollers, "Flop your wings, children. Just keep flopping your little faith up and down. You're high enough now that you won't hit the earth."

148 You know what? Then what she does, she darts out to one side to watch them. She sails right around. And here they are just exactly like a Pentecostal revival. Just topsy-turvy, one over one or the other, just a-flopping to all they can. They don't care. They've got supreme confidence in their mammy that's out there watching them. How ought the church ought to do?

149 If one of them little eagles get out of balance, she sweeps right down with them big wings and picks him up and bears him up into grace again. (Now, that's not Baptist teaching, that's the Bible.) So, brings him right back up. Shakes him off again, let him start anew. Amen.

150 Them eagles have got confidence in their mother, supreme confidence that that mother will help them and bear them up again. Bear them up on the wings of an eagle, and take them up there and shake them off again, and let him start again. "If I fall or if I fail, let me rise and try again, O Lord."

151 Go again. God will lift you right back up--take you up there and shake you off again. Try to balance yourself, and just keep going. Just keep flopping till you learn to fly. Oh, my! Poor ol' chicken don't know nothing about that. He don't know a thing about that, because he's never been up there. None of his ancestors up there. All he knows is join church and sit down--in the barnyard. He don't know much about it. 152 One time a man was setting a hen, and he couldn't find enough eggs. So he found an eagle's nest, and climbed up and got the eagle's egg, and put it under the hen. And when that bunch or brood hatched, that eagle was a funny looking little fellow from the rest of them chickens.

153 That's just about the way it comes—one out of every setting. Just about the way it happens. That's true.

154 And here he was, a funny looking little fellow. He couldn't understand the clucking of the hen. The old hen out there in the manure piles and the yards, "We're going to have a social supper tonight. We're going to do all this." Like that, "Cluck, cluck, cluck. The days of miracles is past. There is no such thing as divine healing. Cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck." Eating that dirty stuff, with old bunco parties and games, and stripped-off clothes and everything like that, televisions and all that kind of nonsense. . . . That little fellow was an eagle. That didn't set with him. It made him vomit to smell it. "My, I'd never make that." Walking around--my, he was a funny looking little guy.

155 She said, "Oh, come on, Honey, we're going to have a great big party tonight, and we're going to serve. . . ."

156 He didn't want none of that stuff. He walked around. He thought, "I'm an odd-looking duck here."

157 And I tell you one thing, brother, when a man is born to be a child of God, old creeds and denominations will never satisfy him! No, sir. The things of the world--basketball games and parties and bunco games, and all these kind of entertainments that the modern churches do today in our day--no wonder they've grieved.... "Where is God?" They've grieved God away from them. That's exactly right. Yes, sir.

158 Chickens like that kind of stuff, but eagles don't. That's not eagle food.

159 Here he walked around there, and my.... All of them looked around. They'd all run over to this place, and she'd scratch out some of the dirtiest looking stuff, and they'd run over and eat it. Hmm! "Well, come on, come on. Join with us." But he's a separated person. Yes, sir. He didn't want none of that stuff. Didn't look right to him, didn't smell right, didn't have the right kind of a atmosphere around there. He didn't like that at all. He said, "No, no." 160 And one day the old mother eagle came hunting him. I'm so glad that He come for me. He flew over the barnyard, He looked down there and He seen His little one, and He screamed. He said, "Honey, you're not a chicken! You're Mine!" When he heard that voice, he looked up. That sounded good. His nature was an eagle. His nature...

161 "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever!"

"Amen!" he hollered back.

162 "Love not the world or the things of the world. If you do, the love of God is not in you."

"Amen," he said. "That sounds good."

163 "When I come back over, Honey, you can jump. The only thing you've got to do is flop your little wings of faith. It'll pack you."

"How am I going to get out of it, Mammy?"

164 "Just flop your wings, that's all. You'll come right on out. Just take your faith, and step right out on it. Go to flopping, because you are an eagle to begin with! Sure. You're an eagle to start with. Flop your wings."

165 She was sailing around above. "You look like one of mine down there where you're at." And the little fellow jumped on his feet and bounced up and down four or five times, you know, like he was clapping his little hands or wings together like that. And the first thing you know, he got his feet off the ground.

166 But you know what he did? This little eagle, she sat right down on top of a post in the barnyard—right in the middle of a big Pentecostal denomination. You know what? Mother eagle flew around again. She looked at her—slacks on, bobbed hair, painted face. Said, "Honey, you look more like a Pentecostal buzzard than you do a Pentecostal eagle. You'll have to wash yourself a little more than that, or I can't even get you." Right!

167 I don't mean to hurt your feelings, but I want to shear something off of you. Let me tell you, brother, the Pentecostal church needs a cleaning from the pulpit to the pew. That's exactly right. Laying aside the weight. No wonder we can't have revivals --eating the vulture things, staying home at night to watch some favorite television instead of going to your prayer meeting service. Wearing these old . . . women wearing these clothes and men take a little sociable drink, and telling dirty jokes and things among one another. What do you mean, men? God can't never reach down in a mess of stuff like that!

168 You may have the biggest churches there is in the country. You may have more money than you've ever got. That ain't got one thing to do with it! You might associate with what you call a better intellectual crowd, you might wear a better suit of clothes; but, brother, God wants a clean heart and clean hands. He wants a cleaned-up church. Then He can show Himself. When God spreads forth His great wings and shows His power that He's the same yesterday, today, and forever, the eagle's saying, "Yes, Lord. That's what I want. I'm fighting for it. I'm coming to it." Sure. He's the same yesterday, today, and forever.

169 My, where did our time go! I just feel like preaching now. Oh, what the Pentecostal church needs is a cleaning up! It needs a washing out. It needs a scouring out, a sanctifying. People, you are not of the world. You don't pattern yourself like other people. Don't try to pattern like some movie star. You're a daughter of God. You're a son of God. Don't try to be a Matt Dillon or somebody. Don't try to be a Peabody Ernie or ever what his name is, or some of those men. Love not the things of the world. If you love the world or the things of the world, the love of God is not even in you. I know, brother, that's sickening. That makes you sick.

170 My little old southern mammy used to tell me.... All of us little kids would come on Saturday night, and a big old cedar tub, and she would pour water in it, and give the little one the bath. And I was the last of ten, and I got the last bath in the same tub of water--just warmed it up a little bit. Then Mama would take me.... Had it so poor, she'd take old meat skins and render them out to get the grease out of them. We couldn't afford to buy lard, and so she'd get the grease out of it to put in the corn bread; and we had black-eyed peas, turnip greens and corn bread.

171 And we got . . . or we had an allergy, and things, and Mama, every Saturday night, would give us a dose of castor oil. I can't even

stand the stuff yet, to smell it. When I'd come to her, holding my nose, I'd say, "Mama, don't! Don't! Don't, I just can't stand it."

172 She gave me a good word. She said, "Son, if it don't make you sick, it don't do you no good."

173 That's the way with the preaching of this Word. If it don't sicken you up right good, so it'll make your spiritual gastronomics go to working, it won't do you any good. That's right. The Word makes you free and free indeed! Cuts loose the shackles.

174 Do you believe it? The church needs a Holy Ghost revival. It needs a housecleaning. These are eagles. Don't feed them on chicken food--they're eagles. Get them out there where they have to fly or die, that's all. And God will watch over His heritage. He's never too far away, He's always near to lift you up. Do you believe that?

175 Let us bow our heads then for a word of prayer. How many would like to be remembered now and say, "Lord, be merciful to me. Give me eagle thoughts. Give me eagle desires. Give me eagle life. Let me fly in Your blue yonder, Lord, where all things are possible to them that believe. Make a faith in me. Let my wings grow. Let my muscles around my wings grow till I can really see Jesus." Oh, God bless you.

176 Heavenly Father, oh, the message might have sounded critical, Lord. But it wasn't meant that way. It was just in a little . . . only way I have to let the people know, Lord, that I believe that You are trying to get to them to shake the church. This great heritage of Yours, this great Pentecostal church, great church as it is, You've shaken all kinds of gifts around them, all kinds of signs and wonders; and they sit back like chickens, sometimes. Oh, God, let them see they're eagles, they can fly--just take their faith and fly away from it. Get away from this old saying, "It can't happen. There's nothing to it."

177 Oh, God, I pray that You'll bless everyone here this afternoon, and make each one of them hover closely under Jehovah's wings. Grant it, Father. I present them to You in Jesus' name, Thy Son. Amen.

178 It's up to the Lord God what He does. Now we're going to have the prayer line so we can get out here . . . I want you to go to church tonight. God bless you. Do you love the Lord? Amen. Let's just sing one more time, so I can hear it in Tulsa, this great big group:

I love Him, I love Him, Because He first loved me. And purchased my salvation On Calvary.

179 Let's make it ring out now. The message is over. Let's just worship Him.

I love Him, I love Him, Because He first loved me. And purchased my salvation On Calvary's tree.

180 Now, let's just kind of bow our heads, and raise our hands while the crowd's getting quiet now.

I love Him, I love Him, (Draw nigh, Lord) Because He first loved me. And purchased my salvation On Calvary's tree.

181 [Brother Branham calls the prayer line.]... lost sheep of Israel. Is that right? Now, how many tribes of people are there on the earth? Three tribes. Ham, Shem, and Japheth's people. Now, that was the Jew, Gentile, and Samaritan, which is half Jew and Gentile. Did you notice...? How many knows that Jesus gave Peter the keys at Pentecost? That's right. He opened the keys to the kingdom at Jerusalem to the Jews. Is that right?

182 Philip went down and baptized them down in Samaria, yet the Holy Ghost did not come upon them because Peter had the keys. Come down and laid his hands upon them, and they received the Holy Ghost, the Samaritans. Is that right? Up at the house of Cornelius, who was called up there? Peter. Since then there was nothing else said about it. All generations had the.... All tribes had the gospel open--Ham, Shem, and Japheth's people.

183 Now, if you notice ... I want you to watch. Now there were two classes of people, two of the tribes looking for a Messiah. Who was it? It was Jew and Samaritans. But Gentiles, we were the Anglo-Saxons. We had a club on our back, worshipping an idol. We wasn't looking for no Messiah.

184 Now, I'm just holding your attention, if I can, till their prayer line gets ready, so they can all be ready to come into the line.

185 Now, we wasn't looking for no Messiah, so we didn't receive any. So then, now, to those that were looking for Him, He appeared to them. Now, how many believes that?

186 Now, after they rejected their Messiah, then. ... Remember, He went to the Jews. What kind of a sign did He show? He knowed the secret of their heart. Now what did the orthodox church say about Him? "He is Beelzebub, a fortune-teller."

187 Jesus said, "I forgive you for that; but someday the Holy Ghost will come to do the same thing, and to speak against it will never be forgiven in this world, neither in the world that is to come." Is that right?

188 Now, watch. He performed that sign before the Jews; He performed it to the Samaritans; but never to the Gentiles. You can't find one case of it. No, sir. But before He left. ... Now He said to the woman... Now watch this woman, that prostitute we call her. She knowed more about God than half the preachers in the United States. That's right. They're so intellectual they don't have no room for supernatural of Spirit. Many of them are fine Christians, supernatural brothers, but some of them are still chickens.

189 Then, she came around, and that little woman.... He went down, sent His disciples away, sat down here because the Samaritan people were looking.... How many knows the Samaritans were looking for the Messiah? Do you believe that? Well, let me quote you St. John 4. Now, a woman came out to the well, a woman of Samaria. He said...[Continues to call prayer line].

190 Now notice, when He went out to the well that day and sat down, and the disciples went in town to buy some victuals, while they were gone, a lovely looking woman came walking out with a pot on her head, and she let the windle down to get some water, and she heard somebody say, "Bring me a drink." She looked over, and she seen a Jew. He wasn't but thirty, but the Scripture said He looked fifty. How many knows that?

191 "You're a man not over fifty years old and say that You've seen Abraham?"

192 He said, "Before Abraham was, I am." That's right.

193 So, said, "You're not over fifty years old."

194 And there she was, sitting there at the well. There was Jesus sitting in a panoramic, something like this, and He said, "Bring me a drink." (They had a segregation then, like they used to have down South--the colored and white.)

195 She said, "It's not customary for you, being a Jew, to ask me, a woman of Samaria...."

196 He said, "Woman [Listen now what I'm telling you, you'll miss it.], woman, if you knew who you were talking to, if you knew, you'd ask me for a drink. And I'd give you waters you don't come here to draw."

197 She said, "The well is deep, and you have nothing to draw with." And then the conversation went on. What was He doing? Contacting her spirit. That's the same thing I'm doing right now to you. Trying to hold your attention.

198 He said, "Bring me a drink." The conversation went on till He found what her trouble was. How many knows what it was? She was living in adultery. So He said, "Woman, go get your husband and come here."

199 She said, "I don't have any husband."

200 He said, "That's right. You've had five, and the one you're living with is not your husband."

201 Now, did that woman, under her condition (being, as we think her, a prostitute, woman of ill-fame), listen what she knew about the Scripture. She never called Him like the preachers did, Beelzebub, a fortune-teller, a devil.

202 And anybody knows that fortune-telling is of the devil. So, what is a fortune-teller? It's a perverted subject. The devil can't create nothing. If he's a creator, he can make him a world. But he can pervert what God has created. Do you get that? Here, it sounds flat in a mixed audience. A man can marry a wife and live with her as a wife, and the bed is undefiled. The same act with another woman, he's gone. See, it's a perverting the thing that's right. You understand what I mean. Satan perverts. A fortune-teller is a perverted seer of God, perverted into the devil's realms.

203 And then notice, she didn't call him that. She said, "Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet." How many knows she said that? A whole lot different from what them preachers said. Said, "I perceive that You're a prophet." Now watch, listen! "We know, we Samaritans, we're taught, we know when the Messiah cometh, He'll do these things." Was that the sign of the Messiah? Was it? "We know that when Messiah cometh, He'll do these things; but who are you?"

204 Jesus said, "I am He that speaks to you."

205 She run into the city and told the men, "Come see a man who has told me the things that I've done. Isn't this the very Messiah?"

206 But never did He do it to the Gentiles. But did He promise it to the Gentiles? Why? We've got two thousand years of training just like the Jews and Samaritans had. A training–looking for a Messiah.

207 Now, Jesus said, "As it was in the days of Lot and Sodom, so shall it be at the coming of the Son of man." Now watch. In the days of Sodom, they had a revival with the intellectuals, with Lot. A modern Billy Graham went down there and preached the gospel --blinded them. 208 But watch what ... Abraham was the church-elected, Pentecostal, called-out, separated from the things of the world.

209 Now, there's Pentecostals in the Methodist Church. There's Pentecostals in the Baptist Church. Pentecostal is not a denomination; it's an experience that anybody can have that wants it. The denominational Pentecostal has no option on none of the Pentecostal blessings. The Catholics can have it. You're a Pentecostal because you've got a Pentecostal blessing in your heart.

210 So, Abraham was the called-out. And this angel had sat up there with Abraham, and after the angel left he called Him Lord, Elohim.

211 How many knows that Elohim was the great Jehovah God? Sure, the Lord God. And He sat with His back turned to the tent. Watch what He said to Abraham. Now, He was a stranger, had never been there before. He said, "Abraham, where is your wife, Sarah?" How did He know that he had a wife, and how did He know her name was Sarah?

212 Now, the Bible said that Abraham told Him that she was in the tent behind Him. In the tent behind Him. He said, "Abraham, I'm going to visit you according to the time of life; that I promised you this child, I'm going to give it to you." And Sarah, not out loud, but laughed within herself. And the angel, with His back to the tent, said, "Why did Sarah laugh?" See that? Jesus said that would take place amongst the Gentiles just before the end-time, the Messiah would drop down in the form of the Holy Ghost.

213 What was the first thing Messiah started doing when He was baptized at Jordan with the Holy Ghost? What did He do? Started healing the sick. What was His last sign, and His sign before He turned from them? That sign right there. What did the Pentecostal revival bring? Healing the sick, miracles and signs. What is the last thing? Here it is.

How many out there are sick and doesn't have a prayer card? Raise up your hand. Have faith and believe.

215 Somebody says, "What about it, Brother Branham?" That Spirit of God, that One who makes the promise, cannot fail with the promise.

216 You without prayer cards, I turn my back to you. You pray. And if God be God, if His answer is true, and I've told you the truth through these weeks that this is the sign of His close appearing. . . .

217 Any civilized normal mind knows that we're at the end of something. Civilization can't stand any longer. She's just weaving and shaking. What's it waiting for? It's way past due, as it was in the days of Noah–long-suffering. It's lapped overtime for the elects' sake. It's way past, but God's waiting to get His church in order. He's waiting on you and I. May He grant the blessings. You pray.

218 When a woman touched the hem of His garment.... Some of you women out there now.... Let this be like a Bible story. Some of you women that believes now, and believes that you've got faith enough to believe God, believe that whatever God has said is true. And there was a little woman touched the border of His garment, and when she touched His garment, He turned around and said, "Who touched me? Who touched me?"

219 And they all denied it. Said, "Well, everybody's touching You." Peter rebuked Him, said, "Everybody's touching You. Why did You say that like that?"

220 He said, "But I perceive that I have gotten weak." (That is the right translation.) "Virtue has gone out of me," and virtue is strength. How many knows that? "Virtue has gone from me."

And He looked around over the crowd till He found the little woman, and He told her that her blood issue had stopped, because her faith had made her well. Is that right? The Bible said that He is right now a high priest that can be touched by the feeling of our infirmities. Do you newcomers believe that?

Now remember, healing . . . If He was standing here with this suit on that He gave me, He couldn't heal you. If you come here to the platform, "Lord, will you heal me?" you know what He'd say to you?

²²³ "I've already done that. I *was* wounded for your transgressions. With my stripes you *were* healed." Salvation and healing is a finished product. It's your faith to accept it.

224 Now, He would do something to prove that He was Messiah. Now, these things don't prove that I'm any Messiah. I'm a sinner saved by grace. And no matter how much God would anoint me, He's got to anoint you, too. It won't work just with me; it takes you to make it work. No matter how much the Holy Spirit could get on me, it's got to be on you too. But if He is a high priest that can be touched by the feeling of our infirmities, and the Bible said He's the same yesterday, today, and forever, then He'll act the same. He's here in us. Do you believe it?

225 Now, everybody keep your seats. Be reverent and pray. And may the Lord God grant that just. . . . Lord, please, these lovely people. Lord, You know my purpose of being here. I pray that You'll let them see, if they never again, let them know that the coming of the Lord is at hand. Let them know that these cruel messages, seemingly, stirring them up . . . not to act smart, not to be in myself, but because You've anointed it, and said so.

226 Prove it, Lord. I've spoke for You. Speak for me, Lord, that my words are true because they come from You. I ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

227 Receive your call. Don't miss your day. How many in this prayer line are strangers to me? Raise up your hand, all you that's strangers. All you that's out there that's strangers, raise up your hands. I don't know a person but Gene Goad sitting here, Pat Tyler right there. It's the only ones that I see--and my son, standing back there--is the only ones that I know.

228 That woman sitting there, rubbing her eyes, with the red hat on, sitting right there—do you believe Jesus heard you when you asked Him to heal them sinus headaches? Do you believe He heard you? You was praying about it, wasn't you? If that's right, stand up on your feet. If that's the truth, put up your hand. If I don't know you, and you don't know me, put up the other hand—both hands. Ma'am, you've been in my revivals before? But I mean I don't know you. No, all right. 229 All right. Now, they had to see. You can go home and be well. I want to ask you people something. What did that woman touch? Here's my hand. I never remember. . . . She's been in the meetings. Now, you'd say, "How about somebody up there in the balcony, down in here, maybe in the meetings sometime before." I would never know who you were. The only thing I know that you were just here at the meeting. And there she is, she touched something. And what did. . . ?

230 I said awhile ago, that pillar of fire, don't you see, it's. . . . How many's got the picture of it now? They got it here at the meeting. Now it looks like the pillar of fire, doesn't it? And now the life of it, what does it produce? Not me now; it! What does it produce? The same works that it did when it was in the Son of God. Now it's in adopted sons and daughters of God, by the grace of the true Son of God.

231 Right there, sir, do you want to get over that heart trouble? Believe that God will make you well, sitting right there? You were looking and wondering and all at once a little funny feeling trinkled over you. That's right. I don't know you, do I? You don't know me, and I don't know you. If that's right, raise up your hand. Do you believe your heart trouble is gone? Wave your hand. All right, then it's gone.

232 Do you believe? Here's a lady sitting right out in here. Can't you see that light over that woman? She's got gallbladder trouble. She's going to miss it. God, help. Miss Small, do you believe God will heal you of that gallbladder trouble? Then stand on your feet. You had more faith than you thought you had. I do not know the woman. That was God's grace. If we are strangers, wave your hands like this, lady. I don't know you? But what He told you, is it the truth? Raise up your hand, what He said. All right, then have faith and go home and be well—if you can believe.

233 This lady sitting right here with the abdominal trouble . . .in the abdomen. Yes, Effie is the one I am talking about. Stand up, Effie. Was that your trouble? I do not know you. If that's true, raise up your hand. I never seen you in my life. God in heaven knows that. Go home. It's over. God bless you.

234 If you die in your sins, it won't be God's fault. You might be ever so loyal to a church, but a sinner is an unbeliever. Have faith in God.

235 All right. Now, these people here, this is a prayer line to lay hands on the sick. Are you going to believe it, regardless? Now that's people without a prayer card, where the line of discernment is, out there without a prayer card. Now, the rest of you start believing. Don't move around. See, each one of you is a spirit. Each one of you is a spirit. Did you know that? If there wouldn't, you'd be dead. So, it's your spirit I'm talking about, not you. It's your spirit.

236 Come here, lady. Do you believe me to be God's servant? We're strangers to each other, we don't know one another. If that's right, so the audience up in the balcony will understand, just raise up your hand if we're strangers, never met. Here's a panoramic. Being that the first one in the line was a woman, here's St. John 4. A man and a woman meets the first time in life. If this is the Spirit of Christ here between us, then He'll work the works of Christ.

237 Please, don't move. Now you just ruined it. You hurt others. See, I have control of every one of you. I'm trying to help you. Be real quiet and reverent. All right, if the Lord God will tell me something about you.... If I come up here.... Perhaps you're sick. You might not be, but if you are, and I come here and just laid my hands on you and said, "You're going to get well, lady," you could believe that because that's true. But if the Holy Spirit stood here and what if this was the Lord Jesus wearing this suit, standing here, and you'd say, "Heal me, heal me, Lord," He'd say, "I've already done it." But He'd do something like He did when He was back here before, like He did the woman at the well, to let you know that that's who....

How did He make her know? By telling her something that was in her life. Is that right, audience, all you newcomers? He'd tell something that was in her life. Now if He'll tell something that's in your life, like He did to Simon Peter, or like He did to somebody in the Bible the way He did, then that'd give you a lot of faith. Would it give every one of you faith to believe? Now here it is, not in behind some black curtains, not some devil's pomp, but right here on the platform with you, out of words of the Bible. It may be a little upsetting theology, but it's the Scripture just the same. If I could help you and wouldn't do it, I'd be an impostor. I wouldn't be worthy to stand here beside this Bible, if I could help you and wouldn't. I can't help you. Only thing I can do is to make you realize something . . . that Christ is here to heal you, make you well if you're sick.

239 You are sick. You're bothered with a ladies' trouble. It's a female trouble. That's right. If that's right, raise up your hand. So that you'll know that I'm not guessing ... just a minute. Put something on your heart and just pray to yourself in your heart, whatever you want God to do. Yeah, you got something on your heart right now. It's your husband. It's your husband. Do you believe God can tell me what's wrong with him? There's something wrong in the brain. It's caused ... like a hardening of the artery in the brain. That is true. That's right. If God will tell me who you are, will it make you have a lot of faith? Do you believe it with all your heart? Nancy Gillespie, go home, Jesus Christ heals you and your husband and makes you well. Take a handkerchief, too. That's true, isn't it? Go on your road. Now do you believe God? Just have faith, don't doubt.

240 Now I'm going to ask this great church here if you will pray with me for these people. That's somebody's mama, somebody's papa, somebody's sweetheart, somebody's husband. Pray. Don't move around, please. You're just ruining the meeting. Hold real still and pray. We'll be dismissed in ten minutes if you'll just keep reverent. [Brother Branham continues to pray for the sick.]