## From That Time

Klamath Falls, Oregon July 16, 1960

1 ... used to be over to another city here. I can't remember what ... Grants Pass. And he's just on up somewhere else in Oregon. I just met him out there; and you know it thrills you to meet old friends again. It does me. And I think of him about all the time. He used to be the manager in the meetings. Brother asked me a little before and we'd have him say something.

Said, "I can come in. Oh, I just had to run down and see you."

And I said, "You bet you can come in."

2 Another thrill that just come a few moments ago, as Billy (my son) give me a little package. And I tell you, it was the sweetest thing that I've had in quite awhile. There was a little girl here, and she got her little soul all stirred up, and she sent me an offering. Well now, if the Federal agents think I'm going to turn this in, they're wrong. And it's got a little note here that's real cute.

3 She says that: "I love you so much. I am thirteen years old. I give you this offering. I got it selling bottles. God bless you forever." Thirteen cents.

4 That was really sweet. She never signed it; she just said, "a little girl that loves the Lord." Whoever you are, sister dear, God bless you. You don't know what that means to me. That's just as sacred to me as somebody giving me a hundred dollar bill in that.

5 I think it was the great Gypsy Smith, in reading some of the context of his life story. He was asked one time what was the greatest thrill he ever had. He said: 'Well." They were going to take a love offering for him one night, and as he come up the back steps, he said, "There was a little ragged gypsy girl standing there, and said, 'Mr. Smith?' Said, 'We've come from a poor family.' And said, 'You have led my mother and father to the Lord Jesus.' And she said, 'I knew tonight was your love offering, and I didn't have nothing to give you.' She said, 'And a lady today give me a lollipop, and I just didn't want to drop it in the offering, Mr. Smith, so I just wrapped it up and thought I'd give you my offering personally.' A lollipop, little sucker."

6 He said he looked at that poor little ragged child and what happened? You know, that means.... That's from the real heart. You know, that's just something that's sweet and touching. And I think that's where real life lays, is when it's from around the heart.

I can think of a little something on that order in one of the meetings up in Finland. I beg your pardon, it was in... Yes, I still think it was Finland; yes, it was in Kuopio. I haven't thought of it for some time. There'd been a little boy raised from the dead, that I saw in a vision two years (here in America) before I went overseas. There might be some people here that heard me speak of it; I come up.... Yes, there's many hands up.

8 I said, "There will be a little boy somewhere, laying where there's trees, pine trees, and there'll be big rocks slabbed together. And the little boy will be killed in an accident, and the Lord God shall raise him up."

I was coming down from the tower of.... It's been a long time; I can't think of the name of the tower. It was up at.... It was Kuopio, Finland, about twelve years ago. And we were coming down....

10 A used Ford about six or seven years old in Finland, would sell for around two thousand five hundred dollars, maybe three thousand. And gasoline is ninety-five cents a gallon. So where there was at least twenty-five, thirty-five thousand people, you'd see about two or three automobiles. And up in there, they ride a little sled like a travois, an Indian wears ... rides, and.... Used to travel by travois, and they had a caribou that hauled them on the travois. And then down at the....

I'd been up in a car at the top of the hill, and down was Kuopio, Finland. I was there during the time about May; the sun is only out one day in a year there, just one day. Six months the sun's up; six months it's down. And this was just when the sun just skirting the edge of the horizon. At midnight, we could just.... Nice and light as it is in here, read a newspaper at midnight. Then it comes back up again. And you just go to sleep when you get sleepy; that's about the way you manage your day while the sun's up. And then it's gone for a year... for six months. That's up in the Laplands. 12 And coming down off of the mountain where we'd been singing, there's been a drunken Englishman up there. He didn't know what was taking.... He was a lumber buyer from England, and he wanted to know what that singing was about. And he was about as bad off as me; I.... When you can speak Finnish, you're pretty good, because I think they got about fifty or sixty letters in the alphabet, and so they.... They're very sweet people, some of the nicest people I ever met in my life. And they were very lovely people.

13 So then, while I was up there, this Englishman was going on. And I told him it was a religious meeting. I asked him if he knew the Lord Jesus as his personal Saviour. He said, "No," he never learned about no religion. So there I had the privilege of seeing the Lord Jesus sober that man and give him salvation to his soul, kneeling down out there in that mud and muck out there in the yard where this big tower.... It's kind of a watchtower, an old ancient watchtower. And we were up there praising God from on high.

14 And they'd tell me how the Russians would come in during the time of the war and drop the bombs on the city, and come over that tower. And then we could look right over across the Iron Curtain into Russia, about two mile away.

15 Coming down from the.... We'd gathered together to have prayer after they'd seen this Englishman. I'd went down and just walking around at the bottom of the tower, and Brother Jack Moore was with me, and this Englishman had just come to Christ. They all came down, and something come over me real strange. When they took a picture of it ... (I have it at home.)

16 I said, "Remember, something's fixing to happen; I just feel it. Something's going to take place. I don't know what."

So, they begin to ask, "What will it be?"

I said, "I don't know. It's just something's fixing to take place."

17 About a mile down the hill, we seen where there'd been about a five or six year old American made Ford. Some of the people that was up on the hill at the tower had went down, and some little school children was coming from the school. And their parents.... They live in the city, something like Germany. They live in the city, and they farm out in the country, and they come back into the city. 18 Two little boys, one about nine years old, and one about (Oh, I'd say) about six years old. They was crossing the road, and this car coming fast, and no cars hardly there. They wasn't expecting a car. And the little fellows holding one another's hands, and they seen the car whirl into sight; and one started one way and one the other. And they was holding each other's hand. Finally, they let loose of each other's hand, and the man driver got excited, and didn't know which way to go, because the children was jerking both ways, lost control of the car.

19 And one of the fenders on the left side hit one little boy right in between the eyes like that, and threw him over, and smashed him into the tree, and concussion of the brain and broke his bones up. And the other one, it run right straight over the top of him, like that. Went over, and it throwed him, where the back wheel hit him, all the way across the road into the grass plot. The car went over the hill, and smashed into a bunch of rocks, and turned over.

20 We arrived at the scene, there'd been someone else, a carriage that had got there before us and took the little boy that was breathing, taken him to the hospital. And the chief man of the city (which is equivalent to a mayor of the city), he was there; the doctor had gotten there. But the law in Finland, that they couldn't move this child now, until the parents come. So, they'd gone on horseback ... or carriage to the field to find the child's parents, to bring them in.

21 Well, we stopped. Brother Gordon Lindsay, Brother Hall's brother-in-law, was along, Brother Ern Baxter, and Brother Jack Moore, and several of the brethren; and we stopped. And Mrs. Isaacson... She may be right in this meeting tonight; she lives out in here somewhere. Are you here, Sister Isaacson? She was my Finnish interpreter.

And so, they got out of the car to look at the little boy and come back. We'd seen an accident had happened. They come back and they said.... I said, "What was it?"

23 They said, "Oh, come out and look, Brother Branham. It's a little boy was killed. There was another one killed too; they done taken him to the hospital."

I said, "Oh, I don't want to go." I said, "I'd think of my own little boy, Billy Paul." And he was just a lad, and I hadn't seen him for months. And as you all know, his mother's dead, and I've been both mother and father to him. In fact, we've been chums together. She asked me to never leave Billy when she was dying, and he's been my chum ever since.

And I didn't want to look at the little boy. It'd just bring.... He'd be about Billy's age then, about nine, ten years old. And you all remember how I told you the little boy would look: He kind of had one of those crop hair cuts and brown eyes. And he was little ... wearing them what we used to call in my days "little panty waist" like, and then his long stockings, and his foot would be mashed through his stockings, and he'd be killed in an accident.

Well, I didn't go over, and Mrs. Isaacson said, "I believe you should go over."

Went to look at the little boy--went over there--and they had his coat over his face. When I see that poor little fellow laying there mashed up like that, I just started weeping. I turned around and something laid his hand on me. I thought it was Brother Moore. And I looked around, and there was nobody around, and that hand was still laying on my shoulder. Well, I said, "That's strange." And the hand left away from me.

I don't know whether you believe in ... all of you believe in supernatural things or not, but it happened just the same. And I started to move again, and the hand laid back on my shoulder again. I thought, "Well, I wonder what this means. Maybe I'm supposed to pray for this little lad." And I thought, "Well...."

I looked back again, and they'd done covered his little face up. And there was about three hundred people standing there. And I started to move on, and the hand just held me. Well, I walked back and I started back towards the little boy, and the hand was all right, left me. Well, I done that twice. And I said, "Let me see the little boy again." And they raised up the.... Mrs. Isaacson talked for me, interpreted it, and they raised up the thing for me to see his face again. And I looked. I thought, "That's strange. It looks like I've seen that little boy."

29 Well, Doctor Manninen, he was the head of the ministerial association of Helsinki, and so he was with me. And I said, "Dr. Manninen, has that little boy been in the prayer line?"

30 He said, "I don't think so." Said, "I will ask some of the local pastors." And they were standing there. No, they had never seen the little boy, didn't know of him.

Well, I said, "It's strange; it looks like I've seen the little boy." I started to walk away again, and that hand laid on my shoulder again. I looked back, and I thought, "Something...."

32 Then I noticed the little crop hair cut, little brown eyes pushed out, laying back. Little foot through his socks where they'd mashed through like that. Oh, he was in terrible condition. That car just wadded him up like that, and the back wheel after it lost control, it just flipped him out, and he just froze on the accelerator like that, and it just went on over the hill. The man never got hurt; they pulled him out of the wreck, and he was by himself. And then I looked again, and I looked up the hill. And there was them pine trees coming off the hill--he blast the rocks.

33 Oh, my! Christian friends, I hope that someday (if not, it'll be run in another land) when that feeling that comes to you when you know ... I wished I could have that feeling all the time. If I could.... It's something. It's a love; it's like a real deep love. And if the devil would've sent all of his imps out of torment and stood right there on them grounds, it could not have moved that feeling at all. It's something that God has told that's going to happen; you can see it right here laying before you. It's going to happen.

So I said, "I know the boy." And Brother Moore and them standing there. I said, "Look in your Bibles, Brother Lindsay, on the fly leaf...." You know what I asked you people (when I come through here, was Portland there) to it write on the fly leaf of your Bible. I seen it on a train going to Florida. And I said, "I wrote ... I said, 'Thus saith the Lord, a little boy (described how he looked) would be raised from the dead.'"

And they looked on the fly leaf of the Bible, and Brother Moore said, "That's the boy."

I said, "That's him." I said, "Now...." And I told all the people (I had Mrs. Isaacson) I said, "Now, tell them, 'Be reverent.'" I said, "If this little boy isn't on the street alive in five minutes from now, then you can take me out of Finland; I'm a false prophet." See? I said, "The little boy's going to rise up from the dead right now." Been dead about thirty minutes.

And so ... was waiting for the father and mother, and I was thinking how they must have feel ... how they would feel to come to see their little boy crushed and laying on the road like that. His little tongue was hanging the side of his mouth, blood running out of his ears, and everything. So, I knelt down just the way the vision showed, laid hands on the little boy, and as soon as I laid hands on him, I said, "Heavenly Father, in America ten years ago, You promised me the life of this child, that it would rise again." Now, death cannot hold it when that vision's speaking." I said, "Death, return his life in the name of Jesus Christ."

The little boy jumped up and screamed, his little foot [unclear words]. He was just as normal and well as any child could ever be.

Now, I've got that written by the chief man of the city of Kuopio, Finland, in my study today. That's right. And in there written, and then translated on the other side, of what it was. Said, "Brother Branham, we're poor in Finland. We can't offer you, only thing we got is paper. So here's a book of Kuopio as a comment from me." And it's got their seal on it like that, when he wrote the testimony himself.

38 Someone wrote to me from Finland here not long ago. Said, "That was false." And he was going to write a book on it; it was false.

I said, "Go right ahead, just write the book. Then I'm going to publish this testimony of the mayor of the city behind it. So now, you just go ahead and write me what you want to."

40 Have we got just a moment or two longer for something? I want to finish that up. That night when we left Finland, that.... We was going into the place; there was so many there; they had to have guards on the street. And I ... going into the room, I was walking along; there was about six or seven soldiers around me. Them poor little Finns, not old enough to shave yet, all the other grown men had been killed off nearly by the Russians. And so, they were taking me....

41 And when you are born in Russia, if you're forty miles from your birthplace, you have to have a visa. But don't let nobody ever tell you there's no Christians in Russia; there's millions of them. And there was those Russian soldiers that.... They can't broadcast stuff like we have, rock-and-roll and all that stuff, over there on; nothing but business and commercial on radio. And here, they'd had went all over Russia.

42 Then Baron Von Bomburg told me not long ago (a little fellow they'd brought up behind the Iron Curtain) said, "I'm surprised, Brother Branham, that your ministry's no better known in America than what it is." It's known better in Russia than it is here, where it had been behind the Iron Curtain. Said, "We all heard on the radio of that little boy being raised from the dead up there." And now, them Russian soldiers standing on the street, give that Russian salute when I passed by. And they said.... An interpreter telling as we're going by, said they said, "We will receive a God like this." Certainly. See?

43 What it is, is the weakness of the church raised up Communism; it's bred from that kind of an egg. If the church taken all the money there is in a country and building million dollar gold altars, and people starving on the street? You can see why such things as that'll come up. But let any human being see the real thing of God, he will believe it, if he's got anything he can believe with.

So he was standing there, and he said, "We will receive a God like, that that can raise the dead. We want to know about that."

And I tell you; while I'm on this subject, I might say this: I seen Russian soldiers grab Finns around their waist in there on the inside of the building, and hug and pat one another—like the Scandinavian people do—hug and pat one another. Anything that'll make a Russian put his arm around a Finn, and a Finn around a Russian, would settle wars forever. We don't need U.N.'s; we need Jesus Christ. That's what the world needs.

45 Going in that night, there was a little girl come out. You've read the story. Brother Gordon, never wrote it in detail; he just kind of told it. She come out of a ladies dormitory, such as it was. And we started out walking this way and there was soldiers. And that little girl, when she stepped out, she had.... One leg was about that much shorter than the other. And then she had a big belt around her, and a brace that went down (homemade), like that, and she had two crutches. She had a strap in the end of her toe that went over her shoulder and hooked back there in the back of this belt. And when she started to walk, she had to put her braces out ... crutches out, then take her little shoulder and kick that little leg up and set it out like that, then make her step. And so, she seen me. And we'd warned them, you know. I like kids, and I'd get on the street with some of that old Finnish money and buy big bunches of that candy, you know. And brother, I'd just give it out to kids. I had a string from here two city blocks, that followed me every where, because I love children. And so....

47 When I looked at her, she dropped her little head like that; she was afraid she'd done something wrong. And I looked at that child and I started to walk on, and something said, "Speak to that child; she wants to speak to you."

48 I stopped. And the soldiers kept.... They couldn't talk English, so they kept going on. I could hear them singing, "Only Believe." And so I started on in that just.... Them soldiers just standing there. And I said, "Just a minute here." Them other soldiers looked back. And I said, "Just a minute."

49 And so, that little girl, I looked at her, and I said, "Come on over here, honey." She couldn't understand; she looked to be about nine or ten years old. And I said, "Come on over, honey." And she dropped her little head down; 'course she didn't understand what I was saying. And she looked up at me again, and put her little head down real quick—child like. And I motioned to her like this. She put her little crutches out, and raised that leg up and here she come. And I just stood still, and the soldiers stood there just watching what was going on.

50 She got right up close to me where I was at like that. She just stopped, held her little head down, and her little old ragged skirts hanging down, her little old hair over her face. I learned later she was a little Finnish war orphan; her mother and father was killed. She was living in a tent. And I looked, and she looked at me like that. She looked up at me, and great big tears running out of her little eyes, running down her face like that.

51 She reached over and got a hold of my coat, and just kissed me on the pocket of my coat. And she pulled her little skirt out like this, her little ragged skirt. She said, "Kiitos." That means *thank you*. My heart was just up in my mouth; you know how you feel like that. That little kid... And I looked out this way, and I seen her standing out there with no crutches or braces, just praising God. 52 I said.... I believe if I'd have been the biggest hypocrite in the world, God would've honored that child's faith. He sure will; He would have honored it.

And I said, "Sweetheart, how can I tell you?" I said, "You are healed, honey. God has made you well."

"Jesus," she said, "Kiitos, Jesus." (That's "Thank you, Jesus.")

I said, "Make you...."

I couldn't know the other words, and so I said, "Make you well. Kiitos, Jesus make you well." She couldn't understand that. And then they....

Here come Brother Baxter at the door, and said, "Come on, come on."

And I thought, "Well, God will let her know sometime." So he went on in. "She would be all right."

53 So I went on in, and we had a great prayer line. You just noticed the picture in the book of them big piles of crutches and things, just piling around me like that. Just as soon as that....

54 What happened that night? There'd been about eight or ten people come up to the platform. And there was a kind of a Lapland woman sitting back there, had a cross eyed baby; she had it laying on the floor. The Holy Spirit moved around, and I couldn't get her. I thought, "Lord, I couldn't say that name; let me spell it out."

And I started spelling it, and he told her who she was, what all about her like that, and what was wrong with the baby. "Picked it up and look at it," It said. (Spelling it, now.) That she was a.... And how she understood it, I don't know. She grabbed that baby up and looked at it, and his eyes just as straight as they could be. She just had a spasm almost, just up-and-down that floor screaming, and where there's thousands of people.

And then Howard (just as Billy does now) my brother, when he touched me on the sides ... I just pretty near unconscious under them visions. He touched me like that, "Time to go."

And I started to go away, and something said, "Wait a minute; call some more."

And I said, "Just a minute, Howard." I said, "Don't take me now."

He said, "Why?"

I said, "Let's call five more people." I said to Mrs. Isaacson, I said, "Call in Finnish the ... what numbers you have to call." And she called the next and by the grace of God, out of the room, that little girl was the next one with the prayer card. How God in His sovereignty....

58 Friends, I'm glad.... The greatest thing I've ever seen in my life is just submit yourself to God and walk in the Spirit (See?), just day after day, how He will lead you and do things.

59 And when I seen this little girl come, I thought, "Praise the Lord." They brought her up on the platform and helped her up. And two or three of the ushers brought her up to me, packed her and set her down. I said, "Now, Mrs. Isaacson, watch this." I said, "Now, you just say just the words I say."

And she said, "I will."

I said, "Sweetheart, Jesus Christ honored your faith out there when you kissed my pocket awhile ago. You was giving respect for things that you thought was of God." I said, "God has healed you. Now, you go over there and sit down and have some of the ministers or some to take those braces off of you. And you hold your hand on your hip like this." And give her something to do to keep her courage. You see?

So I said, "When you come.... When they've moved the brace, and the big iron hook from under your foot here, when they move that, you let your hand move down your limb just as far as you think that that brace is, shortness of your leg."

62 And so I said, "Bring me the next person, now." And they brought the next one. And the minister took her over there--Mrs. Isaacson--to administrate it, and they took her and begin unbuckling the things.

63 So, the first thing you know, I heard a scream. Here she come across the platform, both legs just as normal as they could be, them crutches over the top of her head, screaming and carrying on. Oh, my. It was just one thing after another, after another, after another.

I went home that night, looked down across there, seeing those Finns walk across there, their hands up in the air, praising God. That's when the Angel appeared about the other little boy. You read the story of that in the book. And how that that little boy, laying there dying, doctors had given him up, he was healed the next evening just exactly when the Holy Spirit said he would be healed. And he left and was normally well, living today, still getting letters from them, that the Lord made them well. He still remains Jesus Christ.

65 Thank you, my little sister, for this tithing. As a minister, I'm supposed to receive tithing. So, I thank you very kindly, my little girl friend. And may God ever bless you. And don't you let your mommy tell you you're fat. You're not, see. All right. She said in here (I didn't read that.); she said, "Mommy says I'm fat, but I'm not." I don't believe you are either. If you are, God give you the desire of your heart, honey, is my prayer, if it means anything to God, to you.

Now, tonight I was going to give an experience that happened. And first, I want to read the Word. Now, tomorrow afternoon (What time's the services start, Billy? Two-thirty.) Now, tomorrow at onethirty, all that wants to come in the prayer line, be prayed for, we'll be giving out prayer cards, bringing the entire group like we did last night. That's the way I think my ministry will begin and move on from last night. All of you that want prayer cards, come at one-thirty tomorrow afternoon, not later than.... Be here no later than two or a quarter after, because all the cards probably be given out by that time, and it won't interrupt the rest of the meeting.

Now, if some of the messages while I was preaching, if you care for them, the boys has got them here–-Brother Goad and Brother Mercer. (Where are they at? Do you know?) On the stand in the back of the building, they got records and tapes. These boys.... They belong to them, and they'll be glad to let you have them. And I have searched it over in their sales and so forth.

I told you the story how the boys got connected with me last night. And I sent to a minister not long ago to get a tape. He charged me nine dollars for it. And I checked these boys, and I think it's about two dollars and a half, or something like that; they make about thirtyfive, forty, maybe, fifty cents off a tape—buying the best of the tapes (Scotch tape)—and make the best. If they'd put a big price on them, I'd tell them right now, "No more tape selling." No, sir. 69 Now, they've got to have something for their handling, because you break up a lot of tapes and everything, then you.... They got to live. One of them's a married man, and so we.... They got to live, and they have a right to make a little off of them. And then sometimes, they get them damaged and broke, and send them out and don't get paid for them, and you know how it goes. Just like our books back there: I buy those from the "Voice of Healing" on forty percent less. And with what we have to pay for selling them, and handling charges.

And I've always said, if anybody wants a book ... (Give the order to the boys all the time.) If anybody wants the book and the poor old man walks up and reaches down in his pocket, "How much are they?"

"Well, they're seventy-five cents," Or whatever ... dollar, or whatever they're worth. And he says he's got fifty cents.

Tell him, "Dad, take the book and go on; forget about it." See? Let it go.

71 That way, the books don't even support themselves. The church has to help me with the books. Time we pay for them, and the printing, and the wreckage, and tear up, and everything on them, and what we have to give away and things, why, they don't... They don't support themselves. And so therefore, we have nothing that we make money out of. Everything that we do...

And myself: My love offering goes to the mission fields. I don't see it. It goes for a good thing. I get one hundred dollars a week from my church, whether in America, out of America, wherever it is; I get fifty-two hundred dollars a year. That's what I live on, and we have to live close with a big family like I got. And I have to live in the church parsonage.

And we never come here for money; that's not our intention. The only reason we let you buy the books and sell them again, and sell the tapes and that, is because we think that it will further the cause of Jesus Christ. There's no money in it at all. But I will not permit the books or tapes or anything else to be sold on the Sabbath day. That's tomorrow. We will not sell them on Sunday; we never did, and we never intend to do it. And so if you want some of the books, some of the tapes or records, they'll be at the back of the building tonight.

And if you get it, and you don't think.... If you haven't got any money, it's yours anyhow. You get it, it ain't worth the fifty cents, or whatever you paid for it, send it right on back, or throw it away and tell us, or give it to somebody else. Give it to somebody else, and send and tell us it wasn't worth it; the money will be refunded back to you. So we don't want nothing that.... Any expenses, any thing like that all. It's nothing.

<sup>75</sup> But the love offering is for the foreign fields. I do not receive it myself; it's taken by my field secretary, counted by the ministers, given to him, deposited in the bank. And when I go overseas and so forth, it supports me in foreign fields to bring this same message of deliverance to people that don't even know which is right and left hand. That's where it goes. I never know even what the offerings is, unless somebody tell me. When I get home (I will be gone a month), so I will get four hundred dollars when I get back home to pay off my debts and things. Now, that's the way we live, so that you'll understand that we don't have any.... No, no, we're not for money or anything like that. And what we have, I want to make it real clear so that you'll understand.

Now, tonight, I want to take a little text (if I should call it that) to speak from for a few moments. Before we approach it, let us bow our heads just a moment for prayer.

<sup>76</sup> Heavenly Father, we thank Thee from the very depths of our heart. How the experiences ... Lord, I have seen You do in my little meetings—-let alone those great men who are on the field, like our Brother Roberts, and Tommy Osborn, and those—-I've seen You do enough in my own services to write many Bibles of great things: of raising dead, let the doctors sign a statement to it; making the blind, deaf, dumb.... Foretelling, telling what exactly, watch it happen every time exactly right. You're God, and we know that Thou art God.

Please, Father, if there be in our midst tonight one who does not believe, may something be done or said tonight, would call to Your sheep to surrender their unbelief to Thee and exchange it for a real gallant Spirit of belief from God, the Holy Spirit. Grant it, Lord. You're ready to take away their evil and to give them good. Oh, You're so good, Father; we love You for it. 78 We pray that You'll inspire Your ministers everywhere. May they become burning torches to this dark hour that we live in, as we see that so-called civilization smothers out the very light of God if it is possible. But yet, that torch will burn in the hearts of people until Jesus comes. Father, add more to the ranks tonight, we pray. Heal all the sick people; all that's afflicted, we pray that Your grace and mercy will rest upon them. Give them eternal life in the world that is to come, and give them good health in this world. For it is written in the Bible, "I would above all things, that you prosper in health."

79 Inspire the churches throughout the valley and everywhere that's represented in this great Holy Ghost revival that's swept the world. We pray, Father, that You'll revive it again in a great way. Let it start here in Oregon again, a great revival in every church.

Tomorrow, the Sabbath, may the churches be filled, may the ministers be on fire, may souls be brought in, may many come confessing their sins and require water baptism. Grant it, Father. And may You fill every one with the Holy Ghost that follows Your prescription as we taught it the other night. I pray, Father, that You'll let them know that the promise is unto every generation and "whosoever will, as many as the Lord, our God, shall call." That's what Your prescription said; we believe every word of it. I pray, Father, that You'll grant this to every one. Forgive us of our sins. Take the service into Your hands and get glory to Thyself, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Now, I wish to read just a line out of the fourth chapter and seventeenth verse of Saint Matthew.

And from that time Jesus began ... preach and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Now, I want to take the subject, those three first words: "From That Time." Now, there's all here that can call back to such and such a time. "From that time," we say. Like the little boy, little girl, we can say we were doing a certain thing and such a thing happened, and "from that time" things changed for us. And we could go tonight into the city here and find the most degraded and immoral woman that walked the streets of your lovely little city here in the valley. And I would sit down by her, and I'd say, "Lady, I wish you could tell me your story." And she would start off; she might say something like this: "Brother Branham, there was a day when I was as pure as a lily. And I could hold my head up amongst the people of renown status, and I could go to church, and feel just fine. But there come a time that one night I was out with a certain boy, and he spiked the coke for me, and from that time...."

Or it might be that some other girl friend that was not a believer, that got with her and persuaded her off to a certain dance. And she got in the arms of some boy, and from that time.... It's always marking from a time.

Or I might go out here into your city tonight, and find the worst alcoholic that you have. And I would sit down by the side of that man--young or old--and I would say to him, "Friend, I would like to ask you something. Why do you throw your life away like this? What makes you drink and do the way you do, when you could be a great worker here in the city? You could be a worker in some church, or you could be a real husband to some woman, a father to some children." Or some drunken woman that could be a real mother to some children, a sweet loving wife to some husband.

And they'd start like this, and say, "Well, from.... I once was a prohibitionist. I had a lovely mother and father who taught against the drinking. And one time I got into a fellowship with a certain boy that was very popular amongst the girls, and I wanted to be popular too, so I thought we'd join in the drinks. And I went against the teaching of my mother and father. And he persuaded me, 'Tonight if you want to have a good time, you want to get some spirits in you.' And I took my first drink, and from that time...."

87 That's the way it starts. Here some time ago in New York, Dr. Berg, he's a pastor now at Sister Brown's tabernacle, Bethany Tabernacle, in New York City, one of the old Pentecostal establishments, one of the oldest in the world. Guess our brethren know of them well.

And while I was there, I got to meet Sophia, the wash woman, the Swedish woman that went and worked the bowery with her. I had to lay over two days to get a yellow fever shot; I thought I'd get into Africa without taking it, but they wouldn't let me pass or get into the airship. And I had to wait two days to go to the Navy yards to take a yellow fever shot. And Brother Berg said, "What would you like to do?"

I said, "I'd like to visit the bowery."

He said, "All right, we will go down." Said, "I have several missions down there."

And we went down, and I think that it would be a good thing for any man to take his son to the bowery and let him see. I think if you was ever in France, take your daughter to Pigalle; let her see how degraded human life can get. So when I went down by the bowery, men laying helpless, flies blowing in their face from vomiting. Dope fiends, alcoholics.

And I said, "Oh, Brother Berg," I said, "perhaps these men here was raised in homes that did not care what they do; they was just let loose to run on the street."

91 He laid his hand across my shoulder and said, "You'd be surprised." He said, "Right in the mission here we're going to, we got out 180 that died in there last year. Kept them off the streets, feeding them and so forth, and they finally died; there's no hope for them outside of Christ."

And then ... there were a few too far for that. He said, "Here, this man here." Said, "I know him. Raise him up."

And I went over to him, and I said, "Sir, could I speak to you?"

He said, "Well, he may not be able to speak."

92 Oh, I just can't say the condition the man was in. He had gotten to a place his clothes from his waist down was in a terrible condition, wet all over. And he was just in an awful state, smelling. And I said, "Sir, could I speak to you?"

93 And Brother Berg shook him. He raised up. And he said, "I'm Brother Berg." Well, he didn't know nothing about Brother Berg. He was still on the drunk.

And I said, "I would like to ask you a question." I said, "What type of home was you raised in?"

He said, "Will you give me enough money for a drink?"

And I said, "I'm a minister of the gospel. I would not give the money of the Lord to a man to drink." I said, "The money that I have comes from the children of God, and it's to be spent for the Kingdom of God. I tell you what I will do: I will buy you a sandwich; I will buy you your dinner or ... if you'll go with me. But I would just like, as a minister, to ask you."

He said, "Excuse me, Reverend."

And I said, "How did you ever come to be this way?"

He said, "Sir, I doubt whether you'll believe my story."

"Well," I said, "I take you as a man of honor. I'll believe your story; you tell me; tell me from your heart."

And he said, "Sir," he said, "I was raised in a Christian home."

And I said, "And then fall into this?"

95 He said, "Yes, sir." Said, "I had the most lovely family: Three children--two boys and a girl--and the sweetest wife that ever lived." And the big tears begin to run through his old gray beard. He said, "I was the president of this bank over here on a certain corner."

And I said, "Is that so?"

He said, "Go to the bank and ask them."

And I said, "Well, what caused you to do this?"

96 He said, "Sir, reverend sir," he said, "one evening I come home and there was a 'Dear John' letter laying on the table. My wife had left me." He said, "And I'd never drank, but I thought, 'I've got to do something or I will take a pistol and blow my brains out.' And I started drinking, and here I am."

Thought, "God have mercy." See?

"From that time...." That's what started it. We can always think from a time.

97 Then like the young couple that gets married. Oh, they're as loving as they can be. The first thing you know, I'd go to this woman who had left her family, and I'd say, "Lady, what made you leave your family? You had a nice husband."

"Oh," she'd say to me; she'd say, "Brother Branham, I was as pure as the dew from heaven. I married my husband and came to him a virtuous woman. And he was a grand man; he worked and sweated and taken care of me, and the children was.... My little chunky boy, when he was born, I can see Hubby now with the little boy on his back--piggy backing riding up-and-down the floor. And oh, if I could only call back again."

I'd say, "Well, what happened?"

99 She'd say something like this. "Well, it was all right. And one day, a salesman knocked on the door with pretty wavy hair and big brown eyes, and from that time...." See? That's the way it starts; mark a time. That's just the starting of it. Don't you never think that sin lays in the street always in the gutter; sin's dressed up and beautiful. Certainly does. I've always said Satan wears a tuxedo suit and a stove pipe hat, and carries a cane on his arm. Watch that slick greaser. That's exactly. Satan's no fool, you know. He knows how to dress up; he makes it a practice, see.

100 And then, all of you know old Charley Barleycorn out there with his hat pulled down; sometimes that's a real honest heart. If he had a good start or something to help him along, he'd go right; but not always. I've seen many times, and I've walked with people as ragged as they can be; I look at them. (And I have a way by God to know who likes me and who doesn't. You know that.)

101 So, see a man all dirty and everything; I'd rather have him with me many a time then someone dressed up with their (maybe) collar turned around, and pat me on the back, and say, "Oh, Brother Branham, we're for you." And know right then he's a lying. See, see? That's it. I've got no use for a liar. You can hide from a thief, but you can't from a liar. So, that....

102 But when we hit those spots "From that time...." Then New Year's comes along. You all go out and write up a resolution. "Tonight, wife, I will give you the promise. I will turn a new page, and I will never drink no more."

103 And the woman smoked so many cigarettes, till she can't nurse her baby no more, give it nicotine poison, kill it; and she's going to stop smoking on New Year's. The drunk's going to quit drinking on New Year's; the immoral person's going to stop their immorality on New Year's, so forth like that. What do you do? Just turn a new page and turn it back the next day again, see. You don't get started right. All these things are fine; I have nothing against them.

104 But just like after the First World War.... Many of you middle aged men, and about my age.... I think I was eight or nine years old when the war ended. And I remember when they declared war: 1914,

I was a little baby boy sitting on a spring wagon. My father had a sack of beans; that's what we lived on: beans and corn bread, still like it. And so, Pop was talking about war, and he might have to go to war.

I said, "If them fellows come after you, I will take this sack of beans and hit them with it." And so, now that's when I was so little.

105 And then, I remember that when he got me my first pair of shoes, he said he was going down, him and Mama, to pick them out. I'd been barefooted. You know, the little boys down in the mountains where I was raised just had a, what you call the old hickory—a little apron like or a little shirt when you was a little boy. I wore that till I was about six years old, I guess. And my first pair of shoes, they had the cap across them, that's got them little holes in them.

106 And I'd always, when I'd get a splinter in my hand, I'd run to Mama, and she'd pick it out like that. And I thought them little holes in my shoes was where they'd took a needle and picked them out of somewhere, because Mama said she had to go down and "pick me out" a pair of shoes. I thought she did it with a needle.

107 But after the world war, I remember the message come out: "We will never have no more war. War is over." That was good intentions; they meant that. And then, they formed what we know as the League of Nations, taking so many men (soldiers) out of each nation, and they would police the whole earth. That was good intentions, but it didn't work, because it wasn't God's program. Now, we've got what's called the U.N. and what it is sitting in the U.N. with guns on one another almost. It'll never work.

108 But there is something that.... One time you can meet "from a certain time" and everything will be changed. That's when you meet God, and from that time you're a changed person. A man can meet God and say, "From that time...." You will never be the same after you meet Jesus Christ; let me assure you that. You'll never, never be the same after you meet Jesus. Then you'd always refer back, "From that time...."

109 Let us interview tonight some people who met God. Let's think of father Abraham. He was just an ordinary man. He came down with his father from Babylon and dwelt in the valleys of Shinar, in the city of Ur, the land of the Chaldeans. He was nothing special; he wasn't any sainted person. He was just an ordinary man like you or I. 110 And one day.... Perhaps he was a farmer out in the fields farming and—or something—and one day, he met God. He never had no more faith than any other man. But when he met God at the age of seventy-five years old, it changed his entire being; because he met God. God told him.... Him being seventy-five years old, and he had married his half sister, Sarai; and that time, she was sixty-five years old. And God told Abraham that he was going to have a baby by Sarai.

111 Now, that would've been.... If it would've been somebody would've walked up and told him, (some of his associates) and said, "Abram, you are going to have a baby by Sarai, and she's going to bear a child, and you...."

112 Abraham would've laughed, and held his sides, and said, "Me, an old man like me? And my wife thirty years there ... or twenty years a-past menopause? And I've lived with her since she was seventeen years old; she's barren, and I'm sterile. And how can we ever have a baby, and me seventy-five and her sixty-five?" He'd have laughed in the face of his friend. But he met God. And from that time he called anything contrary to it as though it wasn't. Amen. He'd met God.

113 If the sick person can ever meet God, no matter how crippled you remain, how sick you remain, how blind you remain, you meet God, there's something pressed into you, and you don't see any more of these circumstances. You look at what God said. If God could ever get way down through the cares of life into your heart, and instill a faith there, there's nothing in the world will ever shake you from it. When a man meets God, from that time on, he's a changed person.

114 A hundred years old Abraham was, and he was still calling anything contrary to it as though it was not. The evidence got greater and greater, piled up against him; Sarah was ninety and he was a hundred. He was still giving praise to God, strong, not staggering through unbelief, but was giving praise to God every day that he'd have the baby. Why? God had met him; God was merciful. God confirmed the covenant to him. 115 Would we have time to take that confirmation in the sixteenth chapter of Genesis? Or could we take also over in the seventeenth chapter when He met him in the name of Almighty God, which means *El Shaddai*, means in the Hebrew word "the breast of a woman," *El Shaddai*: "The strong One, the satisfier, the nourisher."

What an old man, a hundred years old, and God met him and said, "I am El Shaddai."

116 Now, *shad* means "woman's breast" but *shaddai* means "breasted," plural. Now, He's not only a *breast* God, but He's a *breasted* God: "He was wounded for our transgressions; with His stripes we were healed." If you need salvation, hold on and nurse from that breasted God, His Word, His promise. You'll come bringing yourself from them ruts of sin and immorality, to a godly sainted person. If you're sick, "by His stripes you were healed." Just take a hold of the other promise of God and nurse.

117 What does the baby have to do? The baby.... We are God's babies. I want you to get this, sisters, you all there. We're God's babies. And what does the baby do when he's sick and fretty? It's real fretty and sick. Now, the only thing you have to do.... The only thing that'll pacify it, is for the mother to pick it up, hold it to her bosom, and nurse it. Now, what does the mother do? The mother produces the milk, and the baby (nursing the baby) nurses the strength from the mother to the baby. Then the baby is strengthened by the mother's strength. And when we take ahold of God's promise into our heart, we are nursing God's strength, the strong One. We're nursing constantly.

118 And think of a little baby laying on the bosom of its mother, it stops its fretting. As soon as it gets a hold of its mother's breast, it stops fretting. It don't fret any more; it's satisfied. It quits its fretting. Then when we get a hold of God's promise when God reveals it to us: "I'm the Lord who heals all thy diseases. Whosoever will let him come." I've kept His hope, then I'm satisfied, as I'm nursing my strength back again from Jehovah, Almighty God, the strength giver.

119 What an encouragement to an old man a hundred years old, as good as dead, and the womb of Sarah, already closed when she was born sterile. And what a message, "I am your strength giver; I am El

Shaddai. You're a hundred years old, but you're just a baby to me. Lay up here in my arms and take a hold of my promise; and just don't you never get off such a promise. Then what can you do? As the whiskers get old, as the hair turns gray, you can still nurse and be satisfied that I will keep my Word."

The doctor can say, "You're getting worse and worse."

120 That don't have one phase to you. You're still nursing from the breast of El Shaddai. "God, You spoke into my heart; You give me the promise. All the devils out of hell can't take it away from me. I'm satisfied that I will be well. I'm nursing from El Shaddai." Amen.

I tell you, brother, that takes the wishbone out and puts a back bone in there (certainly does), when you get a hold of God.

121 When Abraham.... When He was confirming the oath, you notice He said, "Take me a sheaf ... a sheep, a ram; give me a ram, and also give me a heifer of three years. And take these...." And he split them in half, laid them on the side. He said, "Take ye a turtle dove and a young pigeon."

122 But did you notice.... I wish we had time to go into it. I'm watching that clock. And I don't want to get away from my subject, but Abraham took....

123 Said, "Take the turtle dove and the pigeon."

124 Now, the turtle dove was always represented ... or was an atonement for sickness. See, the doves was not separated; the others was separated, because the covenant with the gospel was changed from law to grace, but divine healing has always remained the same. For leprosy cured, they took a pigeon or a dove, and cut its head off, and poured the blood over on the other one, and it went forth for the cleansing of leprosy, sprinkling, crying "Holy".

125 Now, notice in this, the doves wasn't separated. Now, notice this symbol. Oh, my. I hope you get this. When God.... Abraham watched all the birds off of it, the fowls of the air, until the sun begin to go down. And when the sun went down, meaning time shall be no more. There a deep sleep fell upon Abraham, as does every mortal

that's born in the earth: We go into the sleep of death. You do not die; you just go, you change your dwelling places.

126 Now, a deep sleep fell upon Abraham, and he looked, and before him went a smoking furnace. Every sinner that dies and every man that's born in this world comes through sexual birth; it's subject to death. We've all sinned and come short of the glory of God, and every man is born in this world a sinner. I don't care how holy your parents was, you come to this world the same way a sinner or anybody else comes. You are sinful. "We are born in sin, shaped in iniquity, come to the world speaking lies," says the Word. You're whipped to begin with.

127 And then, every mortal that dies, hell is his resting place. That's all the rest he gets; that come before Abraham. Notice, then beyond that, after death comes hell, but beyond hell come a little white light. Oh, my. Blessed be the name of the Lord. That little white light passed up-and-down between those sacrifices.

128 He said, "You see, Abraham, what I'm going to do?" He was confirming the covenant with Abraham. Now, maybe I will explain that quickly.

129 Now today, we Americans, how do we do when we confirm a covenant? We go make a business deal; the first thing you know, I will reach out and grab a hold of the fellow's hand and say, "Shake on it." That's the way we make a covenant: "Shake. Shake hands. We confirmed it; that's right; we'll agree upon that." That's a covenant.

130 Now, in Japan.... You know how they make a covenant there? They talk it all over, and then get a little saucer full of salt and throw salt on one another. That's a covenant in Japan.

131 But in the days of Abraham in the Orient, the way they made a covenant was to take a beast, like a sheep or something, and kill it and cut it apart; and each one went in between these two pieces of the beast. Now, see what the little white light was doing? And they wrote this covenant: "I do agree to do such and such, and such and such."

132 Now, when they held this covenant between them, they said, "If we break this covenant.... If we break this covenant, let our bodies be as this dead beast that we take it over." Then they took the

covenant, and they tore it apart like that, one taking one piece and one another. They could never be duplicated.

133 You can never duplicate that piece of paper, no matter what you do. It's got to come right back and coincide, the pieces of leather that's tore between. You'd never be able to do it. One carries one and one the other. And when this covenants is confirmed and brought ... the oath is confirmed, then they bring these two pieces back together, and they match piece by piece.

134 Now, what was the Oriental covenant God was giving to Abraham? That through the seed of Abraham would come the Lord Jesus, the blessed One. God took Him up to Calvary and He tore Him apart, separated His soul from His body. And His body, God raised up on the third day, and took up and set on His right-hand. And on the day of Pentecost, He sent down the Spirit that was in Jesus Christ, the covenant with the church.

135 And when the church comes together in the resurrection, the same Spirit was in Jesus Christ, that was tore out of Him will have to be in the church. You can't copy anything like it; you can't make nothing different from it. It's got to be the same Holy Spirit that dwelt in Christ. And when the rapture comes, when that body comes, His bride that was tore from Him ... or the Holy Ghost will bring that bride just exactly dovetail right into the body of Jesus Christ.

136 And can you see from the days of Luther to Wesley, to Pentecost, and now at the end time, how that Spirit's shaping up? The same signs and wonders that He did on earth is being done in the church today. It's that covenant that God made with Abraham, and we are Abraham's children. "Being dead in Christ, we take on Abraham's seed and are heirs according to the promise." From that time, the church had a covenant. Yes, it was different.

137 Now, when Moses, a runaway prophet back on the backside of the desert.... That man was born to be a prophet. And he was a great man; he studied military achievements. But he tried to work that with all of his intellectuals. Why, he was so smart, he could teach those Egyptian teachers. He was a smart man. Now, back on the backside of the desert, what did he say?

<sup>138</sup> "I failed, so my people are still in bondage. Perhaps I better study up a little bit on my mathematics, or on my strategy, or army strategy, or something or other. I will go down and take two more years of school, and maybe I will be able to deliver my people."

139 That's just as much intelligence of him doing that, as it would be to send a man away to learn to be a preacher. God calls men who don't know beans from split coffee. What difference does it make? As long as he knows Christ, that's the main thing--if you ever met Him.

140 I'd rather have somebody with one of my children out here in the sage brush field, somewhere down by an old stump, that didn't even know his ABC's or know which was right or left hand. If he knows Jesus Christ, I'd like to have him beside of my child, before I would any professor that knows a lot of theology, and knows no more about God than a rabbit knows about snow shoes. I'll tell you, brother, what we need today is back to the Bible, and the old fashion baptizing with the Holy Ghost back into the church, and so much of this other stuff cut out.

141 I'm not trying to support ignorance. I mean, if you've got the education plus that, amen. But the educational covenant will fall one of these days, but the covenant with God will last forever and forever and forever. It'll go on through the eons of times into eternity.

142 Now, Moses.... He didn't have to polish up on nothing; only thing he had to do is meet God. And one day, God come down and got a bush out there, and said, "Come over here, Moses. I want to talk to you." You know, it's some strange thing about. Moses could say, "From that time, something happened."

143 Look at him. He'd settled down back in behind the mount--beneath the foot of the mountain. And when he did, he married a beautiful Ethiopian woman; and she was pretty, and she'd had a little son named Gershom. And oh, he was just faring all right. He'd married a priest's ... a priest of Midian, Jethro's daughter, Zipporah, and they were getting along fine, had a lovely little family, had plenty of sheep. And he was just going along fine, so he let the people go on. But when God met him, He changed him. Look at him there, this great sheepherder back there, but the morning.... 144 You know, some things.... One thing about it, when a man meets God, you can always tell it. He will do the foolishest things to what he used to do. Look at Moses.

145 Now, Moses, the next morning after he'd met God in this burning bush and God told him to go down to Egypt, he said, "First, show me Your glory." And He showed him divine healing, how He could heal his hand with leprosy. And he was going down to Egypt.

146 Now look, the next morning, here he was on his road down. Now, he was eighty years old. You know, it taken him forty years to school theology into him; it taken God forty years to beat it out of him (That's right.) to take out of him what the world had put in. But God can do it for you in forty seconds, if you'll just let Him do it. But then....

147 Now, here he was the next morning. One day a polished scholar, all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and the next morning, look at this scholar. He's got his wife sitting astraddle of a mule; she's got that young-un on her hip. And here he's got a big long [unclear word]. He's got a beard like this, his bald head shining, a stick in his hand, going down, limping along, "Glory, glory!"

"Where are you going, Moses?" "What did you say? Huh?"

"Where you going?"

<sup>148</sup> "Going down to Egypt to take over." One man invasion. But he done it. He did it. Why? He met God. And when the troubles got harder, and everything going wrong, he remembered he had met God in that burning bush. That burned in his heart, no matter how bad the Egyptians got, and how much they wouldn't let the children go, how many times they spoiled in the desert, and said, "We would to God…" and wanted to stone him, and … [break in tape.]

149 I believe that didn't bother him a bit, he pressed on toward the promised land, for he had met God in a burning bush. Yes, sir.

150 It was the little virgin Mary, just an ordinary little girl, in a meaner city than this is. But she still didn't smoke or drink; she was a virgin. And one day she was on her road with a ... probably a little bucket under her arm, going down to the public well to get some

water, the daily supply of water. Let's just imagine her going along side of the road, walking along, talking, or singing to herself, maybe some good hymn: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He restoreth my soul."

151 [Break in tape.] ... a pitcher it was in them days, instead of a bucket. And all at once the big pillar of fire pulled down in front of her. Out of that fire stepped Gabriel, the Archangel. Said, "*Hail*, Mary. (That means "Stop; wait a minute.") Stop, Mary. Blessed art thou among women. You've found favor with God, and you're going to have a baby, knowing no man."

152 Said, "How will this be?"

153 Said, "The Holy Ghost will overshadow you. And that holy thing which will be born of you will be called the Son of God." Amen.

154 From that time on, Mary was a different woman. That little timid virgin was going around everywhere testifying, "I'm going to have a baby, knowing no man."

155 She didn't wait till she was positive; she didn't wait till she felt life; she didn't wait for no positive.... The angel's word was enough for her. She'd met God. Now, if you could do that now, if we had more Marys here tonight, if we had Marys that didn't, "Wait till I.... See if I'm just a little bit better, before I say anything." Before she felt anything or anything else, she just took God at His Word and started praising Him for it. Oh, my. Let's follow her a few minutes. Let's see her right quick.

156 She had a cousin named Elisabeth. And Elisabeth.... The angel told her, said, "Your cousin, Elisabeth's old." Zacharias was a priest, met him in the temple, standing at the right-hand of the altar, and told him that he was going to have a son by Elisabeth. And she was going to conceive after the days of his ministrations there at the temple. And she....

157 Why, he doubted. Just think, that old priest--had a lot of examples like Hannah at the temple, and Sarah (we just talked about) old and having babies--said, "Oh, this can't be. My wife's too old."

158 He said, "I'm Gabriel that come from God. You'll be dumb till the day the baby's born. You'll call his name John."

159 And he was dumb. And he went up there to his wife. She conceived, and she was six months with her without any life in the baby, and she was very much worried. So Mary had heard about this. So I see her little cheeks just as red, as she was going along, just as happy as she could be—no feeling yet.

160 Jesus never did say, "Did you feel it?" He said, "Did you believe it?" You want to believe it. The time you believe....

161 "How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first felt." That don't sound right, does it? "The hour I first believed," when I believed God; that's how precious it gets. Oh, God's making His appearance night after night in the meetings and showing the great signs and wonders; oh, it ought to just stir our hearts. Certainly. "How precious that faith appears ... grace ... the hour I believed."

162 There went Mary, her little cheeks just as rosy, her little eyes just a sparkling, bright, girded her little self up, and up over the hills of Judea she went, up into where her cousin lived. And I can see Sarah....

163 I seen women out on the street.... Eating dinner today.... They'd throw me out of the restaurant, if I hadn't have turned my back. A woman come in there—to be mother any time—with these little old shorts on, a great big old thing, oh, and smoking a cigarette. And the doctor says it's one of the killingest things. Listen, brother, that's a sabotage. Certainly it is. And doctor's warning that cancer of the throat and lungs, and smoking that right on down to that baby.

164 But women was different in them days. She went in and hid herself, keep away from the sight of men, and she went in and hid herself. And she was in there for six months; little John had never moved. He was formed in his mother's womb. We know that's altogether subnormal. 165 So she might have raised up the window, looked out like this, the curtains, and she seen a beautiful woman coming, about eighteen years old. She looked again.

166 "Oh," she said, "that's Mary. Oh, my." And she tugged her little shawl and throwed around her, run out there real quick. And her husband was dumb at that time; he couldn't speak. Run out and took this little shawl and wrapped around her, run out. She was sitting back there, knitting little booties and things, you know, getting ready. You know, the little blankets and little needlework. And so she run out, and she said, "Oh, Mary."

In them days, you know, they hugged one another; they had love one for another. Now days, you don't get it no more.

167 I was downtown. (My wife ain't here tonight. I've told it and her being here.) Well, I went downtown here not long ago, and some sister said, "Hello, Sister Branham."

I said, "You didn't speak to her."

She said, "Yes, I did."

"Well," I said, "how did she hear you over there on the street, and I'm sitting right by you and didn't hear?"

"Oh," she said, "I smiled."

I said, "A little old silly grin, that ain't nothing. My goodness. Why didn't you speak to the sister?"

168 I hate to see that stuff. Sometime ago, I was down in Florida and there was a.... We was having a meeting out there on some kind of grounds that's owned by a duchess. And they said.... One of the managers come up and said, "The duchess wants to see you."

"Well," I said, "who's she?"

And said, "Why, she's a great woman here. She's a duchess."

I said, "Well, she's just a woman, isn't she?"

Said, "Yes."

169 Then I said, "Well, now, if you're going to give me time to talk to her, what about some of these poor sick people out here that needs it worse?" See? And I said, "What about some of their time?" See? "Oh," said, "but she's.... I just have her at the back of the platform."

170 And I walked off. She was standing there with a pair of specs in her hand on a stick, holding out like that. Now, anybody with sense knows you couldn't see on a glass just holding out like that. Great big woman with enough jewelry on her wrist to send a missionary around the world five times. Yes, sir. Hanging on.

And she said, "Are you Doctor Branham?"

I said, "No, ma'am; no." I said, "I'm Brother Branham."

"Oh," she said, "I am cha'med." And she held that big hand up like this.

171 And I got that.... I reached up and got her by the big fat hand and pulled it down there. I said, "I'm glad to know you." I said, "Hang it down here so I will know you next time I see you." See?

172 That's right. I like a good old-fashioned pump-handle handshake. I like people to be just what they are. We put on a lot of this "American dog" as we call it. We are Christians. Let's live like Christians and be men and women, soldiers of the cross. All this here nonsense, it'll be... Huh, I like that good old handshake, when you feel it.

173 Paul Raider said one time, he'd left his wife just setting at the table, and they got in a little dispute about somewhere he wanted to take her. (Great Paul Raider, you know, and a good friend of mine.) He said.... He got kind of angry, so he went to the door, and his wife would always wait there and kiss him good-bye. And he'd go on out to the steps, and go out to the end and wave back at her like that, and go on to work.

Said they'd had a little spat at the table about something. And she stood at the door, said he went [Brother Branham makes kissing sound.] "Bye."

She said, "Bye."

Went on out and went out there and turned around at the gate, waved back, and said she was standing at the door crying. He said, "Bye."

And she said, "Bye."

174 Went on down the street and said it begin to work on his heart (The Holy Spirit got ahold of him, you know.), got to work on his heart. And he said, "Oh, what if she'd die while I was gone? What if she'd drop dead? What if I'd die? What if I'd get hit on the street here in Fort Wayne before I ever get back? What could I do?" Like that, talking about it like that. Oh, my. Said, He said, "Oh, I got so convicted, I didn't know what to do." He said, "I run back real quick, jerked open the gate, and run, and shoved the door open, and said.... Looked around and I said, 'Helen, where are you? Where are you?"

175 Said, "I heard a [Brother Branham sniffs.]" Said, She was standing behind the door." Said, "I looked at her like that." Said, "I never said a word." Said, "I just reached over and grabbed her in my arms, and kissed her. And I said, '[Brother Branham makes kissing sound.] Bye.' She said, 'Bye. '"

176 So he run on out the gate and turned around, looked back. And said, "She was standing in the door, and I said, 'Bye.' and she said, 'Bye.'" Said, "She waved like she did the first time, but the second time she had a feeling in it." So that's just....

177 That's about the way serving the Lord, you know. You've got to put your heart in it; you got to be sincere. You've got to meet God, not go to church and make some cold, dry-eyed confession; go down there and stay down there.

178 I was raised in a Baptist church, you know that. And we wasn't Baptists like you all Baptists here: Walk up and shake hands, and take the right-hand of fellowship, and put your name on the book, and be baptized. We got down at the altar and beat one another on the back till we come through. We got something, brother. I mean, you need more.... You need some Kentucky Baptists, old missionary Baptists out here. I tell you, they.... The only difference I seen between them and the Pentecostal people is they didn't accept speaking in tongues; that's all I know.

179 We come through; we stayed there at the altar, and the old mammies around us crying and praying and beating us on the back until something happened. We stayed there until we died, and was borned again, and become a new creature in Christ Jesus. Yes, sir. Too bad we.... We got to meet God. When man meets God, it's different. He's a different person from then on. 180 There was a leper one time, just full of leprosy. And when he met God, from that time on, he had no leprosy. There was an immoral woman come up to the well one time to get some water. And she seen a Jew sitting across on the other side. And she let down the pitcher; she was so immoral; she couldn't come out with the decent women. They segregated them then; they don't now. So they just.... That's society. So they just put the well ... bucket down and started bringing it up like that.

181 And when she did, she heard someone say, "Bring me a drink, woman." Or "Woman, bring me a drink." (That's the way He said it, because the verb's always before the adverb in that country.) But He said, "Bring me a drink."

182 And so, she said, "It's not customary for you Jews to ask the Samaritans such. We have no customs to one another."

183 He said, "But if you knew who you were talking to, you'd ask me for a drink. I'd give you water you don't come here to draw."

184 "Why," she said, "the well's deep and how do you...? How you going to draw with any how?"

185 He said, "The water that I give is life, eternal life bubbling up in the soul."

186 "Why," she said, "our fathers worshipped in this mountain and you say at Jerusalem."

187 And He went on with the conversation until He caught her spirit. When He caught her spirit, He said, "Well, you go get your husband and come here."

188 She.... (Remember, she was a immoral woman.) So said, "Go get your husband and come here."

189 "Why," she said, "I don't have any husband."

190 He said, "You've said the truth. Because you've got five, and the one you're living with now is not your husband. In that thou hath said well."

191 Watch that woman. Quickly, she had met something, the same One that you meet nightly. Would it change you like it did her? She said, "Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet." What a difference it was to that ... to the priest that said He was Beelzebub. She was better trained than half the preachers, and yet a prostitute.

192 Said, "Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet. Now, we know.... We Samaritans are looking for a Messiah to come; He will be a God prophet. He will be the Messiah, but He will tell us these things. He will do these same kind of works when He comes." Is that the sign of the Messiah? It was then, see.

193 Said, "We know.... I know that You're a prophet; I perceive You are. We know when the Messiah cometh, He will tell us these things. But who art Thou?"

194 Jesus said, "I am He that speaketh with you."

195 Now, I want the infidel to tell me one time that Jesus said.... Many infidels say, "Jesus never did claim to be the Son of God." He did there. He said, "I am He that speaks with you."

196 And quickly she left that bucket, and from that time.... From that time, she knowed that the Messiah was on earth. Oh, my. If we could only do the same thing tonight. If we could realize that He's not dead. He's alive forever more; He lives to make intercession. "Because I live, you live also." Here it is in us; His Spirit's among us.

197 From that time, the men of the city believed on God because the woman's testimony. Jesus never did it again down there; He just went

down and done it that one time, and all Samaria believed on Him. He never had one healing service; He was saving that for Philip. But from that time on, that woman was changed; that city was changed.

198 One time an old fisherman, an old greasy apron around him, his brother, Andrew, brought him up before Jesus. And as soon as he come before Jesus, Jesus said, "Your name is Simon; you're the son of Jonas." And from that time.... From that time, that was a different man.

199 Philip went and found Nathanael and brought him to Him, He said, "Behold an Israelite in whom there's no guile."

200 He said, "Rabbi, when did You know me?"

201 He said, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the tree, I saw you." And from that time.... From that time, he was a changed man. Anyone is changed that ever comes in contact with God.

202 There was a little old hook-nosed Jew. The church with the keys had made a great big blunder. They'd went around and said, "Now, let us all come together." (We will see what good the keys did.) Went around and said, "Let's all come together and select one man who's went in and out from among us from the beginning to take Judas' place, because it's written in the Scripture, 'Let his place be desolate and let another take his bishopric.""

203 And said they cast lots, and it fell upon Matthias, and he never done a thing. That was man's choice. And God went down, He got the meanest little old guy there was in the city to take his place, a little old Jew.

204 He said, "I will just show him what I will make him do for me."

205 And he watched Stephen when he died, that kind of got on to him. Then the next thing you know, he was on his road down. He had

a letter in his pocket, said, "I will get on them holy-rollers. I got the letter right here from the high priest. I will go down to Damascus, and I will throw them in jail; I will do everything I can. I will stop that screaming, and shouting, and all that carrying on, speaking in tongues and things. I will get orders; I'll do it." Had a little nose hanging down like that.

God said, "I will just meet him in the road and change him."

About midday, he was coming along the middle of the road, and the first thing he knowed, that pillar of fire appeared before him, and said, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?"

207 He fell onto the ground. He said, "Lord, who is it that I'm persecuting? What's your name?"

208 He said, "I'm Jesus, and it's hard for you to kick against the pricks."

And from that time, he got rid of his letter and became one of them. From that time.... Yes, it changed him.

209 Ananias laid hands on him by a vision that he saw, and he received his sight, took him down to the Damascus river and baptized him. He become a saint to the Gentile church.

210 Now, look here, what he said.... When Paul got converted, perhaps the church said, "Oh, look what we got now. We got this great big Paul. We know that that man set under Gamaliel; he's one of the greatest teachers in the land. And he's a Pharisee; he's.... Oh, he's a great man. We will put him up at Jerusalem, and we will make him the head of the church up there. And we will take Peter.... Of course the one that's got the keys; he's ignorant. [The Bible said he was a ignorant and unlearned.] And he's got the keys, so we will just send him out to the poor dumb Gentiles. That's the one we will send him too. Because he does a lot of miracles, but this great intellectual man; we'll bring up here to the intellectual crowd."

The Holy Ghost sent Paul out to the dumb ones, and made him forget all he ever knowed, and took Peter (the dumb one) and sent him
up to the educated ones. What was the matter? They met God, and from that time on the intellectuals didn't count. That's right. From that time on, the record was changed. How God does things just contrary to man's thinking. Oh, my. He does things so simple. Yes, Paul was a changed man.

212 There was a blind man (we preached on the other night) sitting at the gate, begging for alms. And he met God and from that time on... There was a maniac over in Gadara, who would tear his clothes off of him, wanted to live in a graveyard. (That's a good place for demons.) So he was laying out there, and they put chains around him. He was so powerful. Look at a man...

213 Did you ever see an insane person? Why, he's three times the strength, or four. And if ... so surrendered to the devil would give you four times your strength, what would you be to surrender yourself to the Holy Ghost? How many thousand times your strength it would be. Don't be scared. Why? He walked in the name of the Lord Jesus; that's the anointing. Meet God and find out what takes place.

214 This maniac run out there. The devil said, "Go get that little old skinny looking guy coming up there, His shoulders stooped down." Said, "Go get that little old fellow down there. Look at all them people looking around him." Said, "Go down and get him."

215 Here he run out, and when he did, he met God. And from that time on, he put on his clothes; he was in his right mind. When he met God! Friends, there's times when you meet God, it changes every man.

216 For just a moment, I'm going to make a confession now. I want you to listen to this. I have been a minister thirty-one years. (I'm closing after this testimony.) I've never been afraid of death since I've been a Christian. But what scared me, or worried me, was the time, if I died before Jesus come, I didn't want to be a spirit. I'm always afraid of anything that looks like a spook; I'm scared of it. So, I thought when I was.... I know this body. I thought I'd go to be with the Lord, but maybe I would see one of my brothers. And there they'd go by like a little white cloud, a spirit, the soul of that person.

217 I'd say, "Oh, there's my brother. Oh, if I could just shake his hand. He hasn't got any hand; it's rotted down in the grave. If I could

say, 'Hello,' but he ain't got.... I ain't got no tongue; my tongue's rotted down in the grave. If I could embrace him, but I haven't.... I'm a spirit."

218 Oh, that'd scared me to death. I just didn't like that. And I'm an illiterate person, and I can just barely read, got a seventh grade education. And so then I thought, "Well, my if I could just.... I hope I live till the Lord comes."

219 Now, I knowed when He come back, my body would be resurrected. I know that I'd have a body; all the old age will be gone away. You'll never be old there. No, sir. Every symbol of sin will be taken away, and old age is a symbol of sin. So, everything that represented sin will be taken away, because from the curse.... Not that you sinned, but you're one of Adam's race, and you turn back to the dust.

And I thought, "If I could just live to see Jesus coming."

I said to Brother Gene here, and Brother Leo and them many times, and Brother Fred, many of my friends, I'd say, "Oh, I hope I live to see Jesus come. Because when He comes, I will be changed, and I won't have to be that spook. I don't want to be that. No, sir." I said, "Death's all right, but I want to shake hands. I love human beings. I don't know nothing but human beings, so I'd like to see that."

221 And the other morning (about five weeks ago now) I'd been out on a meeting and come in. I was tired, and I woke up in the room about seven o'clock. And I said, "We will go down to the Tabernacle this morning ... or in the morning," to my wife. And she was still sleeping, and I kind of raised up the head of the bed and put my hands back like this. And I was just laying there thinking. I said, "Hey, I'm fifty years old. I haven't done nothing for the Lord yet. I got to hurry up and do something." And I said, "I'll be old after while." I said, "I got to hurry and do something; I ain't done nothing for the Lord."

222 And I said, "But you know, I'd sure hate to.... I hate the idea of having to die before He comes." I said, "If He'd just come...." I said, "I dread that thought, if I'd have to go if He tarries for a few years yet, and maybe I don't live to see it, and I have to die and become a spirit." Mmm, I didn't like that at all. 223 And while I was laying there thinking that, I heard something just as plain as you hear my voice, as I was telling you last night, said, "Keep pressing on."

224 Well, first I.... It comes in such a way, just like these visions here: You say it, and you don't know you said it. You're speaking, talking; you don't know you're talking. When I see a vision before somebody, I don't know what I said. Only the way I know it, go back to the tape here and find it. I don't know what I said, because you're somewhere else in another place, maybe forty, fifty years back down somebody's life or way yonder ahead in somebody's life. See? You don't know; you just don't know you say it.

And I said, "I am pressing on."

Said, "Keep pressing on; keep pressing on." Said, "The great reward is at the end of the road."

225 Now, I asked permission of the chairman and so forth to say this. I believe it was a vision, but if it was, I've never seen anything like it. I've seen visions since I was about three years old, maybe younger than that. And I've never seen anything like this, never had such an experience to happen to me. I'm reading a book, that the pastor here gave me, of someone else who had a similar experience. I read it, for it said Brother (What was that? Wigglesworth? Or...) Price.... Brother Price had an experience something like that; I wanted to get his book and see what it was. I want to find out.

226 I do not want to say "translation," because it would look like (if you would) it was trying to copy Saint Paul. No, I want to be just what I am, see. Just... I can't be Saint Paul, but I serve the same God he did. And so....

I said.... It just kept saying, "Press on."

And I spoke back, and I said, "Well, I'm pressing on."

He said, "The great reward is at the end of the road."

I said, "I realize...." I said, "That must have been my wife." I said, "What did you say, honey?"

I shook her; I said, "Meda? What did you say?"

She said, "Huh?" She was asleep.

227 And I said, "Why, it wasn't her." I said, "Maybe that was the Holy Spirit." I said, "Kind heavenly Father, was You speaking to Your servant? What would You have me to know?"

228 Nothing spoke. I waited a little while. I heard it again, saying.... Seemed like I could hear someone singing that song, "Lord, let me look a-past the curtain of time." Did you ever hear it? You know?

Lord, let me look a past the curtain of shadow--of sorrows and fears; Let me hear the sweet harbor bells chime. It would brighten my path, And it would banish all fear; Lord, let me look a past the curtain of time.

Seemed like I could hear somebody singing that. I thought, "Wonder what that is?" I was just like I am now.

And I heard something say, "Keep pressing on."

I said, "I will press on."

It said, "Would you like to see a past the curtain?"

I said, "It would help me."

229 And just then, I felt something happen to me. And I thought, "What's the matter here?" And I looked back, and I could see myself laying on the bed.

230 Now, if this hinders you, God forgive me for telling it. See? I've never told it before, only to my church, my own church. And I looked back.... And I hope, by the grace of God, that you don't class me a fanatic. If I am, I don't know it. I don't want to be. You know? But God in heaven knows that this is true, as I hold my Bible, as I told you last night about the squirrels. This happened just recently.

231 I looked back, and I seen myself, and I wasn't moving. And I turned, looked this way; it looked like a little place coming down like this.

232 And I say this, not as an apology, but I've been pretty hard on women. I've been called a woman hater, but I'm not, I'm not. I like my sisters, but I don't like to see women acting the way these modern American women are. When I went to Saint Angelo's, the catacombs in Rome, in Italy, there was a sign up there by the catacombs said, "Please, American women, put on your clothes before entering this place in honor of the dead." Notice to the American women. Why, it's a disgrace.

They asked me, "Haven't you all got any decent women over there?"

I said, "Oh, sure we have. That's just the.... That's that other crowd." See?

But they know just as American, that's what it was.

233 And so, this.... I won't have time in this meeting to tell you. In 1933... this is a woman's nation. It's the number thirteen. It appears in the thirteenth chapter of Revelation, thirteen stars, thirteen stripes, thirteen.... Everything's a thirteen. Everything is a woman. And remember, "Thus saith the Lord" there will be a woman rule before the end time. She will either be President, vice-president, or it'll be the Catholic church as a woman. I've seen her: A great woman, the nation bowed to her. It'll be one before the end time. "Thus saith the Lord." Write it down and find out, you young people. See if it happens. If it isn't, I'm a false prophet.

234 Now, just remember; that's the end. This America is a woman's nation. It's a place where she's god at free lance, and man says nothing to her. She's bossy; she runs everything, businesses and everything, even got into church on the platform, the pulpit, and running it now. So there you go. See, it's been.... That's absolutely as unscriptural as Cain and Abel ... or, Abel would be to ... like Cain. Certainly, all these things, she's ruler. And she's a goddess. That's true in America.

235 Not you, sisters. But I was always a little rough with them like that. And maybe I thought a little too rough maybe sometimes. But how can I? If you're spiritual, you'll catch it right now, see. How many of you thinks you understand what I mean? Good.

236 Look at Elijah. What did he call? He couldn't help it. He cried out against that Jezebel, did he? Here come John the Baptist with his same spirit. How could he have helped crying out about it: "It's not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." It cost him his head, see. God takes His man, but never His spirit, see. It keeps moving on down. The forerunning of the coming of the Lord Jesus, as You spoke down there at the river in 1933 when I was baptizing there, and you see what happened to it, see. It's just exactly what He said it would take place. So you can't help it.

237 And when I looked, coming running to me, it was, looked like to me, a million of young women, about twenty years old. I never seen such pretty women in all my life. Their eyes looked like stars, their teeth as white as pearls, long hair hanging to their waist, with white robes on down to their feet, and was barefooted. And they were each one (Now, excuse me now, you women.), each one of them was running up and throwing their arms around me, and hollering, "My precious brother."

238 Now look, God knows when I was a boy.... You read my story. When I was seven years old, the Angel of the Lord met me as a whirlwind in that bush that day and said, "Don't never smoke, drink, or defile your body." I never smoked in my life, never drank in my life, and I've got... I know no woman but my wife. And so then, I didn't live immoral when I was sinner. But since I've been a Christian, I've tried to live as straight as I know how to live, and God knows that's the truth.

239 And let me say this: I don't care how saintly a man is, as long as he's human, he cannot take the other sex in his arm (a female) without having a human sensation. And I don't care; you tell me that, and I will tell you you're telling a story. If you're a red blooded man, if you're really a man, it's that way; you can't help it. You're a human. I don't say you'd do anything wrong, now; but the sensation's there just exactly the same.

But in this, it was gone. Praise be to God, it was gone. It was like ... like not ... when I take my own sister, Delores, in my arms. It wasn't like a mother taking her baby. I don't know. It was perfect.

241 And I looked and here come a bunch of men, looked like millions of them coming from this a way. And they was all ... had on white robes, and they had, like, shaggy hair hanging around their neck. And they was grabbing me and screaming, "Our precious brother."

I said, "I don't know." And I turned around; I looked and there I was laying on the bed. Now wherever it is, it ain't very far from here. If it's another dimension or what, I can't say. But I looked back, and I seen myself laying on the bed; I looked this way, and here was these people.

243 If I'd say "perfect" that wouldn't make it. If I'd say "superb," I can't find the English word. There was no yesterday, no tomorrow; it was all now: no sickness, no sorrow, no sin, no tiredness. They didn't eat nor drink; they didn't sleep (They didn't have to), but yet they were beings. And they put their arms around me, I feel it just the same as I feel my own hands like this.

And I looked pressing through the crowd, and here come my own darling wife. She died when she was twenty-two. And here she comes, Billy's mother. And she come up. I said, "She will call me her husband."

245 She was making her way through the women, waving at me like that. I could see those black eyes just a shining. (She was a German girl.) She run up and threw her arms around me. She said, "My darling brother."

And there'd been a real pretty woman standing there, just put her arms around me and said, "Our precious brother."

246 And then Hope, she put her arm (That was my wife.) ... she put her arm around this other woman; she said, "Isn't it wonderful? He's with us now."

I said, "I don't understand this." I said, "I can't under...."

247 And these men picked me up, and set me up on a great big high place, and set me down. And they were praising God, none of them kissing me, just embracing me and saying, "Brother, our precious brother."

And I looked and people was coming from everywhere. And I said, "What is this?"

And that voice now, from no one, the same voice that had spoke in the room is still with me. He said, "This is perfect love."

And I've always taught: The evidence of the Holy Ghost is perfect love, see. I believe in speaking in tongues, sure. "But though I speak with tongue of men and angels and have not charity, I am nothing; become a sounding brass and tinkling cymbal." So, when you speak with tongues and got love with it, that'll show you.

250 And the love that we would have here would be like starting here from a shadow of the shadow of the shadows, into the shadow.

And from a shadow to a mist, and to a little moisture, and into a creek, into a river, and then into the ocean. That's where it'll arrive at there, just perfect, everything. You couldn't die; you couldn't be in sin. Oh, I never... I will never be able to explain what that place was, see. It was just perfect, beyond perfect. And just then, there was a....

I said, "I don't understand what this is."

And a real beautiful woman run up and she said, "Oh, my precious brother," she said, "I'm so happy you've arrived."

And she turned off, and I looked at her, and I thought, "My, how everybody's so pretty and so young and so...." And I said, "What is this?"

251 And that voice said, "In here all resemblance of old age and everything is brought back to perfection."

252 See, we eat food till we get to a certain age. When I was sixteen, I'd eat the.... Let science answer this from me: I'd eat the same food when I was sixteen years old, I eat now: beans, bread, potatoes, meat. And every time I eat, I renew my life. Anybody knows that makes blood cells, and that's how we come here. A doctor sitting here would know the same. Then I got stronger, bigger all the time. And when I got about twenty-two (you also), I still eat the same food, and getting older and weaker all the time, putting new life in my body.

253 Explain to me, scientists. If I'm pouring water out of a jug into a glass, and when it gets half full, I keep pouring more and it keeps going down. Scientifically, tell me about that. What it is? It's an appointment that God made. When you get that age, He's got you just where He wants you, and say, "Come on death; set in." Ask science if you don't start dying after you're about twenty-two years old. No matter how good you eat, you're dying, walking right away. It will finally.... Death's on your track right then. But you're growing till you get that age. From about.... You're your best from about fifteen till about twenty-two. That's right.

254 These people looked to be just at their peak, just at their best. And I looking at them there and how they were looking. So that.... I thought, "Isn't that wonderful?" 255 And when I seen my little girl, eight years old, when.... You remember the night, and you've read it in my story. When I met her, she was a young woman. She said, "Hello, Dad."

And I said, "Dad? Why, you're as old as me. I don't understand."

She said, "Dad, on earth, I was your little Sharon."

And I said, "Where's your mother?"

Said, "She's up at your home waiting for you." She said, "I will wait here for Billy Paul, my brother."

256 And when I come out of the vision.... Hope had her arm around me there, and when I come out of the vision (standing in the room) she still had her arm around me. And I wasn't in no vision, no coma; I was standing like I am now. And she was patting me on this shoulder. God is my Judge.

And I said, "Hope, you're still here, aren't you?"

She said, "Billy, promise me you won't worry about me and Sharon."

257 I was just about to.... I had a pistol in my hand a few minutes before that. Snapped it all the way around trying to commit suicide. The same day, I tried to lay my hand on a thirty-three thousand volt line when I was working as a electrician. (You know my story.) And the first thing you know, I was on the ground and sitting there sweating, not knowing what had happened. That meant God reserving this ministry for you people; I'd have went right then.

And so, she had her arm around me. And I said, "Hope, you're still here." Dark in the room....

She said, "Promise me?"

I said, "I promise you, Hope."

And when she did, she left me. She patted me, kind of hugged me and left me.

I said, "You're still here, Hope, somewhere. Aren't you?"

And I felt around for her. I turned on the light, and I went to every chair and reached around.

I said, "Where are you, honey? Don't leave me; don't leave me."

Went around through the room, feeling for her like that. Just a boy, just been married a little bit, and Billy and Sharon had been born.

And I seen her. When I seen her this time, she looked the same way. And I was sitting there on this place. And I said, "I don't understand this. Why did you put me up here?"

Said, "You was a leader. You were born a leader, to lead people."

And I said, "Oh, my." I said, "Well...."

259 He said, "Well, this is perfection." Said, "This is like the patriarchs when they gathered with their people."

And I said, "Is this...? This is after death?"

"Yes." And I turned and looked back. There I was still laying on the bed. He said, "This is after death."

And I said, "Oh, then I've died. Well, this is wonderful; this is good for me to be here. I like this."

And then this woman, real pretty girl that just put her arms around me like that. And said, "Just keep pressing on."

260 And I said, "Well, why, I can't understand it." I says, "Are all these Branhams?" Looked like millions of them. I said, "All these Branhams?"

That voice said, "They are your converts."

I said, "Converts?"

261 Said, "You see that woman you're admiring." Said, "She was past ninety when you led her to Christ. Look at her now. No wonder she screamed, 'My precious brother.'"

262 I said, "Oh, if I could only go back, if I could only have a chance, I would grab them; I'd pull them; I'd persuade them. See? Don't let no one miss this. This is perfection."

And just then, I looked. I had an old dog. We used to hunt; he clothed me, put me in school, possum hunting, coon hunting and things. And when we moved into the city, a policeman poisoned him.

264 When I patted his grave, when I buried him in our back yard, I said, "Fritz, if there is a place...." I was a sinner, about seventeen years old. I said, "If there is a place called heaven, you'll be there." Later on, I got converted. I always thought....

265 Now some ... I told somebody this, and they said, "An animal being in heaven." Absolutely there's animals in heaven. I want to ask you something knock the criticism out right quick. Tell me what happened to that horses and chariots that come down and got Elijah and went up. Where's that horse at that Jesus come and riding with His vesture dipped in Blood, riding on a white charger? See? Where is that wolf and lamb going to feed together, and the lion eat straw like the bullock? Where's that coming from?

266 And I looked coming down across the hill, and here come old Fritz. He looked at me and come up and licked me on the hand. I patted him. Just then old Prince, my horse, come put his neck around my shoulder and begin to nicker.

I said, "Oh, God." I looked up.

267 And He said, "All that you ever loved, and all that ever loved you is gathered here."

And I said, "I want to see Jesus. I want to see the One that I've loved and worked for."

And they said, "You can't see Him right now; He's higher than this. But someday He will come back. And when He comes, He will come to you first. And you'll be questioned on the gospel that you preached. And then, if you pass the test, then we will go with you back to Him, back to earth and live together forever in a body, a fleshly body where we will eat and drink."

269 And I said, "You mean, He will question me on the Word I preach?"

Said, "Yes." And that voice speaking to me said it.

And I said, "Well, will Saint Paul be questioned too?"

Said, "Certainly, with his congregation."

270 I said, "Then if Saint Paul passes it, I will too." I said, "I've preached it just exactly the way he did, not moved one word."

And then those millions screamed out, "We know that, and are resting assured."

And about that time, I heard the voice say, "Keep pressing on."

And I felt myself slip. I said, "I don't have to go back, do I?"

<sup>271</sup> "Keep pressing on." And I turned and looked at my body; I seen it move. I was coming to, and just a moment, I was in the room again.

272 Friends, from that time, I've been a changed person. I don't know what you'll think about this, but with my hand on the Bible, that is true. Wherever it is.... I don't know whether it was here, whether it was a vision. I never had one like it. And let's say it was a little translation. (I don't say it was.) Say my spirit went out and went there. I don't know what it was. If that's glorious under that first heaven, what must have Paul saw when he went to the third heaven and come back and said, "Eye has not seen; ear has not heard; neither has it entered the hearts of man what God has for them in store that love Him."

273 I've been more determined. This is my second revival since then. I've been more determined to do everything that I can to persuade men and women.... Please be sure of this: If God's love doesn't anchor in your heart supremely, don't you take any sensation or emotion. You be sure that you can turn the other cheek, that God ... Christ... is all in all to you. Don't you miss it, my brother.

274 Just remember. I will say this, with the faith that I have in that vision, whatever it was, I will speak it in the name of the Lord: except you have that perfect love, you'll never be there, because nothing could ever be there without it. Your spirit would be out of place there. It couldn't come. There'd be no way for it to come, no more than it would be for a grain of corn to raise up out of the ground without a germ of life in it. No matter how natural it would look, it could not raise.

275 My friends, you old people, you young people, you don't know what time you're going to leave. We don't know that. But let me persuade you as a Christian brother, that one that loves you: Except you are borned again and the Spirit of God of love comes into your heart, you'll certainly miss that place. Let me ask you: If God has given favor between us and you believe me, I'm honest. What happened, I don't know. But God in heaven, who's omnipresent and is here now, when I leave this world, heavenly Father, please let me rest in there until Jesus comes. That'll be reward enough for me, if I can just rest at that place till I see Him come.

And then, it was revealed to me, "If this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting." We've got one waiting. Brother, sister, that's true. Now, I think I have the Spirit of God. If the Spirit that's on me isn't, I don't know.

277 Look, let's take the nature of it. Let's take the pillar of fire that followed the children of Israel, the One they got the picture of. No doubt many of you have it; if it isn't, pick it up when you go through. It was examined by the Federal Government, the FBI agents of Fingerprint and Document; it's there in the hall. One hangs in the Religious Hall of Art in Washington D.C. as the only supernatural being was ever photographed. It's been seen on the platform. The saints know it; they've watched it. Millions times millions around the world has watched it move, seen it personally appear on the platform.

278 My wife, about six months ago, saw it for her first time. She was on the river that day when it appeared down there. When the article went all over the English speaking world on the Associated Press: "Mystic Light Appears Over Local Baptist Minister While Baptizing." Stood there. It talked; people heard it talking back, forth. Thousands of people standing there watching me baptize from my first revival—five hundred converts—in the Ohio River. It was in the paper, newspaper clippings; we have it. Got on the Associated Press; Canada got it, all around over the country. "Mystic Light...."

279 Now, the scientific world has taken it. Now, they got it three or four different times. Germany has taken it. They taken it down here in California not long ago. That is real men with real cameras.

The German cameraman said, "Wonder if our camera could catch it?"

I said, "You're welcome to try it."

280 And when the Spirit was coming down, they took it coming down, took when it was discerning, and taken it descending back up again. Oh, my. Thousands times thousands fell to the Cross in Germany. And that's where I'm to return back as soon as they ... I

can get loose to go back into Germany again, there at Lucerne, Switzerland, it's come again.

Now, watch the nature of it. If a vine.... If the first branch.... Jesus said, "I am the vine; ye are the branches." Saint John 15, I believe. Is that right? "I am the vine."

282 Now, what did the vine put forth a branch? The first branch was the Pentecostal church. Is that right? Then the second branch comes forth will be another Pentecostal church. Now, we don't see Pentecostal in all churches, do we? No. Well, what is it? It's a grafted vine.

283 You can take a peach tree or you can take a ... I'd say an orange tree, and graft almost any kind of citrus fruit. You can graft on 'most anything, grapefruit or what more, but it's the grafted. But if the original Vine itself puts out a branch, it'll bring the same kind of fruit that the first one brought.

284 Now, if Jesus Christ is the vine, and His life.... Now remember, the vine does not bear fruit; the branch bears fruit, but it's energized by the vine. Is that right? Well, then if the life of Christ be in us, it'll bring His Spirit and His works. Is that right? It's got to, because it's the vine of God. Now....

285 Now, watch this Angel of the Lord. We know that that's true. Now, watch what kind of a nature it has. It bears the same fruit that it did when it was here on earth. Now, it's back in the church, bearing forth the same fruit, making another Pentecostal church, just exactly the way it did the first time. Now, that church sealed their testimony with their blood. They were godly people; they loved God; they stayed with it.

286 And whatever you do, whatever you do, friends.... Let me ask you. If you believe me to be a servant of God, let me tell you something: Don't you miss that wonderful place. Don't miss it. Let us bow our heads just a moment.

287 I wonder just now, before we go farther in the service: Is there one here, two, a dozen, how many is here that would like to say, "Brother Branham, remember me in prayer right now. Since you've told this, I've had a little fear of death. I want to have that assurance. I want to raise up my hand to God and say, 'Pray for me.'" 288 God bless you here, son. God bless you; God bless you, you, you. Yes, all back there, God bless you. God bless you, all over the building, balconies; we see your hands up there. "I want to have that peace that passes all understanding."

289 I'm watching, praying. Raise up your hands. Let the Holy Spirit speak. If you die tonight, are you going to go where there's wheeling ... wailing and gnashing of teeth? Or you want to enter into that blessed, sweet rest in Him? I say it in the name of the Lord, with the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

290 God bless you, honey. God bless you back there; God bless you, sister. Someone else? Raise up your hand. God bless you. God bless you. That's right, God bless you.

291 I'm watching, just waiting a moment. Everybody with their heads bowed, praying. All right, just keep on. God bless you; I see you. I'm watching something.... God bless you; that's fine. All right. Someone else? Just keep waiting.

292 Heavenly Father, You see their hands. I was watching, watching something being done. You know all about it, Father. I pray now that Your Spirit will be sweetly upon them. Let them know that just as I have said, may it be that they can say, "From this time on..." Their attitudes has been changed; the hardness that was in their heart has melted away. Sweet peace and divine love has taken its place. Grant it, Father.

293 May each one of them receive the baptism of the love of God in their hearts, that they could turn the other cheek, go the second mile like He did with spit on His face and thorns on His brow, with heavens and earth in His hands, walked meekly to the cross to die for people who were killing Him.

294 Make us that way, Father. Take that stony heart out of us and put a real, sweet, kind heart in us; put a Spirit in us like He's got. Let the Spirit of God rest upon each of these; there's been thirty or forty people raise up their hands. I pray, Father, that You'll give them eternal life. May they never be ashamed of You; may they sweetly come to You.

295 May they realize now, that something made them raise their hand. What is it? The Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God that's upon them now caused them to raise their hands to make a decision.

296 May this night be the night that they can say, "From that Saturday night down there in that school auditorium, I met God. Something happened to me; I've been changed ever since."

297 Grant it, Father. I commit them to You as the trophies of the message. And You said, "All the Father has given me will come to me, and none of them is lost." O Lord, You told them You'd give them eternal life and raise them up at the last day, that eternal life, that love, that would bring them into the presence of this great place that I had the privilege of seeing a few weeks ago.

298 Father, I cannot say what it was. I do not know. You know my heart, but I'm only honest in what I'm saying. You bear me record, Father. And I.... It's such a sweet place. God, when my days are done, I'd like to see little Joseph be a man that I could place this Bible in his hand. Because the day of his dedication, You spoke. Said, "Joseph, thou art a prophet." I pray, God, that You'll let a double portion of the spirit on my boy. If You'll just let me live to win souls to You till I get old, then place this Bible over into the hands of my son, Joseph, and tell him to continue with the same gospel. It would be a full life, Father.

299 Nevertheless, when You're ready for me, amen. What a beautiful rest. I long to see that place again. Lord Jesus, may every one that's here tonight, every person that's heard the message tonight, may not a one of them be lost. But may everyone.... I see them in there. Then when we run and throw our arms around one another, when there's no difference then between men and women....

300 There's no difference; the sin streak has gone away with. We're truly then brothers and sisters, where we can live, never sin can enter no more, no evil thoughts, no nothing can ever come to that kind of a place. There can be no defilement. We will all be one in Christ.

301 Let us appear there, Lord. Let these old women and old men realize that I have told them the truth. It's truth. Let these young people pattern their life, standing at the crossroads tonight, may they choose the right way that there'll be no sadness at the day of departing. Grant it, Father. I commit them into Thy hands now, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. 302 You feel real good? You believe that the Spirit of God caused you to raise your hand? Do you believe that it was? You believe that it comes from God? I told you from my heart.

303 When I talked to a rabbi here not long ago, he said, "Mr. Branham, you call Him the Son of God." Said, "Far be it from God having a son."

I said, "He was the Son of God."

304 Said, "God having a son? He was neither Jesus nor a Christ." Said, "He could have been a Jesus, but He wasn't a Christ." (That's the way it was.)

I said, "Sir, would you believe the prophets?"

He said, "Yes, sure I believe the prophets." He was a rabbi, Jewish rabbi, Benton Harbor, Michigan.

305 I said.... John Ryan had been healed, blind for twenty years, sat on the street. He said, "I give John many alms." He said, "What power.... What authority did you give him his sight?"

306 I said, "I never give him his sight. He received his sight through faith in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of God."

He said, "What Son of God? How could God have a son?"

And I said, "He had a son." I said, "Do you believe Isaiah 9:6?"

Said, "Sure."

I said, "Who was the prophet speaking of? The Messiah?"

Said, "Yes."

I said, "What relation will Messiah be to God?"

He said, "He was God. He will be God."

307 I said, "So was Jesus. He was God made flesh and dwelt among us. God expressed Himself through a body. He was God made flesh; the Spirit of God dwelt in Him in the fulness. We have it by measure."

308 And we watch His life. Now, the Spirit of God is in us, but what it is: We just can't open those little clogged up channels to let the

Spirit flow through. Now, the Spirit of God, if it was in the church tonight, would bear record of the Spirit of God. Is that right?

309 Is there any prayer cards in the meeting? (Did he give out prayer cards? No?) Is there a prayer card? No, there's no prayer cards, but there's a God. His name is Jesus Christ; He's the Son of God. I believe I have His anointing. The message that I've preached to you, if it's of God, let God vindicate His own Word. I didn't aim to do this. But I just feel an urgence for this before I say something else.

How many sick people's in here? Raise up your hand, that you're sick and need God? Raise up your hand. Just raise your hand, say, "I believe."

310 Do you believe? If God will come here and do the same works that He did.... How many believe that Jesus Christ is the High Priest right now.... (The book of Hebrews--is that right, brethren? Is that right?) He's the High Priest that can be touched by the feeling of our infirmities. How many knows that's the Bible? When is He? Right now. Well, if He is.... And the Bible said, (Hebrews 13:8) "He's the same yesterday, today, and forever." Is that right? All right. If He's the same High Priest, then the same yesterday, today, and forever, if you touched Him, how would He act today? If He's the same, He'd act the same way. Is that right?

Then a woman one time pressed through the crowd and touched His garment, and felt within herself that she was healed, and went out, and sat in the crowd.

Many people were touching Him, saying, "Oh, hello rabbi. We're glad to have You here," and so forth. And then this woman....

312 Jesus said, "Who touched me?" Peter rebuked Him, but He said, "I perceive that virtue (strength) has gone from me." And He looked around over the audience until He found the little woman, told her she had a blood issue and her faith had saved her. Is that right?

313 Well now, if He's the same High Priest, wouldn't He do the same thing tonight if He'd be touched? Now, how would He do it? He's the Vine now; we are the branches. Is that right? Well then, He'd act through the branch. If it's a correct branch out of the vine, it'd act the same way the life was in the vine. Is that right? Now, you pray; you believe.

314 I pray; I believe. And upon the stand that I have taken for God around the world.... And this ministry of discernment is now leaving, and I'm stepping into a higher ministry of speaking the Word. And you see what God's done? He's put it right back into the lap of the people. Let them come with the right approach and watch what happens. But they've got to have the right approach. See, no one can heal; He's the healer. But I cannot say it until He speaks to me, see. But you can speak now with your faith and get your healing if you'll believe.

You go to praying in your heart, "Lord, let him speak to me." See what happens.

315 And if He will do it, I want each one that raised your hand come here and stand around the altar and let's make our peace right with God. You pray, have faith.

316 Now, heavenly Father, after preaching like that, this is quite a change. I pray, Father, that You'll give me strength to relax myself and to relax the people out there, that we together might let Your Spirit work through us. How much good would it do if You worked through me and not through them? There'd be no response. You came to Your own city where You was brought up, and they were offended at You. And You said many mighty works You could not do, because of their unbelief. You're the same tonight, for You're the same yesterday, today, and forever. May all unbelief be taken. If unbelief strikes me and says, "It won't work tonight," I resent that. He promised me, and I believe Him. Now, let the unbelief leave this building, and let Christ prove Himself alive as He said He would do.

317 Then, Father, if the end comes by morning, then, Lord, they'll go without an excuse. That these people who raised their hands and want You might know that it's the true Spirit of God that's speaking to them in the building tonight. We submit these things to You in Jesus Christ's name. Amen.

Now, I take every spirit in here under my control in the name of Jesus Christ, under the control of the Holy Spirit. Now, you pray.

There's a lady sitting right back here, second one in, right here, got kidney trouble, praying for her healing. You want to be healed,

lady? You believe that God will make you well? You accept it? All right, raise up your hand then. Go home and be well.

319 Ask the woman if she wasn't praying for her kidney trouble. That's right. Is that right, lady? If that's right, raise up your hand so the people can see. Now, she hasn't a prayer card. I do not know the woman; I've never seen her in my life. Is that right, lady? Are we strangers to one another? Wave your hand. Now, you have faith and believe. Does that make Him the same? What did she do? She touched the High Priest; the High Priest spoke to me and showed a vision, just exactly what He said He would do.

320 Jesus said, "I do nothing, the…" Saint John 5:19: "Verily, verily I say unto you: The Son can do nothing in himself. But what He sees the Father doing, that doeth the Son likewise." Is that right? How many knows that scripture? Saint John 5:19. Pray, just pray; humbly pray.

321 Here, I seen an elderly woman setting right back here, right in the line of my finger. Don't you see that Light hanging over the woman right here? Look at there; just turn your head and look right here. The woman raised up her head. She's rather elderly; she's got gray hair. She's got trouble with her eye. She's had a cat ... got a cataract on her eye, and they're going to try to take it off. And she's had a cataract operation before. That's "thus saith the Lord."

322 Now, mother, that's right, isn't it? If that's right, wave your hand. If we're strangers to one another, wave your hand. There you are. Now, do you believe with all your heart? Now, have faith; just believe God.

323 Now, what did she touch? She touched the High Priest. If you'll believe, all things are possible. If thou canst believe.... All things are possible to them that believe. I'm watching; just keep praying wherever you are, balcony or wherever you are, no matter. Keep praying. Just say, "Lord, remember me. I'm sick."

Now, don't try to make yourself nervous. Just say, "Lord, I believe the man is telling me the truth. I believe."

Now see, what did the Angel tell me? "If you can get the people to believe you; not believe me as a man, believe the message I'm telling you. Believe and be sincere when you pray, nothing will stand before your prayer." That's what the man said to me.

325 I see a woman weeping, wiping tears from her eyes. If she will believe me as God's prophet (She's sitting right here in front of me.), God will make her well. I don't know you, never seen you. But you're not from here; you're from Grant's Pass. If you'll believe with all your heart, you'll be healed. God, she's going to miss it; don't let her miss it, Lord. Mrs. Kruger? I challenge you to believe Him. Have faith.

326 I don't know the woman; I've never seen her in my life. God knows that. There's no way in the world for me to ever know her. She's just a woman sitting there. If we're strangers to one another, lady, raise up your hand? Well, whatever He told you, is that true? Wave your hand back and forth like this. All right, if you believe.

327 I see a woman sitting way back here. She's got on a blue and white polka dot dress. She's got a lump in her left side. Have faith; don't doubt. Don't miss it. God.... Mrs. Griffith, have faith in God. Believe with all your heart, and God Almighty will heal and make well. Now, do you believe with all your heart? What do you think about Him? Do you believe God can heal, sister? Sure He does. You believe it's going to be gone? All right. You can have what you ask for.

328 Now, do you believe Him? Then the Spirit that taken me over there is the same Spirit that turns here, that the scientific world has got, the first time a supernatural being was ever photographed. It's a big pillar of fire like that led the children of Israel; here it is anointing us tonight, doing the same works it did when it was in Jesus Christ upon earth.

329 "A little while, and the world won't see me no more," said Jesus. "but you shall see me, for I ['I' is a personal pronoun.], I will be with, even in you, to the end of the world," Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever.

330 People, (Oh, God), can't you realize? Don't pay no attention to this little stoop shouldered, bald headed man standing up here trying to tell you these things. Don't look at me, uneducated, uncouth; don't notice that. Watch the nature of the Spirit that's working through here. Believe the Lord Jesus! It isn't me; I don't know you, know nothing about you. It's Him, Christ fulfilling His Word to what He said He would do.

331 Remember, the end is drawing nigh. Seek ye refuge while you can, while the doors of mercy is open to the Gentiles. Take refuge; that's "thus saith the Lord."

332 I invite every one of you that doesn't have that peace that would take you over there, to come here, stand here by this altar. Every sinner in here, every backslider, I want you to come and stand right here by the altar. If the Spirit of God is here that knows you, surely He'd know what to do.

333 God bless you, sir. Rise up and come here; see how sincere you are. Would you walk from back there to here, if it'd mean the difference between going to heaven or losing your salvation?

You say, "I'm a member of the church. I've been born again."

Have you got that love, you're sure? Don't take no chance on it. Let us sing now.

I love Him, I love Him Because He first loved me (God bless you, my brother.) And purchased my salvation On Calvary.

Let every sinner come now. Will you stand here? No matter your church affiliation, your creed, your color, whoever you are.

334 God bless you, young fellow. May the Lord make a preacher out of you. All right, come. Will you come now, even before we sing the song? You that raised up your hand, wants to find that peace, come. The peace that passes all understanding. Won't you come?

I love Him (It takes His love to take you there.) I

(Stand up now and come on down here, will you?)

Because.....

And (Won't you come? There was about

thirty hands went up.) salvation

On Calvary's tree.

335 Now, just a moment. God bless you that's standing here, you three men. I thought women led the way. Listen. Here's to the church, here is in the name of the Lord. (I am prophesying.) That's

the reason we cannot have revivals; that's the reason the Spirit of God cannot move in the audience; that's the reason my ministry to, seemingly, become unpopular to the people: The Holy Spirit comes and confirms everything that He said He would do, and people will raise their hands and will remain in their seats. It's not sincerity.

336 Then how can you expect to have a healing service? How can you expect the church to go on to its perfection, when thirty people will raise their hands and three will come? Hear it! That's in the name of the Lord. America has seen its day; no more will it rise. It's on its downfall. I speak in the name of the Lord.