

Elijah

Louisville, Kentucky
October 18, 1953

1 Good evening, friends. It's always a privilege to be at the Church Of The Open Door. I like that name: "The Church Of The Open Door." And I like the pastor, also, and the congregation; and the Lord who lives here. So, it makes me always happy to come here.

Concerning the meeting at Owensboro, it's again, as Brother Cauble said, it's a salvation, heal... regular campaign that we usually have. And the public, of course, is invited to bring your sick and afflicted, and come down.

2 Brother Bosworth just called this afternoon. He's to be with me there, to officiate in the meetings. And that's at the City Auditorium. It's a new auditorium; They just built it there. It has seven thousand seats in it. And so, there'll probably be plenty of room, because it's a small city, but they got Evansville, and Paducah, and many of the others cooperating. It's just the outskirts of Louisville here, so come down when you get a chance to see it. We'd be very happy to have you down there at this campaign. And bring the sick and the needy, and your pastor, and everyone along. We'll be glad to have them.

3 And now, tonight is just the eve of this great prayer for the sick. Our good brother Caubles come over and asked me if I'd come say a few words tonight, which is always a pleasure to speak in the name of our Lord, and to His people.

4 I don't get a chance very often to speak like this. Usually my campaigns is all on the subject of divine healing, because the managers and them get the altar call and things, before I get in, or right after the meeting's over. It's mostly praying to the sick.

We had a marvelous time over at Jeffersonville this morning in the Tabernacle. Our Lord did meet with us over there, and help us. And we're grateful for that.

And the Lord to prosper our ways as we go, is our earnest, sincere desire that all of you pray for us; and that God will help us.

5 And now, tonight, being it's just before this prayer meeting, I was coming over, and I thought, *Well, Brother Caubles never said what to speak on.* And it wouldn't do me no good to write any notes on it, anyhow, because I'd get up in the platform, and the Lord tell me something else, and I never look at it.

6 I tried two or three times as a young minister to try to write me out some notes to follow. After the service was over, I thought, *Well, wonder why I didn't look at that.* And come to find out, I didn't even preach on it. So, I just it would be best just to let Him have His way. You know, whatever He has for us.

And, just sitting here on the platform, when I turned to a Scripture concerning ... waiting for this great meeting coming up Tuesday... That's a worthy thing.

7 I just come from Santa Cruz, California, where we had a marvelous meeting over there. Many people got out there till they had to call the city troops ... I mean, the state troops, and block the highways off for the people at Beulah Park over at Santa Cruz. And all the way over, it was constantly just ... same routine: everything dried up. And Nevada, and California, and Kansas, and all through there it's just like it is here.

All across the nation going east it's the same way. Everything, they say, is dried up. Texas, I believe there's one place in Texas where they haven't had a rain for three years. And, just think of that.

8 Now, all this is bound to speak of something. It just can't be ... just say, "Well, it's just a coincidence. It just merely happened that way", or "It's just to be." I don't believe that. I believe that everything has to move according to God's will for it to move. And now, these things are for a purpose.

9 And now, I watch this clock. Usually I've been accused of speaking too long. I don't think I do. I seldom ever speak over four or five hours at a time. And so, I'm sure that I won't break that record tonight. I don't think so, but we'll try to cut it down just a little bit, if we can.

Now, over in the book of Saint James, I happened to run across

these verses, and thought it would be appropriate just to speak of *Preparation* for this meeting that's coming.

10 And now, some of my friends are here from the Tabernacle--sitting here. Well, I want to urge them also, if they possibly can, to attend those prayer meetings for the sick ... [unclear words]. (Pardon me. It's about half on my mind. Looks like they're all praying for the sick.), but for the drought to be broken.

And I believe that God can break a drought today, just like He did in the days gone by, but there's a condition we've got to meet.

And now, as Brother Caubles said awhile ago, it's a very beautiful picture ... or sad, in one way, but of our hearts--condition of the world, and how we're becoming dry towards the Lord.

11 If you'll notice, and go out into the desert. ... Many times I've walked out into the deserts in California, and Arizona, and through them places, and every weed that you find has got a sticker on it. It's because it's dry. A dry climate just develops stickers. Everything that's on it has got a sticker. Then you change, and take that same variety of weed, and put it up into a country where there's a lot of rain and swamp, it's just as soft as it can be. The water makes the difference.

12 And you take a people, or a church, that's just so dry, that they never have prayer meetings, they become stickered. They're just finding fault, and sticking at one another. All we need is a good rain to soften us up a little bit. Don't you think so?

I like to live at the spout where there's just plenty of rain falling, and we can just have a ... Just keep softened up, you know. I think that's the best place to live anywhere--where the rain's falling.

13 Over in Saint James, the fifth chapter, and the sixteenth verse, we read these words, beginning:

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. For the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much

Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and ... prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;

Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

Just one more word of prayer, if you will.

14 Heavenly Father, we come and approach to Thee in the name of Thy beloved Son Jesus, to ask mercy and guidance. We don't know what to say, and the audience is waiting, but Thou has always supplied our needs. And we know that You will according to the riches in glory.

15 When we look forward and see the end time approaching, our hearts are leaping for joy to know that after a while, by and by, these old frail bodies will be changed and made like unto His own glorious body. We shall see Him as He is. We'll never pray for each other no more. There'll never be no more sick. No more old and gray, and crippled, and sickness. Hospitals--they'll have no need--no more undertakers, no more funeral processions. Then we'll be like Christ, live as sons of God, and reign for eternity with Him.

Oh, until that time, Lord, prepare our hearts. And let us give call to this day and night, and not be silent, that God's great message might wake the people from sin to righteousness. For we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

16 I had positive thinking that I would go on record of this. I have to watch, of course, what I say, because God has let me come in contact with many thousands around ... many million of people around the world. And I always weigh my words when I make statements of this kind. But I believe that we're living in the end days--that when we're at the end of the road. I can't see any hope for anything else but the coming of Jesus Christ. Look like we've tried every political scheme that we could find, and there's nothing seems to work.

17 And there was a man died nineteen hundred years ago at Calvary, who paid the price for all of us that we could be brothers

and sisters. And I believe that His program that we have shunned so long, that is the greatest need the world has today.

18 Now, I'll make this statement which seems very bitter to begin with --and I wanted it because it's the truth: that every kingdom of this world is controlled by Satan. The Bible said so. Satan is the prince of the power of the air, and every nation is under his domination. The Scripture says that.

19 Satan told it to Jesus. Said, "The whole world ... all these kingdoms are mine, and I'll do with them what I will." And he said, "I'll give them to You if You'll fall down and worship me."

20 Jesus said, "Get thee hence, Satan, for it's written that thou shalt worship the Lord, and Him only shalt thou serve."

So you see, they all belong to Satan. Jesus didn't dispute his words about it, but Christ knew that He would fall heir to all these nations some day.

21 Over in the book of Revelation, when John the revelator saw that Christ was falling heir to it, he said, "Rejoice ye heavens, and all ye earth. For the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will rule and reign a thousand years on the earth."

Now, we're looking for that great millennium day. That time when all the troubles, and droughts and everything will be settled.

22 We're speaking tonight about Elijah, and making a preview of our prayer meetings coming now. Elijah was a man. . . . Many times when someone speaks of a man like Elijah, they would expect him to be a great angel, or some sort of sainted person that was dropped out of heaven. But the Bible said that he was a man subject to like passions as we are. He had his ups and downs, his trials, his indifference. But he prayed earnestly that it wouldn't rain. And it didn't rain till three years and six months. And after three years and six months, he prayed again, and the heavens gave rain.

23 Now, he was a man just like we are; not an angel, no more than what you or I. . . . He had his differences and things, and his ups and downs in his life like we do, but God answered his prayer because he prayed earnestly and sincerely.

24 And before that kind of a prayer can be made for sick, or for

the end of drought, or for anything that we have need of, there must be a perfect understanding that we're praying in the will of God. That's the reason he could close the heavens that it didn't rain, because God had told him it was going to happen. So, it's easy to say anything's going to happen when God says it's going to happen, because it's got to be that way. God's Word cannot fail.

25 And how that, in those days, as we look back at the history in I Kings the ninth chapter, and begin to think of what had taken place in that day. Israel. . . . The reason that a prophet would pray that God would shut off the rains that it wouldn't rain--starve the people to death. . . . Could you imagine that? A sainted person, now--a godly man, a prophet, major prophet--one of the greatest in the Bible--prayed that God wouldn't even let it rain to bring food on the earth, for he knew it was a great mistake for the people to have plenty to eat, and to die and be lost in torment--yet have plenty to eat. It would be better that they had nothing to eat, and would die and go to heaven. That's right.

And that's true today. What's the matter with we American people? We're well fed, and fattened up, and everything. And we just think we've just got everything made.

26 That's the same way that Israel got. They got into a place in the reign of King Ahab that the land was prosperous. And they had many chariots and horses. And they whipped all the nations down--everywhere. But the king--the main man of the nation--one of the main men--the king of the nation, went and married a little . . . I believe an Egyptian princess. She was a woman who was not a believer. And that's what started the trouble. "A little leaven leavens the whole lump."

And people today, as you see. . . . You say, "Well, I guess I'm a pretty good Christian, Brother Branham."

You can't be a pretty good Christian. There is no such a thing. You have to either be a Christian, or you're not a Christian. A grain of wheat, or a stalk of wheat can't be a barley today and a wheat tomorrow. It's a wheat today, it's wheat for always.

27 And a man that becomes a Christian is not a Christian today and a sinner tomorrow, and a Christian today and a sinner tomorrow. He's the same, like Christ, yesterday, today, and forever, because he

becomes a son of God.

And a nation. . . . We are called a “Christian nation.” Well, the reason we’re called that is because that we hold that name, but just being that name doesn’t expel us for all the judgments of God.

28 So here’s. . . . Not long ago, we were talking on these subjects. Each year, if you’ll notice, across the nation, the drought has begin to get a little worse and a little worse each year--each year moving up. And I believe that we haven’t seen half of it yet.

29 And not only that, but the thing of it is that our people are forgetting God. That’s the main thing, friends. We’ve got plenty to eat, we’ve got plenty to wear, we got fine automobiles. We’re the most prosperous nation in the world. In the midst of it all, we don’t look where it comes from.

It’s like a hog under an apple tree. He’ll eat apples all day long, they’ll beat him on the head and he’ll never look up and see which way they’re coming.

30 Well, that’s just the way we are. We just absolutely will. . . . God will pour His blessings upon us, and then we never look up to say, “Thank You, Lord. I’m so glad to be here, thankful that You give me something to eat.” We just go ahead just like He owed it to us. We owe to Him; He owes us nothing. We owe all we are to Him.

31 And now, I was talking to some ministers recently, and I was speaking on this matter, about judgment fixing to strike this nation. They said, “Brother Branham, God could not put punishment on this nation, because of the sacredness of the nation, and our forefathers, who were real gallant Christians. And at Plymouth Rock, and so forth. He’d remember that.”

32 I said, “God loved Israel, and said so in the Bible; and He never did say that He loved us in that way.” And I said, “But that was His first love--was Israel--and yet, when Israel got out of the will of God, God poured out the judgments of heaven upon Israel.”

33 And we will not escape the judgments of God. If David was a man after God’s own heart . . . and when David sinned before God, God made David reap for what he sowed. And we’ll never come short of that. Whether it’s an individual, church, community, or a

nation, God will require judgment of sin. Amen.

34 Now, notice. Oh, I just love to think of all those examples of what God gave us to look back over in the Old Testament, see what God did then; that's just what He is today. For He's the same yesterday, today, and forever. And if you'll notice, the people had got out of God's will. Ahab had married this little princess, and she'd come over there and she wasn't a believer. Now, where was a believer married with an unbeliever.

35 And here is a nation, which is supposed to be a believer, hooking up with all kinds of meanness and divisiveness, and making it legal. For instance, drinking. I'm not ... *this, that, or the other*. It's not my business to deal with that, but I just want to show you that one thing. We legalize and give men rights to sell men whiskey to drink and beer to drink; then when they catch him on the street, drunk, they lock him up and put him in jail. It's not right. If they'll sell him the whiskey, let him get as drunk as he wants to. He's paid for it. It's his money. So, the thing to do....

36 Not long ago, when we had prohibition in, and saloons was closed, and so forth like that.... Just as the Bible said, "The hog goes to its wallow, and a dog to its vomit," we couldn't walk the straight and narrow path: We had to turn back. That's right. And we voted in whiskey, we voted in all.... When we brought in that, we brought crime.

37 I just left Los Angeles, here. And I was reading the paper as I was flying over Los Angeles, where on the last two years it's averaged a hundred and eighty-two major crimes done in that city alone every twenty-four hours. A hundred and eighty-two major crimes done. I said, "It isn't 'Los Angeles,' it's 'Lost Angels' where men once had morals and understanding."

38 And the great crime of sex and things is on the increase. Why? It's because we let them drink, smoke, do anything they want to. How can we expect to get good out of evil? You've got to take right to go right. You've got to do right to reap right. This is right and this is left. I can't be going left when I'm going right, or vice versa. We've got to go right, think right, do right, to be right. That when we get off of that road, then we're going wrong, we'll come out wrong; no matter how it looks, we've got to come out wrong.

39 And that's the way our nation is today. Here, not long ago. . . . Now, presidents rise and go. They run their business; I'm preaching the Gospel. But I never. . . . I'm neither Democrat or Republican; I am a Christian. I cast one vote, that was for Jesus Christ; He accepted me. And I've been trying to hold up His Gospel ever since. I'm electioneering for Him, and trying to get all the candidates for His kingdom that I know how to pull into the kingdom--going day and night--everywhere.

40 And I know that there will be a time when Jesus Christ will rule and reign in this world, and all His subjects will reign with Him. I want to be one of those. I look forward to that great, tremendous day when He shall come and set all the captives free; and death and things wiped away. Then we'll be made likened unto His own glorious image. And there'll be no more of these things. So, let's look forward to that.

41 Think here, not long ago, when they had a great drought hit the land. Just before that, what they would do? They bought up the hogs and things, took them over there on the west coast, killed them; and by the thousands, piled them up, and the bacon and stuff, and burned it to make prices go up. They plowed under all the cotton and everything like that, to make the prices go up. And the very next year. . . .

42 And then, we were talking about "Peace, peace, peace," and China and Japan starving to death. And taking billions of bushels of wheat out in the ocean, and dumped it out. And in India that same year, thousands times thousands of people died in the streets. So many, till rats eat them up before they get them off the street to bury them. Then we call ourselves a Christian nation? And all those things there? How can it be?

43 Brother, what we need tonight over the whole nation is an old-fashioned, God-sent revival and repentance for every church and every individual to come back to God--to the true and living God. Not to the psychology, not to the theology of church, but what we need to come back is to the true and living God who changes a man's heart, changes his nature, changes his makeup, and makes him a new creature in Christ Jesus--who kills all the nature of the world, and makes the person a new creature.

44 Oh, Christian friends, that's what the world needs tonight. We

don't need a program. We need the original program that Christ set at Calvary. When He was here on earth, He said, "Except a man be born again, he will in no wise enter the kingdom." That's what we need tonight.

45 We've got all kinds of programs everywhere, and everybody soliciting, and everything, for *this* program, and *that* program, when, brother, the program lays right next to your heart: Christ Jesus the Holy Spirit trying to get into you just as hard as He can. And yet, we shut off, and turn aside, and listen to everything else besides the right thing, and God has let the bucket of plagues pour out upon the nation. Right.

46 Now, let's look back again, just for a moment, at Ahab . . . or, that day when he wouldn't listen to the prophet; the prophet tried to speak to him. He wouldn't do it. He listened to his wife. Good times, prosperity, gaiety, carrying on: And that's what this world is swallowed up in today.

47 Listen. I remember. . . . I love you, but when I'm behind this desk, I've got to say as He says, because I only know how to catch it as He gives it. It's a disgrace today, to look around. Now, I'm not talking to this bunch here, but I'm talking about the world in whole . . . or, this nation in whole.

48 To think today that many of the churches don't even open up on Sunday night through the summertime. They stay home to listen to some kind of a radio program, or a television program. Is that the truth? And what they do? The American people want to be entertained. When they get a preacher, if he's not a good entertainer to have socials, and things like that, and carrying on, they don't want him. And they vote him out of it. They want to be entertained, but God don't send entertainers! He sends preachers of the Gospel to preach the unadulterated Gospel of Christ--the power of His resurrection. And every man that believes and accepts it, is born again; outside of that, you're lost! And the nation'll be lost. And the people'll be lost.

49 Sure, it's predicted in the Bible that this United States will fall, and it will fall. And it's right on its road right now, because it's accepted gaiety and big times and socials and things like that, instead of the Gospel. They refuse the cross, and have accepted . . . and got a double-cross from the devil. Amen.

50 I stood in Paris, France, here not long ago. After being over there, looking down through the streets to see that nation, and that people who's polluted beyond anything that I ever seen. If I ever seen a rat-hole in my life, it was Paris, France. When it was so dirty, and filthy, and immoral... Just off from the Notre Dame church, the prostitutes... You had to beat them off with a club, almost. Selling pictures that's vulgar, and everything else like that. And walk in, and throw a little water on them, and say a prayer, and walk away, and claim to be holy and clean. That's a disgrace!

And then I went on down the streets on a sight-seeing bus. I wanted to look around down by the Seine River. And I noticed there, the speaker began to speak. Said, "The Huguenots..."

51 And I looked there and there was a statue with little children--wires wrapped in them--and others. And where they'd piled brush around and burnt the Huguenot Order in the days gone by. A bunch of people who had the Holy Spirit, who was born again and filled with the power of God. And went over there to preach the Gospel, and they burnt them in the streets. That's right. And they accepted their big time--wine, women, and everything else--and they've been a disgrace to the world ever since.

52 And to think that the very devil that done that, landed down there in Hollywood, and stripped our women, and done just the same thing here that he did there. And the preachers behind the pulpit has been ashamed, or afraid of their jobs to put the Gospel out like it ought to've been done. That's right. If you'd have handled the Gospel with bare hands, and tell the people the facts.

53 Now, I begin to notice in the last few weeks, over there at home, some of the big dignitaries of the great men of the big churches are coming, and hungering and thirsting. Great men--some of the greatest men in the nation. Even the Archbishop of India come into my house there, and come to America here, seeking and begging for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. They're sick and tired of theology and human psychology. They want to feel the touch of the living God, who changes men's lives, and makes them new creatures in Christ Jesus.

54 That's what we need tonight, Christians. That's what the world needs tonight. That's what America needs tonight. We got programs going around, revivals everywhere, and asking people if "you'll

accept Christ as personal Saviour.” They stand up, say, “Yes, I do.” And two or three days after that, the devil’s got them right out there again.

55 What they need today is an old-fashioned, God-sent, Saint Paul’s revival, and the Holy Spirit. And get men down at the altar, like their mother and daddy used to do, and cry on the altar until God gives them the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

56 That’s the truth, my Christian friends. Wake up tonight, you people in here. And it’ll never get any better. I doubt it, because the Bible predicted to be until we’re just there. This has become—not a national affair; now it’s an individual affair.

57 Look at this man . . . this man Elijah. He said, “Send down the drought.” And he closed off the heavens, that it didn’t rain.

58 And now, I want you just to notice now, just for a prefigure, what taken place here. Now, when God told Elijah to go do this, and he went down and predicted to the people what was going to happen, well, those people, no doubt, said, “Well, that man’s crazy.”

59 Now, if you could have seen him come up, he wasn’t a great, diplomatic-looking man. He had an old piece of sheepskin wrapped around him, like this, and his beard sticking out all over his face, and hair probably hanging out the same way. And he walked down the street: little old skinny, bony body with a oil cruse hanging on his side, and a stick in his hand, walking down the street; but God was with him.

That’s what’s the matter today, brother. We have went to the big church, or somewhere another, and say, “Oh, well, our church looks better than yours, and ours does *this, that, or the other.*”

60 You’re looking at the outside. What does it make any difference there? What kind of a people has it got in it? Has it got a people there who loves God, prays to God, worships, a prayer meeting, and so forth? You’ll see a prospering church when you see that kind of a people, (Yes, sir.) not the building.

61 God said, “Sacrifices,” and so forth, “I have none,” and Solomon built Him a house, “but howbeit the Most High dwelleth not in houses made by hand, for” He said, “heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool. And where is the house of my rest? But a

heart has thou prepared me”--a body. God comes to the individual.

62 Then, I noticed this prophet, as he had an alternative. And he prayed that it might not rain, so the people could be saved.

63 And I imagine hearing those people in that day say, “Say, do you hear what that holy-roller said? It isn’t going to rain anymore till he calls for it. Did you ever hear of anything like that? Nonsense.” Went on out in their big parties, dancing and gaiety, just like they always did.

64 That’s what throwed our nation into a chaos. When they were drinking and drunken and carousing around when Pearl Harbor struck down there. If they’d been on the alert, and been prayed up, and had a prayer meeting down there that night, they wouldn’t have fell into the hands of the Japanese as they did.

65 And I’ll tell you tonight, if we was prayed up, and the nation was prayed up, and people was living godly, we wouldn’t have droughts, and famines, and pestilence, and things like we’re having now, if men and women lived right before God.

66 But the trouble of it is, look down through your own city Louisville, cross over to Jeffersonville, look down in New Albany. You heard an analysis of it? New Albany: Twenty-seven thousand people, and forty-percent of them has never been to church, or don’t belong to any church --forty-percent of the people--of New Albany, Indiana.

67 I forget how many thousands of children in Boston, Massachusetts, didn’t even know what the name of Jesus Christ meant--of children. Could you imagine that? and talking about a Christian nation. Why, brothers, it’s as black as Africa. That’s right. What are we going to do? No wonder God shut off... No wonder we ought to get ready.

68 I believe over in Amos it said, “Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel,” being that she wouldn’t hear the message, and so forth, said, “Prepare.” And if there ever was a time that the world ought to be preparing for the second coming of Christ, is now. Hear it.

You prepare for weddings. You say, “Why must I prepare? Why must I start to get ready to meet God, preacher? What are you speaking of?”

69 You prepare for a wedding. And you can be disappointed in that. Yes, sir. You can say, “I prepare for a great meeting somewhere,” or something another. You can be disappointed in that, but there’s one preparation that you’re not going to be disappointed: that you’ve got to meet God, every one of you.

70 Say, what makes me think? Every time I see a gray hair, it speaks to me: “I must get ready to meet God.” Every time I hear a siren, I know that I must meet God. It’s a preparation time. Every time I hear of a death, or anything, it’s a preparation time—God preparing.

And when you see those things, when you see sicknesses in the doctor’s office, you see those things, it’s a warning: “Prepare to meet God, for it’s at hand.”

71 You see a man.... Young man here this week, and look back.... Look like it hasn’t been no time, but there he is, broke down; his hairs are turning gray. That beautiful young woman, she’s withering away. That’s a warning: “Prepare to meet God.” Yes, sir.

72 And everything that’s pointing you to that, will witness against you at the day of judgment. When I come to the end of the road, and you come to the end of the road, when we get there, God’s going to make everything hear the trees, is going to make every warning, be rise up in judgment against us. Even the cries of the wicked will condemn you. When the cries of the wicked is in hell, when you stand there and say, “Well, I meant to do right.” There’ll be millions of them in hell say, “You have to condemn him, because I had the same intentions, and You sent me down here. You’re not just God if you let him get by with it.”

73 If the virgin Mary had to go up in the upper room and stay there till she was filled with the Holy Spirit in such a way till she staggered like a woman that was drunk under strong drink, how are you going to get in anything less than that? Yes, sir, brother. It’s time for us to quit fooling with it, and come on up, and get right with God, and the power of God get into our lives. It’s the truth. Yes.

74 Ahab, he wouldn’t listen to Elijah. Elijah walked up. Could you imagine, a fellow looking like that now, an old burley-looking man. And his little old body walked up there, and pointed his finger in the king’s face, and said, “It’s not going to even be dew fall from

the heavens till I call for it.”

Well, I imagine the king said, “Well, who are you?” But he knew what he was talking about. He knew the Word of the Lord.

75 That’s the reason ministers today, and everything, keep telling you, “Prepare to meet God,” because they know the Word of the Lord, and know these are warnings everywhere: famine, pestilence, earthquakes, and so forth. He said, “All these are the beginning of sorrow. Then they shall deliver you up. And you shall be hated of all nations for my namesake.”

76 Look here in America today, friends. All this.... We talk about being a religious nation. And they just built in Chicago a temple to a heathen god, worth millions of dollars. And the true Gospel of Jesus Christ, many times, is preached in little old missions and things along the streets. Can’t get a dime, hardly, to support the program. And here the pastor said awhile ago that this little church here was thirty thousand dollars in debt.

And we Christians, in America, and call ourselves a Christian nation when heathens are coming over and building million dollar temples.

77 I walked into the “Temple Of Continuity,” up there when the devil was so powerful, you could strike at everywhere. If you’re spiritual to understand what I mean. There it was in there. They said, “Here’s Mohammed here. This is for *this* over here, and *that* over there.”

That’ll never work. No, sir. There’s only one way, and that is Jesus Christ the Son of God is the door and the gate. And Christ is not dead; He lives in His people.

78 Elijah goes up to the mountain. God told him, said, “Go up there on top of the mountain” (The driest place there was of all of it), “and sit down up there by that little Brook Cherith. I have commanded the ravens to feed you.”

Could you imagine it? And then he people say, “Well, we’ll get along all right.” A drought set in. Notice, things begin to come the way the Word of God said it would come.

79 And now, they wondered.... They thought that that man was

crazy, but there he was, sitting up there, eating three meals a day. Crows come and fed him. Well, he was better off than a lot of you people here. He had some colored porters. I'd imagine there isn't hardly any of you here has got servants. But that man sitting up there in the wilderness, and God made ravens come and feed him.

Now, you said, "Where did those ravens get them sandwiches they was bringing him?"

80 Well, I don't know. That's not for me to know. I can't tell you. The only thing I know, they got them somewhere. And they brought them to Elijah, and he eat them, and stayed alive for three years and six months. Amen. The only thing I know, the ravens brought it, and Elijah eat it.

You say, "Brother Branham, do you mean to tell me there's such a thing as. . . . You preach a heartfelt religion."

Yes, sir. I believe it. If you don't feel it, you haven't got it. That's one thing sure. If I couldn't feel this coat, I wouldn't know I had it on. That's exactly right.

Old fellow, one time, said. . . . This is not a. . . . I don't joke in the pulpit. I don't believe it. Don't believe in it. This is no place for jokes. This is a place for the Word of God.

An old colored man said, "I carry this Bible."

Said, "You can't read it." Said, "What do you carry it for?"

Said, "I carry it because I believe it." Said, "I carry it for that reason. I can't read it." Says, "'Holy Bible' wrote on it, and I know that it's holy."

And he said, "Well, do you believe that a. . . ?" His boss said, "Do you believe that a man can have heartfelt religion?"

He said, "Yes, boss."

He said, "Well, there is no such a thing as heartfelt religion."

He said, "You just missed one word. There's no such a thing as heartfelt religion, as far as you know." But he knowed different.

One day he said, "I want to get that heartfelt religion." He said, "It's raining today. We can't work." He said, "Come on." He took him out to the corncrib. It was nice and dry. He said, "Can I

receive it here?”

The old darkie said, “No, sir.”

He went up in the hayloft. Said, “Can I receive it here?”

Said, “No, boss.”

Said, “Where do we receive it?”

And he pulled up his trouser legs, like this, and walked out in the pig pen, in the mud, like that. Said, “Come on out, boss.” Said, “Here’s where you get it—out here.”

He said, “I can’t come out there to get it.” Said, “I don’t want it out there.”

He said, “You don’t want it bad enough, that’s the reason.”

81 Brother, I tell you, when a man’s really getting hungry and thirsting for God, He’ll receive it. The trouble of it is, that the church is not hungry enough tonight for God. There’s a reason the Holy Spirit’s not moving in the church tonight.

That’s the reason the signs of the apostles. . . . They sometimes say, “Brother Branham, how does this healing, and the miracles, and signs and wonders. . . ?”

It’ll work if you believe it. If you’ll take God at His Word, it’ll produce. God, let me live to prove that around the world that that’s true.

And so will it work tonight, in a drought, or anything else. If you’ll meet God’s conditions, God will meet you on those grounds; but you’ve got to come to His conditions.

Look. Elijah sitting up there by this pool, drinking when he wished to, and ravens feeding him. Then it come the time when they begin to want for Elijah. And they went out to try to find this man of God.

82 Now, I want you to notice what he told them for a preparation. And the thing that worked in that day for a preparation, will work in Louisville, Kentucky. It’ll work for you people who are going to come here this next coming Tuesday night, and Tuesday afternoon, to pray for the rain.

83 Listen close. Elijah said, “First, go call up four hundred of them prophets. Go call your opposition, and bring it up here.” And said, “When you get it up here, then let’s cut a bullock in two. And you give them both a chance, and let them call on their god. And then you give me a chance to call on my God.”

84 And I want you to notice. After they’d went up, and the heathens had carried on over their religion, and so forth; it was dead, there was nothing. And Elijah walked out, put his hands across his breast maybe this way, and said, “Why don’t you call a little louder? Maybe he’s pursuing; maybe he’s in battle. Why don’t you speak to him?” Yes, sir.

85 Now, you have a beer party down here to start your gaiety, or have a big picnic somewhere, and let the whole world turn to that, and bring rain on the earth, or you. . . . Let’s try that tonight. You just open up every saloon, give everybody all the drinks they can, and make the Christians stay home and not pray, and everything like that, and see if you can bring rain and prosperity to the nation. That’s right. But then, you close them, every one, up. Stop all your meanness, and everything, and get down on your knees, and call out to God, and watch what happens. Let the God that answers be God.

86 Let’s do a trial. I’ve seen that tried many times. I said, “You get one of the persons, and let’s bring the sick and afflicted and find out who’s God.” God’ll be the same thing in this. If you people around this area here want an old-fashioned pouring-down rain, you just get down on your knees, and all of you around here start calling out to God with a sincere heart, burn up everything in your house. Take the beer bottles out of the ice box. Throw that deck of cards away. Take the children, and take off for Sunday School next . . . and stay in prayer, instead of running out, and running around gadding about the way you do. Get on your knees and start praying; God’ll send you rain. That’s right. Make preparation.

I want you to notice old Elijah. Oh, my. Amen. Don’t get excited. *Amen* means “so be it.” It won’t hurt you. I haven’t hurt no one yet.

Notice. I get a little excited maybe, sometime, but it’s something inside of me making me excited. Do you believe in that? Sure. Something inside of you makes the excitement.

One time. . . . Probably if I'd go out here tonight and say, "Say, I see the moon a-shining. What are you shining about, moon?"

The moon'd say, "It's not me shining. It's the sun shining on me."

That's what it is. If you live close enough to God so the power of the Holy Spirit can fall on you, it'll reflect the presence of God. Amen.

87 Up in the mountains, when I go hunting. . . . Oh, I just love nature. I used to get out there to an old spring. It was the happiest thing I ever seen. It just bubble, bubble, bubble all the time." And I sat down by it one day, I thought, *What makes you so happy? I wish I had that much energy. You're jumping and bubbling all the time.* I said, "Are you happy because deers drink at you?"

He'd say, "No."

I said, "Because bears drink there?"

"No."

"Maybe it's because I drink there."

"No."

If he could talk, I'd say, "What makes you so happy?"

He'd say, "Brother Branham, it ain't me bubbling. It's something behind me pushing me, making me bubble."

88 And that's the way it is with a man who's right with God. It's something behind him pushing him, bubbling him, and makes him testify. It makes you cry, it makes you get right with God. It makes you believe in God, because the very . . . [unclear words] said to that light bulb tonight, "What are you shining for?"

He'd say to me--if he could speak--he'd say, "Brother Branham, it's not me shining. I'm just a wired above here, but it's something running through me, making me shine."

89 That is every man that's born of the Spirit of God. He can't help from believing God does things, because the power of God from a great dynamo yonder--a generator--that's moving in that man's innermost being and he has to shine out in a testimony for the glory of God. Amen.

What we need is an old-fashioned breaking up. What we need is a cleaning up. What we need is not a “whitewashing,” but a “washing white.” What we need is a getting rid of these things.

90 The Bible said, “Let us lay aside every weight that does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that’s set before us, looking to the author and finisher of our faith, Jesus Christ.”

91 Elijah said, “Now, the first thing I want you to do when you get ready for my sacrifice to prove who’s God, if you want to see some rain around here . . . now, the first thing I want you to do is go get me twelve stones.” Twelve stones represented the twelve tribes of Israel.

92 And that’s the only way we’ll ever have a revival in America. That’s the only way we’ll ever get back to God the way we should. The Methodists has got to recognize the Baptists. The Baptists has got to recognize the Presbyterians. And we’ve got to recognize one another as brothers and sisters in Christ, and quit segregating ourselves off like this, and have an old-fashioned revival. Amen. An old-fashioned, God-sent, sky-blue, sin-killing religion. Yes, sir, brother. That’ll make you what you ought to be. Start an old-fashioned testimony meeting in the church.

93 Well, you can’t hear a testimony meeting no more. Get around the church is so cold, the spiritual thermometer says, “forty-below-zero.” Nobody in there praying. Come into the church, and they’re all jostling one with another, joking around, walking up and down the aisles, chewing chewing gum, and talking about the washing, and *this* other thing and *that*.

94 You ought to be praying! Amen. That’s the reason God can’t get a hold of hearts! It’s because that men don’t let Him. You’ve got your life all choked up with something else. Some kind of an organization, or “You must do this.”

“Well, they got a revival down at the Methodist,” or “the Baptist.”

“That’s not my church. I don’t go down there.”

95 Sure! You’re a member of that church! Every man that’s born again of the Spirit of God is a member of the body of Christ. Amen. And every man that’s born of the Spirit of God has that kind of a

motive towards his Christian brother. Although he might differ in little bitty things, but what difference does that make?

You say, “Well, the Methodists sprinkle and we baptize.”

That don’t have nothing to do with it. The thing to do, brother: If in your heart you can’t recognize that to be your brother, you need a trip to God’s altar to get right with God.

“Well, they’re down at the Church Of The Open Door. I belong to the Baptist church. No need of me going down there to pray for rain.”

Oh, brother, don’t do that. If you do, you’ll never get rain. You’ll close the heavens again. Yes, sir.

96 Elijah said, “Bring me twelve stones”—representing the twelve tribes of Israel. And he loaded them together. Rolled them one on top of the other. And when them stones come together, represented the tribes coming together.

Then the sacrifice—the bullock—was laid on top of the stones. That’s the blood of Jesus Christ covering all His children.

97 Then he said, “Now, to be sure that’s not false, or anything about it,” (Everything God does is in the above board.), he said, “Now, bring me seven barrels of water.” And they poured the barrels of water up on top of them sacrifices. And they made a trench, and the water run all down around like that. Said, “You see, there’s no fire around it. It’s absolutely genuine.”—churches together, the sacrifice laying, bleeding.

98 Now Elijah walked out and said, “Lord God, I’ve done all this at Your command. Let it be known today that Thou art God, and I am Thy prophet.”

99 And about that time, the fire of God began to fall, began to lick up the sacrifice and all the water around; took up the sacrifice and received his efforts. And Elijah slew all the priests over there that was against God. Went down there and sat down by the side of the mountain, said, “Now, Lord, I have done all of this that You said. The people have received this. And all cried out with one accord, “Let God be God. Let God be God.” And the people began to cry with one accord.

100 Then Elijah went down there and said, “Now, Lord, look! Your people’s all in one accord. There’s three years and six months there hasn’t been a sprig of grass growing or nothing. Everything’s dead. The people are just about to perish. All the waters are gone, and just a few mules has been saved, and so forth, of the stock. Look what a time it is. And now, they’ve repented, and they’re coming back to You.” Said, “Oh, Lord God, send rain.”

101 Said, “Go up, Gehazi, and look.”

He looked and said, “The skies are like brass.”

102 Oh, I wish I had time to go into that right now--what brass means. Brass speaks of divine judgment. The laver at the altar over sacrifices offered. It was a brazen altar, where the lambs were thrown--the sacrifice, judgment--divine judgment.

103 Look back there. Moses, when he lifted up the brass serpent in the wilderness--that stick on the pole. That stick represented the cross. The serpent in itself--serpent--represented sin already judged from the garden of Eden. And brass represented divine judgment. Divine judgment that Christ, that what. . . . It seems strange that God would let this represent His Son, but a snake. A snake represents sin. And sin judged by divine judgment was the brass serpent on the pole. Amen.

104 I just love that. God sparing not His own Son, but sent Him made in the likeness of sinful flesh, that He might reconcile us to Himself. How God’s unfolded Himself, trying to get into the heart of man down through the age.

105 Oh, you’re left without an excuse. How that God, back there in that pillar of fire, away from man, but looking down and loving man. And then, no one could touch the mountain where He settled on. Smoke and fire and lightning flying every way. No one could come near the mountain. Even the beast touched it must be killed.

106 Notice. Then after God manifested Himself to the children of Israel in a pillar of fire, that same God revealed Himself in a body--Jesus Christ. God with us, manifesting Himself here, unfolding Himself down, now, from something that couldn’t be touched, to a virgin-born body, in order to give this body as a sacrifice to die, and to go away and return back again. And now, God unfolded Himself in the pillar of fire into a virgin-born body, and now, into a heart of

sinful man that's been regenerated by the blood of this sacrifice.

Oh, I couldn't have seen it: how God could love the people so. And all these things, and pestilence and things, friends, is only a warning and a love-token to you to get you ready to meet God.

107 Now, when you go home, if there's sin in the camp, burn it up. Get ready for a revival. Come down here, not only pray for a rain on the earth here to water the things when billions and millions of dollars worth of stuff is destroyed. Why? Why is it?

108 Here about three years ago, I would hear how many thousand rural churches was turned into sheep barns. And that same year (It's been two years ago I was reading statistics on it.) that that same year there was hatched out thirteen million infidels.

109 Why? Why, men and women? Why does it permit? Because the devil has come in here, and is riding us all down, and quoting big pictures, and painting wonderful things; and he's got you so blind till you can't see the coming of the Lord yonder.

110 Young folks, old folks, whoever you are, prepare, get ready to meet God, prepare yourself, prepare for the end time. We're at the end of the road. One of these days... Do you know the Bible predicts that this world's going to be burnt up with fire? Do you know the Bible said in the last days that the heat was so great upon the earth, until men would dig holes to get into it and try to hide themselves from the wrath of God? Do you know diseases are predicted in the last days till even great men, and chief captains, and so forth, would break out and rot in their flesh, and birds would eat from their bodies--birds of the heavens would fly down and eat on their bodies before they died?

You say, "How can those things be?"

111 It's a mystery to you. So was the horseless carriage a mystery to you. So was the electric light. So was airplanes, and so forth, a mystery. When the prophets give twenty-five hundred years ago that missionaries would travel from place to place, and go into the nations, and wouldn't leave a track behind them (coming by airplane)--twenty-five hundred years ago. Who would have thought such a thing?

112 Nahum, four thousand years ago, said that the chariots would

rage in the broad ways, and looked like their headlights would be like torches, and they would run like lightning.

113 And anybody's ever been to the Oriental countries, their little old streets are not much wider than that aisle through there--just where a horseman could go down there ... or, a carriage. And he seen the broad ways. He said there'd be ... the carriages shall rage in the broad ways.

That prophet, through the power of God, looking down through an eye of God, and said, in other words, there'd be automobiles, there'll be airplanes.

114 And men will come in the last days, will be heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, despisers of those that are good, having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such, turn away. That's the Scripture. We're at the end time, friends.

Listen. Tell you what let's you and I do. Let's do like Elijah. Let's get the things right. Let's get back to God.

Then Elijah put his head down, he prayed. He said, "O God, send the rain."

115 He went up. Gehazi come back and said, "It looks like brass." He went again till he went the seventh time. And when he went the seventh time, he said, "I see a cloud rising up out of the sea; just looks like a man's hand."

116 Elijah said, "I hear the sound of abundance of rain. Go tell Ahab to gird up his loins and go to Jezreel, because there's a great rain coming."

Look what unbelief would have done then. Unbelief of the day ... the 1953 version of that would've said, "If that's all you can send, just take it back."

117 But when Elijah saw the first moving of the hand of God, he said, "I hear the sound of abundance of rain."--looked like a man's hand. Look here: J-E-S-U-S. When he seen that standing in the skies, he knew everything was all right. That's right. Everything was all right when he seen Jesus come on the scene.

118 Brother, what this nation needs today to end this drought, to

end these pestilence. . . . Look at diseases breaking out when doctors don't even know what they are. And look here, we're developing drugs. I preach divine healing; I'm not against drugs. You realize that. No, sir. They're God-given. But today they've become a. . . . I don't know what to call it.

119 When here, not long ago, riding on the road, I picked up an agent and we were talking together in a filling station. And he was talking to me about divine healing. He said, "The medical racket has become the greatest in the nation." They kill as many as they help. They give a shot of penicillin. It'll help you get rid of a bad cold. It'll set up something else that might take your life.

120 Here I come back from overseas. Dr. Adair, my friend in Jeffersonville, he said, "Billy, I don't want to give you penicillin. I'll give you some chloromyacatin." I was up there, praying for the sick, and everything. And I was sneezing around awhile. He said, "Well, you just come out of that hot climate. Just take the medicine."

121 And I took them things, and it didn't do me no good. I went and got another bottle of them, and took them. And I got so swimmy-headed, I couldn't stand up. And I called, I said, "Doc, you know, them things make me swimmy-headed."

Said, "How many you took?"

I said, "Two bottles."

He said, "Mercy, goodness. Enough to kill you. Quit taking them."

There's only one thing about a bad cold. If you take medicine, you have it seven days. If you leave it alone, you have it one week. So, you suit yourself. So now, that's it. But let me tell you, brother. . . .

122 Look. Then, at the Moody Bible Institute up there, just at the broadcast, in Chicago, when the medical scientist given their estimation up there about drugs, they said, "Don't take chloromyacatin, because it sets up a rare blood disease. There's no cure for it."

123 I wonder! Here you've seen one of these days; let me tell you are America. Listen to this, you. Listen. I've seen here the other

day in a medical journal, where they was getting after these cigarette companies that's putting out these things that doctors prescribed for certain-certain cigarettes. There's no true doctor prescribed for nothing like that. It's nothing in the world but a trick of the devil.

124 And you look at this month's *Reader's Digest*. They'd taken seven rats over here, in the medical research at St. Louis, Missouri, and put seven rats in there, and give them one cigarette a day for a year. All seven rats had cancer at the end of the year.

125 And now they claim (I forget how many) eighty thousand cases of throat and lung cancer is caused by cigarette smoking. And the cigarette firm knew as soon as they could get a woman to indulge in that, they had it made. And when more men has cigarette cancer than what women does, because men's been smoking longer than women.

126 Let me tell you something today, brother. America's loaded down with that tommyrot! And all they got on their programs, and the radio time, and everything, sold us such as that, because they got the sway of the world (That's right!) where the Gospel of Jesus Christ ought to be preached in its power, and men and women born again, and come away from such stuff as that, and live for God.

Let me tell you something, brother. You say, "Now, Brother Branham, you're going to teaching about morals."

You just get the old-fashioned baptism of the Holy Ghost, and you'll find out what God'll do for you then.

You say, "Will I have to quit smoking, Brother Branham, to get the baptism of the Holy Ghost?"

127 Listen. When springtime comes, we live here in this country. There's a lot of little old scrub oak (you know what it is) around here. It's got its leaves all year round. They're hanging on right now. They'll hang on till next spring.

128 Now, when springtime comes, you don't have to go out and pick all the old leaves off. My. Just let the new life come up, and the old leaf drops off. Just get down here to the altar and stay Tuesday until God fills your heart with the Holy Ghost; and you won't have anymore time for that kind of stuff. You won't have to preach against it, or nothing; it'll take care of itself.

[Break in tape.] ... I don't know what to do. He said, "I just don't know what to do."

I said, "What's the matter, Brother Reedhead?"

A man of his position.... He said, "I come to you." Said, "Not long ago, I stood by an Indian from India. And he'd been educated here in America."

And I said, "Why don't you forget your old dead prophet Mohammed, and accept a resurrected Lord?"

Listen now, closely. He said, "Sir, what can your resurrected Lord do for me any more than my dead prophet can?"

"Why," he said, "our resurrected Lord's raised from the dead. He gives us happy, and joy, and everything."

He said, "It's pure psychology. We have the same thing." Said, "Our dead prophet never promised what your resurrected Lord did."

Now, there's been a white horse stand at the grave of Mohammed ever since he died two thousand years ago. He claimed that he would raise again.

129 He said, "Your Lord's risen. And He promised that the things that He did, shall you also, and even greater." He said, "Let our Mohammed raise, and the whole world will know it." And said, "Your Lord's been raised for two thousand years, and two-thirds of the people never heard His name."

130 What's the matter? You've substituted theology for the Holy Spirit. That's exactly right. You've took church creed, and took in the place ... and let the church creed govern the church when the Holy Ghost ought to have the way in the church to lead the church. That's exactly right. You'll have to come back to God's program. Before God can ever turn anything, it's got to be God in you. Amen.

131 He said he stood there whipped, and changed the subject. He stood there in a room, and said, "Brother Branham, I've been to the Pentecostals and everything." But said, "I want to ask you something. Is the baptism of the Holy Ghost real?"

I said, "Brother Reedhead, as God lives in heaven," I said, "it's real."

He said, "Can I receive it?"

132 I said, "Yes, sir. It's 'Whosoever will, let him come.'"

He said, "Has the teachers been wrong?"

133 I said, "Reverently, I say it, brother, and with the fear of God in my heart: Yes, sir, they've been wrong. They've tried to educate you into it when you can't be educated to it. You're born in it!" Yes, sir. Not joined in it, not shook hands in it, not lettered in it. You're born in it!

134 I'm a Branham because I was born forty-four years ago in the Branham family. They never did ask me to join the family. I was born in it. That's the way a man's born in the kingdom of God: by the baptism of the Holy Spirit . . . puts him into the kingdom of God, and a joint-heir with Jesus Christ. Amen.

That's what we need tonight, friends. You know that's the truth. Yes, sir.

135 And there, laying hands on Dr. Reedhead, he received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. He's been right here in this church, I guess. Yes, sir. Dr. Reedhead. He went out and got started. Don Wells, one of the best known Baptists of the Southern states here, walked down there and received the baptism of the Holy Ghost in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

136 He's sat in my den room up there, and said, "Brother Branham, I believe it's real, and coming from God." And here, Lee, and all the rest of them come and received the baptism of the Holy Ghost, while hundreds and hundreds of men and women across the world. . . .

137 When here come, the other day, out of Kentucky here, your main leading of the Christian church, and sat on my porch while the movie studios was up there trying to take a picture of the place, and said, "Brother Branham, is the baptism of the Holy Ghost real?" He said, "I'm tired of church theology. I want something real."

138 What is it, brother? Men and women, we're coming to the end of the road, hungering and thirsting. God's pouring out His Spirit. And the people are seeing it, and running for life. They're getting up to Cherith up yonder, where God's commanded the ravens to feed them. That's right. These little old missions around town. These places that's looked upon as a bunch of fanatics. Watch out,

brethren. Sometime it might be a meal ticket to you. That's exactly right. Seek God.

139 When you come to this meeting.... I'm sorry I've kept you long, but when you come to this meeting Tuesday night, come prepared. I'll tell you what you do: Kill off all the old long-robed priests. They stand around saying, "The days of miracles is past. There's no such a thing as the glory of God in the human heart. It's all imagination."

140 Let me tell you something right now. If Jesus Christ raised from the dead, He's living in His church today! And we are His representatives. If Jesus is here, look in the meetings, come to the campaigns once when the anointing of the Holy Ghost comes. If it doesn't produce the very same life of Jesus Christ--healing, knowing, foretelling things, what will, what will not.... Watch it if it isn't true.

141 What is it? Jesus isn't dead! He rose from the dead. He said, "A little while and the world will see Me no more. But you'll see Me, for I'll be with you, even in you, to the end of the world." He's here tonight. That's right.

142 I can see the wise men as they went to worship Him. I can see them getting ready to go. I can hear one of them say.... "What are you doing? You didn't take any compasses," wife said. "How're you going to get through the valleys? How're you going to get over the mountains? How're you going to get over there to worship Him?"

143 He'd say, "Look, wife. I don't need any of your man-made stuff. I'm going God's provided way. I see a star hanging yonder, and that star is going to lead me to the Christ. I don't need compasses anymore. I'm following that star." And it took him right straight to Christ.

144 Brother, you might take join *this* church, join *that* church. You'll go with the Methodists awhile. If they do something over there you don't like, you'll take your paper out, and go over and join the Baptists. If you don't like it over there, well, you'll come over here to the Nazarenes--join them. You'll go back over to the Presbyterians and join them, or with the Christian church. You pack your paper till its wore out.

145 Why don't you forget and tear the thing up, and put your name on the Lamb's book of life in heaven where it can't be moved? There we'll fellowship with the Methodist brother, the Baptist, the Presbyterian, and come together in these union meetings and worship God. And let your heart be open, and be a brother to all men. Say, "God bless you, brother."

146 If a man's in the wrong, don't condemn him. Help him up! When you see these drunk, and prostitutes on the street, don't point your scornful finger, and say, "I'm better than they are." The thing to do.... That person's just as low as they could get now. If anything, take them by the hand, and lift them up and point them to Jesus Christ the Son of God who can save them.

But, "Oh, I belong to the church. We don't have such people as that in our church. We've drawn a boundary line now. We just let a certain class of people come to our churches."

That's right. What we need today is an old-fashioned Holy Ghost revival--a nationwide--which makes us all shake hands with one another, and call one another "brother" and "sister." God bless you. I hope....

147 I'm a poor preacher. I don't know how to carry a subject; but I know one thing: I love God. I know that with all my heart. And I know the old-fashioned religion that gave me new birth, that's taken me out of a home of corruption, that's taken me out of the gutters of sin, and made a Christian out of me. If that'll save me, will save you. That what brought healing to my body, will bring it to yours--that who made me turn my face from the things of the world, and look to Christ.

148 And tonight, brother, I couldn't help it. If He'd condemn me at the end of the road, and say, "William Branham, you go to hell."--I'd go down into the pits of hell. If there is such a thing as love there, I'd love Him there. That's right. I couldn't help it.

149 Here, not long ago, I'd had a trial. (They're precious to you.) I buried a little baby this afternoon out of a home over there that the little baby was born--died right away. Little mother and father, I said, "Oh, it's just a..." What is it? It's a little cut. It's something to bring you closer to God.

I remember my little girl, a-dying. I laid her on the mother's

arms, and buried them out there in the graveyard. My father died. My brother got killed instantly. All of it happened just at once.

There I was going up the road one day. A pair of boots on right after the flood--walking, tears running down my cheeks. I couldn't stand it hardly, walking up the road.

150 Mr. Eisler at Jeffersonville there, (He's something another, state law, there--senate, I believe.)... Anyhow, he was going up the highway, and he seen me. He stopped his car. (He come to the church once in a while --my little church.) He put his arm around me. He said, "Billy, I want to ask you a question."

I said, "All right, Brother Eisler. What is it?"

151 He said, "Your father died in your arms. Your brother died before you could get to him. You was holding the hand of your wife when you kissed her goodbye, and told her you'd meet her at the gate." Said, "Turned right around and walked right down there, and God took your baby right out of your arms, and you standing there praying for it." Said, "What does He mean to you today?"

I said, "He's more than life to me."

Said, "Do you still love Him?"

152 I said, "Brother Eisler, I could deny myself before I could Him." Why, I said, "Down yonder over in an old coal shed one night, as a sinner boy, was kneeling on a grass sack, praying, there's something happened here. A new creature was born. William Branham died, and Christ Jesus come in. And since then, I love Him, Mr. Eisler. That the whole world should turn me down, and everything else, I still love Him. If He condemns me, I still love Him."

153 Oh, love of God, how rich, how pure. And I know I'm getting older each day. I know some of these days, I've got to come down to the end of the road. I know my last sermon will be preached one of these days. I'll pray for my last sick person.

154 A while ago, they was asking me about a church, or something like that. I said, "I'd love to have a great church, but how can I stand to see them little black hands reaching over yonder in Africa and India, that's never heard the Gospel one time, when there's big churches on every corner. Oh, it's not fair."

155 One of these days, when I come to the end of the road, I done fixed it with the Lord a long time ago. I said, “Lord, I don’t want no trouble when I come down there that morning. If there’s anything wrong in my life, let me make it right now, for I won’t have time when I come to the river. I don’t want no trouble down there.”

156 I’ve got a lot of briar patches I’ve went through. I’ve been cut, and bruised, and called, and scorned, and laughed, and anything, but I haven’t kept my eyes on people; it’s on Christ. On Christ the solid Rock I stand, all other grounds is sinking sand.

157 As I move yonder. . . . One of these days, if I live to be an old man, these few hairs that’s left here’ll probably be hanging down, turning gray. Most all Branhams, when they get old, take the palsy; they shake hard. And I suppose, maybe standing there by the river one of these mornings, I’ll be standing, leaning on my cane, with these gray hairs stringing down around, shaking, with this old Bible in my hand.

158 And I know the doctors left the room and said, “He’s gone. There’s nothing to be done for him. The end of the road’s come.” When I’m standing there listening at the breakers dash against the shore, yonder, and I look back down the path, I want to see it carved through every briar patch for the name of Jesus Christ. When I know my days is ended, I know my time is come, I want to take off my helmet, lay it down on the shore like that; kneel down on there and take the old sword and stick it back in the sheath of eternity; raise my feeble hands to God, and say, “God, I’ve done the best that I know how. I done all that I know how. Shove out the lifeboat, Father. I want to come home.”

159 I believe He’ll be there to meet me. I believe He’ll be there to meet me. He won’t disappoint me that hour. That’s right. I believe He’ll stand there. I believe He’ll stand with every man and woman here tonight that’ll believe Him on that ground.

160 If you haven’t believed Him that way, believe Him tonight, won’t you? Accept Him in your heart, now. Purpose in your heart that from this night on, you’re going to serve God. You’re going to tear down all the old mournful things, saying, “The days of miracles is past--heartfelt religion.” Slay them things like Elijah did, and come and worship a God who answers by Holy Ghost and fire. Amen.

May the Lord bless you, while we bow our heads just a moment. If the organist will go to the organ, just a moment, sister, if you will. If you will, bow your heads just a moment.

161 O Father dear, such a tremendous time. We're living in the greatest time of all the ages. How the prophets would've longed to've seen our day: the announcing of the coming of Jesus. We realize that mortal men and women are sitting here tonight, the purchase of Thy blood. And now, they've been committed here to us to preach the Gospel.

162 Receive these few broken words, Father, and mend them together in some way, and place them in some heart here tonight that's without You, without hope. Maybe pretended to be a Christian for years, but has never been born again, don't know what it means. God, if that person's here, won't You speak just now.

Loving Father, waiting just across the water, yonder, with outstretched arms, calling the wayward in. Will You grant it just now, Father, for we ask it in His name.

163 While you have your heads bowed, I wonder if there's a man or woman in here that would just raise up your hand, say.... Don't no one look, now. Just let the Lord and I look. And if you'll just raise up your hand, say, "Brother Branham, I'm right now sincere in my heart before God. I really.... If I knowed I wasn't coming back no more (This is my last night) truly, I'd have a lot to repent for. And I want to make my life different from what it is now." Would you just raise up your hand, and say, "Will you pray for me, Brother Branham, that I will meet the conditions God has asked?"

God bless you, and you and you all. That's right. That's right. All over the building, there's hands going up from everywhere. God bless you. God bless you, you, you, you. Dozen or more hands in one section.

164 All right. Over to my left, is there any over this way on the left? Raise up your hand. No one look but just the Lord and I, please. Raise up your hand, say, "Brother Branham, these things may be secretly. Maybe you belonged to church a long time, but you really want a close walk with God.

165 You say, "Brother Branham, I want to really have what Jesus wants me to have: the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and power. And I

want to be a shining light for Him. I'm raising up my hand so God'll see it. And I want you to pray for me." Would you do it?--at my left side. God bless you. That's right. All down along.... God bless you. All along. Yes, there's hands--dozens of them. God bless you.

166 While our heads are bowed, O God, we realize that some day, one by one, if You tarry, each one of these people that put up their hands will go one by one to an altar somewhere, in a casket, or be destroyed in the river, fire, wreck, or somewhere. But, God, they've got a soul there that's going to live on forever. I pray Thee, Father, with all my heart, with all my soul, that You'll not let one of them be lost. If Thy servant has found favor in Your sight, then I pray that You'll answer my prayer. If You'll open the eyes of the blind. Like in the service this morning, a little baby standing there, born deaf and dumb, and the spirit left it, and was there, normal.

167 O Lord God, You who can do those things, You who can make the blind to see, and the cripples to walk, hear the prayer, Lord. And You seen their hands. You knowed every one of them. You was the One who had them to raise their hand. Grant it, Lord, that You'll hear my prayer, and not one will be lost, but all be saved.

168 And, Father, in this coming meeting, coming here Tuesday night, and Tuesday afternoon, O God, may there be.... May the priest stand between the altar and God, and hang onto the horns of the alter, and weep between the porch and the door. And may there be old-fashioned conviction everywhere.

169 And, God, I pray that You'll send an old-fashioned revival, and a good sweeping rain that'll water this beautiful country through here. Grant it, Lord. And may, again, the wheels hum the song, going to the church on Sunday morning, and Wednesday night prayer meeting. And may this great lovely nation of ours that You've give us--as our courts of long ago prayed, and sang in the hymn:

Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light.
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God our King.

170 Grant it, Lord, that once again, that America will turn to God,

and we'll have this drought broke, and these pestilence stopped--these plagues removed. Grant it, Lord. And may freedom.... When everybody's in fear, wondering when the atomic bomb would strike, and we're told that in one-hour's time the whole nation could be blowed up. O God. And that great thing is right in the hands of our enemy. And they're well prepared to do it. Just Your mercy holding.

171 O God, may men take advantage of this. May sinful men and women, everywhere, repent. Grant it, Lord. Then send us an old-fashioned rain--rain of the Holy Ghost--and a rain of the waters that'll water the lands, and water the church. And may we all serve You as long as we live, and come to Your house in peace at that day, for we ask it Jesus' name. Amen.

172 God bless you for bearing with me this hour-and-a-half. It wasn't quite five hours, but God bless you, now. I pray that God'll bless each one of you, and give you the desire of your heart. It's a happy privilege to get to stand here, be with you; and now, attend to all these meetings that Dr. Caubles has spoke of.

173 And the brother coming from Scotland attend those meetings, and bring the sinners in, and everything. And then, when the meetings are over, remember down at Owensboro, Kentucky. We got a nice, big auditorium there, seating seven thousand. Every one's welcome to come. Bring your sick and afflicted. God bless you. Brother Caubles. [Brother Cauble leads the congregation in singing, "Jesus Is Calling."]

174 Won't you come? Friends, this is an old-fashioned time like your fathers and mothers had back in the Wesley Church--the old-fashioned Missionary Baptist churches. You just got away from this old-time thing. Come to the altar and confess your faults. Come to the altar and tell God about it. If you want just a little closer walk with God, why don't you come up here tonight and stand for prayer. It wouldn't do you a bit of harm.

175 There might be a missionary sitting in here somewhere tonight, that God wants to send to the field. There might be a preacher; there might be somebody that's facing something. If you are.... You might be facing death this very night, tomorrow. I don't know when. But if you're here, why don't you come.

176 I just feel, somehow, we ought to just wait, just one more

moment while we have one more song ... or, one more verse of that song, rather. Won't you come down here? I'd just like to shake your hand. Stand here so you can just represent Jesus Christ here.

177 He said, "If you're ashamed of Me, I'll be ashamed of you before the Father. But if you'll confess Me, I'll confess you before the Father, and the holy angels."

Won't you come, now, while we sing one more verse. If you will, brother. That's right, sister. I want you to see.... Come on down like an old-fashioned altar call.

178 God bless you. I knew you were back there. Come right on down, this way, and stand right along here at the altar. God bless you. Many of you in here should come. That's the way. Just be open, and confess it, and come right on out. God knows your heart. Only thing.... That's the way an old-fashioned altar call....

Let's sing it, now. Come while we're singing, now.

Jesus is pleading, oh, list' to His voice,

(Won't you come now?)

Hear Him today, hear Him today.

They who believe on His name shall rejoice;

Quickly arise and away.

Calling today, calling today,

Jesus is calling, is tenderly calling today.

179 Be sure. Everything's under the blood now? Everything's all right? If you haven't got the Holy Spirit, come here. Stand here, just a moment. Let's come. God bless you. Come right on. That's right. That's the way. I like to see the people.... I like to see husband and wife, and children, and all come. That means to me such a difference in a home.

180 Friends, we're not asking you to join church, now. We're asking you to come get right with God. That's right. That's the way. Come right out. Certainly. There's more of you back there that should be here. Certainly. All right. We're just thanking the Lord, now.

181 Now, to you people, penitent, standing here while the rest of them are standing. Look this way to me, just a moment. I want you to look this way. You have a need of God, or you wouldn't be

standing here. You want a closer walk with God. Look.

182 Do you want a closer walk? If it is, raise up your hand. You know the reason you do? There's something in here craving a closer walk. If there's anything in here making you want a closer walk, there's a closer walk for you. When the deep calls to the deep, if something in here is.... Before there could be anything in here to make you thirsty.... If you thirst for water, there's got to be water somewhere, see. What you want in here ... what's in here, craving ... it shows that there's something out there to respond to the deep call to the deep. There's a deep to respond.

Before there was a fin a fish's back, there had to be a water first for it to swim in, or it wouldn't have no fin. Before there was a tree to grow in the earth, there had to be an earth first, or there'd be no tree to grow in it.

183 Here, some time ago, I seen where a baby ate the rubbers off of a pencil ... ate the eraser off of a pencil. He ate the pedal ... rubber pedal from a bicycle. The doctors said his body needed sulfur, and sulfur is in rubber, see. He was craving sulfur. If there's something in here craving sulfur, there's sulfur to respond to it.

184 Now, before there can be a creation, there has to be a creator to create that creation. Is that right. Well, the Creator God, by grace, and sovereign.... "No man can come to Jesus ... come to God, except Jesus calls him," see. God has to call you first. It's sovereign election and calling. Now, God has called you tonight to a deeper and closer walk. Before He could do that, He has to put that creation in your heart to make you long for it, or you'd have never come. Is that right?

185 Now, being that you have come and answered to His call, He's sure sovereign to His Word to fulfill what He promised to you. Now, each one of you are going to receive it. Do you believe it? Each one of you are going.... I guess there's around a hundred people, nearly, standing here ... or, not that many--maybe forty, fifty, sixty--but whatever it is standing along here that's wanting more of God, you can have it right now. It's right here, ready for you. The great supernatural God, who heals the sick, makes the blind to see, who created the heavens and earth, made the trees, the flowers, His Spirit's moving right through you now.

186 Now, if you can just catch your soul, like this, and say, “Father, I have come because You have called me. And you wouldn’t call me here if there wasn’t a fountain to drink from. And I come by faith. I’m accepting it. And I’m now believing that You’re going to fill my life with Your Spirit. And I’m going to love You from this on, closer all the time.”

Little boy--little Japanese boy, there--do you believe God’s going to give you the Holy Spirit tonight, too? God bless you. All right.

Do you believe it over here, sister, that God’s going to give you the Holy Spirit tonight? That’s right.

187 Now, let’s bow our heads--the whole congregation--reverently, now. Now, I want this audience that’s standing here--the ones that’s come here, penitent--to just repeat what I’m saying. Now, surely, these are the words that’ll defeat Satan. And I’m just going to say them, but I want you to pray them from your heart.

188 Almighty God, [The audience repeats after Brother Branham.] the Author of everlasting life, I have come with true, sincere faith, believing that You’ve said, “Blessed are they that hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.” I have come hungering and thirsting for righteousness. I believe that I shall be filled. Now I’m waiting, Father. And I believe that You’re going to fill me right now, with Thy Spirit. In Jesus’ name, I accept it.”

Now, while you keep your head bowed.

189 O Lord, I pray Thee just now, in the name of Thy great powerful Son Jesus, who died for our sins, and died in order that His Ghost could return back to this earth--the Holy Ghost--and dwell among people, and would manifest the life of Jesus Christ in every believer with power and in signs and wonders and miracles. And in this day, when men and women are hungering and thirsting after God, Father, in this glorious little old church tonight, you have opened up the heart of many people and sent them here to fill them with the power of God.

190 And, Father, I pray that while they’re standing here in deep sincerity with their hearts bowed before You, I pray that You’ll fill each one of them with Your blessings. And by praying, You have filled all those, Lord, who we have asked for You to, even to the

great men of the nations, to the bishops, and the doctors, and so forth. I believe that You'll fill these lovely humble people standing here tonight with the baptism of the Holy Ghost. May each one of them. . . .

191 May the Holy Spirit surge through their lives right now, and take out all that's unlike God. Take out all the things of the world, all the habits, and sinful habits of the flesh that they got. Cleanse them, O God, and free them from their sins. And may they leave here tonight with a song on their hearts, with a testimony on their lips, that they're going from here happy, rejoicing, and serving You the rest of their days.

192 O Holy Spirit, power divine, send Thy love and devotion upon each one of them, Lord, and spread forth Your great holy wings. And may the power of the Holy Ghost drip upon each one of them. And may their hearts be open to receive Him.

193 Grant it, Lord. And may this be a change of time that they'll never forget as long as they live. In the hour of their death, may they remember standing here penitent before You, and confessing before these people that they truly believe You. And may they be filled with Your power, for we ask it in Jesus Christ's name. Amen.