

**Sermons By
William Marrion Branham**
“... in the days of the voice ...” Rev. 10:7

**The Cruelty Of Sin, And The Penalty That It
Cost To Rid Sin From Our Lives**
Jeffersonville, IN USA
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Introduction

The remarkable ministry of William Branham was the response of the Holy Spirit to the prophecies of the Scriptures in Malachi 4:5,6, Luke 17:30, and Revelations 10:7. This worldwide ministry has been the culmination of many other Bible prophecies, and a continuation of the working of God by His Spirit at this End time. This ministry was spoken of in the Scriptures, to prepare the people for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

We pray that the printed Word will become written in your heart as you prayerfully read this message.

While every effort has been made to provide an accurate unabridged transcription, the English audio files are the best representation of the sermons spoken by Bro Branham.

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God bless your hearts. You might have thought Brother Branham was rough, but I love you. I've set where you are. I know what it is; that's the reason I said that, see, if you just wouldn't love our Lord...Pray for me, pray this will be the consecration time for me. Some of you mothers and dads, elderly people, make this the time of consecration, just now, would you? Accept Him in your heart, now. Believe Him with all of your soul.

¹⁸⁵ Now, while every head's bowed, would somebody like to be remembered in prayer? If you would, just raise your hand, say, "Brother Branham, remember me. I want closer to God." All right, dozens of hands.

¹⁸⁶ Father, remember them all, I pray You'll grant it; they'll have peace. As the tears are rolling down our cheeks and dripping off here, with mine, pulpit...some of them with handkerchiefs. Some of them, great burly-looking, rough men in here, setting here before me, tears running down from their faces with the wrinkled cheeks. Receive us, Lord. Forgive every one of us in the Divine Presence of this...Dear God, tonight, forgive us, Lord, young and old. May we be saved at that day, and taken to Thy Kingdom, for we ask it in His Name, Amen.

¹⁸⁷ Now, you can stand to your feet, quietly. Now, just keep your heads bowed. Slowly...

Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee;
Even though it be a cross that raiseth me;
Still all my song shall be...

¹⁸⁸ [Brother Branham begins to quietly pray for the people—Ed.] "God, My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" Come, Lord, bless these hearts. [Brother Branham continues praying with the people—Ed.]

¹⁸⁹ Will you just, reverent, without speaking to anyone, at all, without saying one more word, just leave the building, quietly now, and go to your homes. Just turn and go to your home now. Without saying a word, turn and go out. God be with you.

¹⁹⁰ [Brother Branham pauses, while the pianist and organist continue to play Nearer, My God, to Thee—Ed.]

¹⁹¹ "All we like sheep have gone astray; the Lord hath laid upon Him the iniquity of us all. But He was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquity; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him...?...Yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten, afflicted."

¹⁹² [Brother Branham continues to quietly pray for the people, while the pianist and organist continue to play Nearer, My God, to Thee—Ed.]

The Cruelty Of Sin, And The Penalty That It Cost To Rid Sin From Our Lives

¹ Thank you, Brother Thom. Will you give that little thing all the volume you have got there, if you will. I almost got out of coming down here tonight: I got the flu. And, I had promised to be here. And I said to Brother Neville, or had Brother Cox to come up and tell him, I said, "Tell Brother Neville to go ahead and have the service, 'cause I'm so hoarse, I can hardly make a squeak."

² And he said, come back, said, "You better come up, Brother Bill. I believe it'd be a good thing." So, I'm always willing to make some sort of an effort. I'm really too hoarse to preach to you, but I can talk to you just a little while by the help of this little gadget here.

³ Every time, when I come to Indiana, I get hoarse. I don't know why, but I do, every time. Take a cold. It's a bit low right in there; I drop down in here, and it just looks like I just can't keep from it. I pray, looks like it comes anyhow, but...But I always try to do the best I can with what I have to do with. That's the way I've always tried to do: the best that we can. That's all God respects—expects, rather; excuse me. That's all He expects.

⁴ Now, I trust that our Lord will bless you all, and will give you a great blessing throughout this service, this Friday, Saturday, Sunday. The services will go on, tomorrow night, doesn't it, Brother Neville? [Brother Neville answers, "Yes, sir."—Ed.] Just goes right on tomorrow night. I got to come down here and then leave here and go over and speak to a group of missionaries in Louisville. I think there's seventeen, or twenty-seven nations represented in the missionary rally. They wanted me to have a few minutes over there tomorrow night. Sunday morning is the...

⁵ What is...?...[Brother Branham is asked to pray for a man—Ed.] Lay your hand right on him, brother.

⁶ Our Heavenly Father, we pray in the Name of Thy beloved Child, Jesus Christ, at this time, that Thy mercy may be extended to us tonight in the way of healing of our brother, the man sitting there, who seems to be very sick at this time. You said, "Confess your faults one to another and pray one for another, that you may be healed." And I pray with these people tonight in the Name of the Lord Jesus that You will heal our brother at this time. As our brother stands there with his hands laid upon him representing the hands of our Lord Jesus, we together join our prayers and send them to Thee in Christ's Name, that our brother may recover quickly from this sickness that he has. Amen. The Lord bless you, brother.

⁷ Well, give him a little air, he's kind of penned in there a little bit. Why, let him walk out. If you want to walk out, sir, why, go right ahead and get you a seat in the back of the building there where you...get you

some air.

⁸ Now, the Lord Jesus knows all of our troubles. He is our burden bearer.

⁹ And now, Sunday morning, early, six o'clock, sunrise service. How many likes sunrise services at Easter? We're expecting a great blessing. So then, if the Lord willing, I'll have the sunrise services. It's from six until seven. And return home to your breakfast, be back, and at nine-thirty the regular Sunday school service, Brother Neville will be here, and immediately after the Sunday school service, I'll have baptismal services for those who are to be baptized, Easter Sunday morning.

¹⁰ If you haven't been baptized by immersing, and desire so, and you're a Christian, believe in the Deity of the—Jesus Christ being the Son of God, and want to take your place in our fellowship, to be baptized, we would be happy to have you here Easter morning about ten-thirty for immersing. Bring your garments, and if you do not have any, of course, why, especially the women, they have robes in there, different sizes, for the ladies. I don't think they have yet for all the men. But we'd very happy to have you here with us Easter morning.

¹¹ Then Sunday afternoon is a funeral service to be held from someone who lived out in the country, or somewhere from here that was...I believe was converted here under Brother Neville's preaching here some time ago. I believe the name is Yeats, or something another, they called me from the funeral home and asked if I and Brother Neville and a bunch of us would come and sing and have the services for Sunday afternoon at two o'clock at the Mottaz Funeral Home.

¹² I don't remember the lady...Yeats...Yates, or Yeats...Many of you seen it in the paper, I suppose, tonight, and...[A woman says, "Brother Bill?"—Ed.] Yes? [A woman says, "That used to be Edna Justice. She used to come here quite a bit."—Ed.] Edna Justice, you may know her. She's perhaps a young woman, is she...is that right, sister? [Woman answers—Ed.] A young woman. I believe that...Her mother was calling me, and said that she leaves two or three little children. That's sure too bad. Just goes to show the evil of this mortal life, doesn't it?

¹³ But in...if she was in Christ Jesus, she's far better off tonight than any person sitting in this building. [Congregation says "Amen."—Ed.] She's walked through the valley of the shadow of death that all mortals have to go in. Some day you and I will have to journey that way, too, but we'll not have to cross Jordan alone, for He is our Savior.

¹⁴ So, we've...If you desire to come to the Mottaz Funeral Home which is located on Maple Street between Walnut and...no, I believe it's Locust and Wall Street on the right-hand side as you go west. I don't know where they're...What is the number, lady? [A woman in the

for His garment, fulfill what the prophet said. Said, "Father, forgive them; they don't know what they're doing." All in love, Adam's Lamb, God's provided Lamb, slain from the foundation of the world. There He died, friendless, even forsaken by God Himself. God, and then, His Own Father forsaken Him, bleeding. Yet we go around laughing, gaiety, just like nothing had happened.

¹⁷⁷ Oh God, it was that Blood. When yonder in the hospital, the doctor said, "He's dying," it was that Blood that healed me. A little old sinner boy running around here, it was that Blood that forgive my sins. It was that Blood that took—that taken me out of a debauch of a place that I was living, and set me and made me Your son. Oh, perfect, dying Lamb, Thy precious Blood. Keep me near the cross, Lord.

¹⁷⁸ That's my vision. That's what it is yonder, love, all God's great heart moving down there. And all that comes by Him will not be rejected. They'll all receive Everlasting Life. "He that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."

¹⁷⁹ God, may every individual here go home tonight with this on their mind, thinking of what a Sacrifice. What did it cost to redeem? What did it cost God? Never cost us nothing. It cost God His Son. It cost God the greatest price. It cost Christ His life. He was the Rose of Sharon, but to get the perfume out of a rose, you have to crush it up. His beautiful Life was crushed at a young Man of thirty-three and a half years, that we might live.

¹⁸⁰ Nearer, my God, to Thee. Stay near me, Lord. Stay near me. And when I come to the end of this road, my life is finishing, Lord, may He Who died there come near me then. May every one in here be likewise.

¹⁸¹ Tomorrow, Lord, or day after tomorrow...bury a little woman who set here in this church one time, listening at the sermon. Thou knowest all about her now. If she did come, she's saved. If she didn't, she's gone.

¹⁸² Oh God, have mercy. May every man and woman, as they leave this building now, go to their homes, go thinking seriously, "Nothing in my arms, just simply to Thy cross." And may each one die on that cross.

¹⁸³ Lord, while I'm here at this pulpit tonight, this little old concrete structure, I consecrate my life to You. I thank You for what You have done for me. And I consecrate myself anew, at this crucifixion night memorial to You. Take me, Lord. Forgive me, all my mistakes and troubles. Make me strong and powerful, Lord, in the Spirit of God, that I might win souls to You. And bless this congregation, for we ask it in His Name. Forgive every sinner. Reclaim every backslider.

¹⁸⁴ While we have our heads down, and every sinner man and woman in here just now, little boys and girls, all of you...Some of you young folks back there, had to speak sharp to you, the other night. I hate to do that.

¹⁶⁶ And I seen them take, put that cross on His back, that old blistery, ragged, rugged cross. And there He goes, laying across that sore back, down through the street He went, the howling mob, laughing, making fun of Him, "There goes that prophet. There goes that great teacher. There goes that divine healer." But He's my Lord. Oh God, I've...let me climb with Him.

¹⁶⁷ There He goes up the hill. I see the young, half-dressed women running around, making fun, their boyfriends, hugging one another, as they go up the hill. Brother Ward, it hasn't changed too much yet.

¹⁶⁸ I can see the great church members saying, "Look, that was the Guy that was going to tear our church up; preached against our pastor. Look at Him now." But the prophet said it must be that way. He was God's Lamb.

¹⁶⁹ I see Him as He turns His head, and the spit sliding down off of His beard. Rolls His eyes up to Heaven, groans and moves a little farther.

¹⁷⁰ Lord, by faith, I want to walk right now with Him. I want to pat Him on the back, say, "Lord, I'll stand here, just tell me what to do, I will do it. How I appreciate You, Lord."

¹⁷¹ Yonder on the hill, when they laid Him down, pulled His precious hands back, those hands that stood the fever, that hands that said to that poor widow woman's boy, when it touched his brow, or the casket he was laying in; he come to life.

¹⁷² That One Who called Dorcas back to life, that One Who called Jairus' daughter to life, that One Who said, "Lazarus, come forth." Them lips are bleeding now, parching, crying.

¹⁷³ As the great cruel nails drive into His hands and in His feet... "They pierced my hands and my feet," said the prophet, seven hundred years before it happened. What was it? It was Abel's Lamb. There they flung Him down in the ground, and the flesh tore. His poor body quivered. Said, "I thirst." They give Him vinegar.

¹⁷⁴ They riled and mocked, and made fun of Him. Said, "You great miracle-worker, do something about it now."

¹⁷⁵ But then the skies begin to get dark, lightning begin to flash. God was hiding His face; He couldn't stand it no more. Oh God, how cruel sin must be, how cruel, how cruel, that caused that precious One to do that. Even such a price He paid till God Himself hid His face. The angels veiled their faces and turned around, to weeping with Him. The moon and stars could not go any farther. They could not shine no more. The very God that created them was dying on the cross. And He bowed His head.

¹⁷⁶ Before He did that, He looked down there to them people gambling

congregation answers "221."—Ed.] 221. It's where the old Scott and Combs Funeral Home used to be down there. And that's for Sunday afternoon and...two o'clock. And then Sunday evening, the regular Easter services here again, we'll probably be preaching the death, burial, and resurrection for Sunday night. And we just don't know what our Lord will do for the following week, coming on, whether the services will continue or just what, for the coming week. We trust that you will all be here Sunday, that can be.

¹⁵ I recognize many of the preachers around. Somebody told me that Mr. Fuller was here, that was...used to be, or...come to our meetings. Is the man here? Brother Fuller, aren't you the man that used to take me in New York from place to place, go down to the meeting? Happy to see you, Brother Fuller. The Lord bless you.

¹⁶ Then I seen another little minister here that Brother Thom didn't know, I don't even know the boy's last name, but I know they call him Junior, back there...Jackson, Brother Jackson, Junior Jackson. Just raise up your hand, Brother Jackson. We're glad to have you with us. He's from down around Elizabeth, Methodist church down there where I'm to hold a service pretty soon the Lord willing, before we go back into the field.

¹⁷ Now, this great call to India and everything is growing denser and denser every day. Pray for me.

¹⁸ Now, tonight, this is Good Friday. It's the night that when we all...Oh, I guess, in Jerusalem by this time it's...sun's up pretty well now, on Saturday morning. But, all day the people have crawled up that same old path there where the cross drug out the bloody footprints of the Bearer, tears afflicting their souls, crying. Many great cathedrals and so forth today have celebrated this great memorial time. And if there ever was a time that the world ought to be celebrating, it's now, in this hour of trouble.

¹⁹ And...I wonder if our sister, seeing this little old organ here...I love an organ; I'm just kind of old-fashioned. And I wonder if we could get a chord on that, Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross. Just one of those good, old-fashioned heart songs we used to sing a long time ago. And wonder if we could all join in on that. I love it.

There's a precious fountain
Free to all, a healing stream
That flows from Calvary's mountain

²⁰ How many knows a verse of it, anyhow? Alright, you join right in with me now. And now, let's just pull down the curtains around us and set our minds to some nineteen hundred years ago, this afternoon. What a sacrifice. The world's never known nothing like that; shook the whole

world.

²¹ And now, don't you want to stay near that place, where you're in the place of fellowship and blessings with Him? Let's all sing it now, just the old-fashioned way now, don't...just the way you'd sing it if you was by yourself, now. Alright, Brother Thom, would you help me lead this, will you? I haven't got much of a voice now, and then...Alright. [Brother Thom joins Brother Branham in leading the song—Ed.]

Jesus, keep me near the cross
There a precious fountain
Free to all, a healing stream
Flows from Calvary's mountain

In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever
'Till my raptured soul shall find
Rest beyond the river

²² While you bow your heads, if you will, let's just hum it real slow now. [Brother Branham and Brother Thom continue to sing while the congregation hums—Ed.]

...the cross, I'll watch...
Hoping, trusting ever
'Till I reach the golden strand
Just beyond the river

²³ Wonder if you just wouldn't want just now...Nobody did it for you. I wonder if you just want, wouldn't want to reconsecrate your life to Christ and, "Lord, remember me. How I appreciate Your... the tired and suffering, bleeding, dying for me. I'm unworthy, but I'm going to slip up my hand now Lord, You'll see me. I want my life rededicated." God bless you, God bless you. "I want to rededicate myself to Thee just now Lord, on this Good Friday night." God bless you.

²⁴ Father, I pray that You will bless these who lifted their hands, and those who did not even have the courage to do it. We pray that the All-Sufficient One tonight, will bless every one of them. We are thinking of Calvary: God our Savior, laid in shame, taken down, was given into the hands of a wealthy man who taken His body, after begging Pilate. Took It over and wrapped It in some clean linen, and laid It in the grave.

²⁵ Oh God, what a feeling must have been over those poor disciples, seemed like they were defeated at that time. The One they had trusted so much was now gone. But not for long! Just the bleeding Sacrifice, that was all. Someday, a few hours later, He arose. Then joy came.

²⁶ Help us tonight Lord, as we're in this season, may it be upon us, that we'll see the suffering that it cost for our redemption, the sadness it cost

your own life be hacked out, and die yonder on the cross with Him. Throw your arms around the "Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee. While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high, hide me, oh, my Savior, hide." Let the world do whatever they want to. Let the theologians do whatever they want to. I don't want their theology. What I want is Jesus Christ in my heart. Let me die with my Lamb."

¹⁵⁷ Oh, I know how hard it was that night when I walked in that little old colored mission out there, and all the white folks standing around there, said, "There he goes into a colored mission." It was hard. I walked up there with a whole lot of Kentucky pride in me, like that, but God said, "If you want It, walk right on in there." And I walked right in there and knelt down to an altar, and there I stayed until the Lamb...I died to old self, Bill Branham, twenty years ago. Hallelujah!

¹⁵⁸ "I was crucified with Christ, yet I live. Not me, but Christ lives in me." Someday in that glorious resurrection, when He comes, my body may be resting beneath the sod out yonder, but when it does, you'll see the grass move back and I will come forth in His great glorious image, besides a many of them, (hallelujah) for I know Him in the power of His resurrection.

¹⁵⁹ I trust that's what everyone of you do tonight, crawl right up Golgotha yonder tonight. Let's take a little trip now.

¹⁶⁰ While, you'll give us the key, if you will, sister, of Nearer, My God, To Thee. While we are...

¹⁶¹ You say, "That's a funeral." Well, brother, if there ever was a time we needed a funeral, is right now. When men will die to their self and pride. Let's bow our heads, silently now, while she gives us a little chord, if that's all right.

¹⁶² Oh God, oh, when I think what happened yonder. Even my bones tremble to think. I think of seeing that Lamb, when they hacked Him, yes, put thorns on His head and pushed it down. The soldiers spit in His face, and said, "Thou King, now do something about it."

¹⁶³ He was the Prophet of prophets. They put a rag around His face, and hit Him on His head with a reed, said, "Now, prophesy, tell us who hit You."

¹⁶⁴ But the prophet said, "He opened not His mouth." He done told it.

¹⁶⁵ Tied His hands up, behind Him, stood off, with a great whip, and lashed Him till His precious ribs showed through His back; the blood running down His side, tinkling off on the ground. I can hear Him walk now; out of His sandals I hear the blood squashing. That was Emmanuel. That was God; God's blood.

baby live..." Or, when you stand and your mother was going down in the grave, or your dad or your loved ones, "O God, I'll meet them, I'll meet them again." I wonder if you really meant that. I wonder if this Easter is going to come and go without you fulfilling that what you've promised.

¹⁴⁶ He went on up and offered his lamb. Come back, someone leading him around. So he said then, when he come back, said, "Bartimaeus, you can't do that." The priest that went to take his lamb, he said, "You can't take this... You can't sacrifice this lamb." Said, "Blind Bartimaeus, do you know that lamb is your eyes?"

¹⁴⁷ He said, "Yes, I know that. But I promised God, and God will provide a lamb for blind Bartimaeus' eyes."

¹⁴⁸ Not long after that, he was shivering in the cold one day, he heard a noise. God had provided the Lamb for blind Bartimaeus' eyes. He came along the street. He said, "What's all this noise?" There's usually noise where He's at. Said, "What's all this noise?"

He said, "One, Jesus of Nazareth, passed by."

¹⁴⁹ He threw down his coat, not looking where it went. He didn't care then. God had provided a Lamb. He got right to the Lamb. He said, "O Jesus, Thou son of David, have mercy. Have mercy."

¹⁵⁰ The rich people and those who stood around, to get close to the prophet, to the king; he said, "Oh, be still; He can't hear you." He cried that much the more.

¹⁵¹ Some of them said, "The days of miracles is passed. There's no such a thing as that day."

¹⁵² He cried the louder, "Thou son of David, have mercy on me. Have mercy on me." God provided the Lamb.

¹⁵³ That same Lamb He provided for blind Bartimaeus' eyes, He provided for you, nineteen hundred and something years ago, today, as He climbed Golgotha yonder, and offered Himself, all bruised and hacked together.

¹⁵⁴ Listen, friend. Remember, Abel went out into his herd and got the lamb, and killed it on the sacrifice block. And [Blank spot on tape—Ed.]...better catch this now. Abel died on the same rock that his lamb died on.

¹⁵⁵ Are you willing tonight, to die out to yourself? Are you willing to die out to all thoughts of yourself? Just lay on the rock, with your Lamb there, and die out, say, "O, God, have mercy." When I think of men and women who can think of pride, young men and women who will give their lives over to things, and men of age, too, thinking of their job and of their prestige and of their neighborhood, or something like that.

¹⁵⁶ Oh, why don't you crawl Calvary yonder tonight? Hallelujah! Let

for us to be happy. And may our souls tonight Lord, may we consecrate ourselves to Thee, and our souls be afflicted, to look yonder and see what, oh God, what a horrible death.

²⁷ How cruel sin must be. And I pray, Father, that You'll bless us together now. Help Thou me oh God, as Your servant standing here with a very poor voice, and Your children waiting to hear something from the Word. Help me Lord, and break the Bread of Life freely to every one, as we rededicate our lives and our hearts. The tears of our hearts drop down deep in our bosom when we think of the sacrifice. Help us now, for we ask it in Christ's Name. Amen.

²⁸ Just want to read a little now, if you'll give me your undivided attention for a little while, and pray for me. In Isaiah the 53 chapter.

²⁹ We have probably today, heard radio broadcasts and so forth. I just thought of Christ today. I couldn't help from going out somewhere and just kneeling down, and I just had to weep, when I thought of...when my mind went back to see what taken place there at Calvary. I didn't get to hear any radio programs, but perhaps out of the Gospel they preached, and maybe tomorrow night we'll approach it from that standpoint. But tonight let's go back in the Old Testament. I want to talk on The Cruelty Of Sin, And The Penalty That It Cost To Rid Sin From Our Lives.

³⁰ In Isaiah 53, the prophet, anointed, seven hundred and twelve years before the coming of the Lord, he said these words.

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a

sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

³¹ If I would call it a Scripture text from there, I'd take the 6th verse:

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

³² I want to talk just a few moments. We're always happy when it comes to having the joy of the Lord in our midst, and how I rejoice with you, greatly. But did you every stop to think what it cost to have that? Did you ever realize just the price that's behind it? What judgment was and what the penalty of sin? How cruel must sin be, when it caused the Son of God to go to Calvary, and God to strike Him, and turn His face from Him and smite Him, and be afflicted. Look who He was.

³³ Now, I want to draw just a small picture to you, talking now. Let's all of us take a little trip tonight on a little ship, and let's...a little spaceship, or airship. And let's go back a hundred million years before there was a world, before there even was a star or anything, and there you can see nothing but space. And all that space was God. In the beginning was God.

³⁴ And now, we'll watch coming into existence a little white light, we'd call it like a halo. And that was the Son of God, the Logos that went out of God in the beginning.

³⁵ And then, that how that He was standing there, and He, in His mind, He begin to think of what the world would be, and drew all this picture in His mind. And He said, "Let there be light." And a atom split, begin to break forward, and atomic went off, the first atomic explosion. And then them atoms begin to accumulate till it made into cinders of moisture or ever what it was, begin to break, and the atoms split. And after a while there came a star, a piece of the—a missile that flew off and went sailing through the air. He watched it maybe for a few million years, and then stopped it. He had no hurry. He was...had plenty of time, forever. He

trust that you won't let this Easter pass.

¹³⁶ Dear friends, we're at the end of the road. I believe we are, with all my heart. We're down to the end of the road. May the Lord Jesus bless you. May He make you a new creature in Him, tonight, is my prayer. May He lead you.

¹³⁷ One time in there was an old blind man in the Bible by the name of Bartimaeus. Old blind Bartimaeus. He had two little doves, we're told by history, that these little doves used to set out and do little tumbles over one another, and the people would hold their...He would hold his cup, and then when the people would come by, they'd watch these little turtle doves do little tumbles, and they'd drop in coins for the old blind beggar. He was a married man, and had a little girl. He'd never seen the little girl in his life. She was about twelve, fourteen years old, at the stage that we're fixing to enter to his life now. And he was setting...

¹³⁸ One night, said his little girl got sick. And he went to the Lord, and he said, "Lord, if you'll just heal my little girl, I will sacrifice my two doves for You, tomorrow." So they...The Lord healed his little girl, and he sacrificed the two doves.

¹³⁹ After a while, his...And the first thing you know, his dear wife got sick, and she thought she was...they thought she was going to die. So he goes out to the Lord in the night, feeling his way along the side of the wall of his house, knelt down in the field, and said, "God, God, if You'll just spare my wife's life, tomorrow I'll sacrifice my lamb for You."

¹⁴⁰ Now, you've seen blind men led by a dog today. They train those dogs to lead them. In them days they trained sheep to lead people, and so he had a lamb that led him around. And he said, "Lord, if You'll just heal my wife, well, then, tomorrow I'll sacrifice my lamb to You." And his wife got well.

¹⁴¹ And the next day he was going up to the temple, and said the high priest, Caiaphas, stood out and said, "Blind Bartimaeus, where are you going?"

¹⁴² He said, "I am going up to the temple, oh high priest, to sacrifice my lamb. I promised the Lord, if He'd heal my wife, I would give my lamb."

¹⁴³ He said, "You can't give that lamb, Bartimaeus, because that that lamb is your eyes." Said, "I'll give you some money, and you buy you a lamb with the sellers in the temple."

¹⁴⁴ But Bartimaeus said, "Oh high priest, I never promised God a lamb, I promised Him this lamb." Oh, my.

¹⁴⁵ I wonder if you've made promises like that. And if you see that all-sufficient Lamb tonight, think, "Lord, if You'll let me get well, I'll promise You I'll serve You, I'll do everything I can. If You will let my

the heaven, and said, "That's it. Now you got it. That's the way." The blood spurting from his little veins...

¹²⁹ What was it? Of the Son of God, nineteen hundred and something years ago this afternoon...He was led from prison. He was taken to the judgment seat, and from there to the hall of scourging. From there, up Golgotha, pulled up the hill, Simon the Cyrene helping Him bear the cross. And there, died, on the Rock of Ages, with His blood beat out of Him, His body striped. Hallelujah! Great big old gobs of mocking soldiers' spit upon His face. And He said, "If My Kingdom was of this world, I'd ask My Father, He would give me legions of angels that would come and fight for Me. But this is not My kingdom, but Thy Kingdom come. Thine will be done." And it will be here pretty soon. "Thy Kingdom come, Thine will be done." Oh, my!

¹³⁰ When Billy Sunday said one time, that, "In every tree set an angel," said, "He just pull Your hand loose, and point Your finger, that's all You'll have to do. We'll settle the question down here." My, ain't it the truth.

¹³¹ Caiaphas looked by and said, "He saved others; Himself He cannot save." It was the greatest compliment was ever paid Him. If He saved Hisself, He couldn't save others, So He gave His Life, that He could save others. Hallelujah! Amen!

¹³² "All we like sheep have gone astray; God laid upon Him the iniquity of us all. He was led to the slaughter like a sheep, and led like a sheep, dumb, before her shearers, opened not His mouth. Yet He was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquity, the chastisement of our peace upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed." How could you reject such matchless love? To see Him as He goes staggering up the hillside, poor little weak, frail body bending beneath the load.

¹³³ I think of the poet when he set there that day; he caught a glimpse of it and he wrote:

Mid rendering rocks and darkening skies,
My Savior bowed His head and died;
The opened veil revealed the way
To Heaven's joys and endless day.

¹³⁴ What a Savior. Oh, my. How could we ever, how could I reject such matchless love, for One Who would do that for me and you?

¹³⁵ I trust tonight, my brother, sister, that you will come. God...that was God's provided way. That's the way for you. That's the only One Who can have anything to do with you. That's the One that took your place. That's the One Who stands tonight, a resurrected Redeemer standing at the right hand of the Father, tonight. See Him begging and pleading for every sinner that's in this building to come to Him. I trust that you will. I

was from the beginning to the end, there was no time with Him. And then another one flies off and He stops it over this way.

³⁶ What's He doing? He's writing His first Bible. The first Bible was ever written was written in the skies, the zodiac. It starts out with the Virgin, that's how He come first. It ends up with Leo the lion, the second coming. And He's writing His first Bible.

³⁷ The second Bible was written, was written by Enoch, and put in the pyramid.

³⁸ The third Bible was written, and the last one, is this One. [Brother Branham indicates his Bible—Ed.]

³⁹ God always does things in threes; God is perfect in three. He's perfect...[Brother Branham clears his throat—Ed.] Pardon me. He's perfect in Father, Son, Holy Spirit. He's perfect in justification, sanctification, baptism of the Holy Spirit. He's perfected in His threes. We are in His making so we are perfected in three: soul, body, and spirit. And our body's controlled of nerves, of blood, and of cells, flesh: three. All perfected in three.

⁴⁰ Then He said, after He had got all of that made, before He had ever done anything else...I can see this little Halo move over this world, which was merely a cinder, frozen, hanging out there like a great iceberg. And He moved it over near the sun. And as He begin to turn it like that, around the sun; it begin to melt, the big ice glaciers tore loose. Texas was being formed, and the plains there, as we're taught how the icebergs come down through there, best chronologists can figure out. And then the whole world, after it run down into the Gulf of Mexico and so forth, begin to...?...up with water. "And the world without form and void." Now we're in Genesis 1, see?

⁴¹ Now, then God moved and separated the firmament from the waters, and He made the light, and then He created all His creation. Then after He made it, all the trees come up, and the plants and so forth. What a beautiful setup He had. He loved it; it was beautiful. And He thought that was fine.

⁴² So, He couldn't just leave it in that state; He had to leave something with it. So He said, "Let Us (plural) make man (plural) in Our own image. Let Us make man in Our own image." So then when God made His first man, he was a spirit man. He was something on the order of God, or the Son of God, the Logos. That was the first man. Then He gave the man jurisdiction over the—to lead all the animal life, just like the Holy Spirit leads the believer today: "Go here, do this."

⁴³ Now, if we were perfect in submission to the Holy Spirit, God would lead us by the Holy Spirit just like Adam led the animals of that day. So He made them, and then when He did, He begin to move upon the idea

then that He had made man out of the dust of the earth. There was no man to till the soil, no one to do work, no physical being. So He made man out of the dust of the earth.

⁴⁴ Now there's where I think that a botanist, or science and Christianity does not conflict one with another. Because science says the man came from a different life, and we say when you look at a man here, he's in the image of God. This is—was not the image of God to begin with, this was the image of animal life. And he...an evolutionist argues that we...I don't believe in the chain of evolution the way they do, all coming from the single cell, but I believe we evolute. Certainly. The evolution of one man from another.

⁴⁵ But then when God made all of that, and got...put the man in the...made him out of the dust of the earth...Now, not in His own image; He had already made the man, then He breathed into him the breath of life and he became a living soul. So the soul of man is the nature of the spirit.

⁴⁶ Now, when you're reborn you don't get a new spirit, you get a new nature of that spirit. It's the same spirit, but a new nature of it. You can take two men, stand them together, both look alike; and one of them is a sinner, and one of them is a Christian. One man say, "I got a spirit the same as you have." See? But one of them is a different...his soul, his nature's different. He's been changed.

⁴⁷ So then, He breathed into this man. Now, I don't know how He made him. He put him in five senses so he could contact his earthly home, and see, taste, feel, smell and hear. And He made in that manner. Now, those senses was not to contact God. His sense to contact God was his spirit. His soul was to con... "The soul that sinneth, the soul shall die."

⁴⁸ Now, I'm going a long ways around to get something, but I hope you get every point of it, so you can see exactly what God had to do at Calvary.

⁴⁹ Now, when this man...Then, when He put him in his senses, his five senses...And then the man he was lonesome, so He made him a wife, a helpmate taken from his side, a rib, and made a woman. A beautiful type there, all in type, of God taking from the side of Christ the Bride. See? God opened up Adam's side, taken a rib, which a man has one less rib than a woman in the structure of the body, and now God opened up the side of Christ in the—at Calvary and taken out the Bride. The church comes through the blood of Christ into the Body of Christ. That's how we come in, is through—no other way.

⁵⁰ No matter what church you belong to, how good a man you are, how good a woman you are, you must accept God's all-sufficient sacrifice, His provided way, or you're lost. That's right. That's the only way that

think of it, there...there come Abel's little lamb. There come God's Lamb.

¹²² When I think of it, my heart just turns over and over. When I think...Me, a poor, unworthy, ungodly sinner, dying without God, without Christ, in the world, without hope, and in due season Christ died in my stead, the beautiful One, and became despised and rejected, that I might be accepted in His sight. In my stead. Oh, I just can't get over it. I just can't imagine how He could do that for me. Who was I? Then, you say, "Did He do it for you?" Yes.

¹²³ The Holy Spirit come, hunted me up one day, and said, "He did it for you," and I believed Him. I believed Him. Yes, sir. I accepted Him and I found it was so. No matter what the people said they was, "They were fanatics," or whatever they was, I believed God, and I...and He done just what He said.

¹²⁴ I can see little Abel. Watch now. My, I can see Abel go and get this little grapevine, reach out and get a little male lamb, first from the old mother ewe. Wrapped this vine around his neck. Here he comes, dragging him, not much beauty to that, is there? Pulling him up there...Then he got him up to a big rock, laying there at the east end of the gate...

¹²⁵ Now, notice. Cain had probably toiled all year to make the best of crop that he could, thought he could please God by that. And many people say, "I'm going to quit lying. I'm going to quit stealing. I'll quit smoking. I'll turn to a better class of people. I'll get in some society."

¹²⁶ Here it is! God don't care about your turning the new page. He wants you to turn your heart to Christ, and let Him make out of you...Not what you can do, it's not by good works we're saved, but by His mercy are we bought. "Not by works lest any man should boast." For we are God's because...It isn't what I am, it isn't what I do, myself. It's what Christ, in God, has did for me and for you.

¹²⁷ Notice, beautiful type...Here he comes, dragging the little lamb, pulling him along. I can imagine the little fellow falling, probably knew what was near, dragging his little feet. Perfect type of Christ dragging the cross; God's Lamb coming down through Jerusalem, falling, weak.

¹²⁸ Here come the little fellow, bleating along. And when he got him up to the great rock, laid him up on the rock, taken a piece of sharp rock...I don't know, guess they had no knives in those days. Laid him like that...Took him by the back of his head, and pulled him up like this, took a knife...the rock, and begin to chop his little throat, and the rock begin to beat through his throat. On that rock died the lamb, bleeding, bleating, blood splashing, his little arteries cut, the blood flying all over. His little white wool become bathed red then with blood. God looked down from

¹¹¹ And she had to have one in her hair, before she could sing in the choir, and her poor old mammy washing over a washtub to make her a living. When she went and got her a permanent, I said I wouldn't let her sing, 'cause she wasn't fit to sing when she did that to it. Right.

¹¹² God help us to keep the pulpit clean, anyhow. That's what's the matter with the world today, in their...?...Now, listen, brother, I believe in an old fashioned sassafras experience, way back yonder in bushes, where you grub out all the roots of bitterness, and stir up the ground, that's right, plant the seed.

¹¹³ Now, notice...Now, Cain, he thought, "The beauty."

¹¹⁴ They think, "Well, now, our church...we'll build a new church." That's all right. Everything is of beauty is all right, if you take along with it the Lord Jesus. Then if you'll just get Him first, He'll take care of the rest of it.

¹¹⁵ Someone said, "Brother Branham, do you believe this girl should come to the altar looking like this?"

¹¹⁶ I said, "Brother, it's coming spring time, all those scrub oaks out there, every one of them got the leaves right on they had last fall. But we don't have to go pick the leaves off to let new leaves come on. Just let the new life come up and the old leaf drops off." That's right. Amen.

¹¹⁷ Listen. May I say this, too. If the old leaf don't drop off, it shows the new life hasn't come. Don't get angry with me now, I'm talking about Jesus. All right. That's it. All right.

¹¹⁸ Watch what it cost our Heavenly Father. Look what He did now.

¹¹⁹ And there come Cain, and made his offering. He worshipped, he went to church, he's just as good as the next fellow. Esau was the same. Esau, in his character, was a better man than Jacob, more of a gentleman. He loved his father, and the things that he done...But God chose Jacob.

¹²⁰ Notice, now, when Abel come to make his offering, well, it was quite a difference when Abel come. Here come Abel. He didn't work, he didn't try to find the biggest church in town to go to. He didn't try to find the nicest bunch of people to associate with. Amen. He just took something that he had and come on. That's all. He was a sheepherder. So he just reached over and got a lamb, and tied...I suppose they didn't have any hemp in that day, so he must have got a grapevine, just wrapped it around his neck.

¹²¹ But what did it speak of? They led Him to Calvary. He was the Lamb. Said, "Why was He born in a barn?" Well, lambs are not born in houses, they're born in barns. And they was led...they led to the slaughter like a lamb. And they led Him away, leading Him up Calvary. He was God's Lamb (amen) from the foundation of the world. When I

you can come in, is through there. Now, there's only one way, and that's the Door.

⁵¹ Jesus taught that famous parable when He was here on earth, He said the wedding supper was made, and every man was given a garment, and they found one man there without a garment. He said, "Friend, what are you...How come that you haven't got a garment?"

⁵² Now, the oriental custom of that, when the bridegroom invited every person, he put—he invited...If he invited fifty people, then he had fifty robes. And he stood, someone at the door, and every time a man come in, rich or poor, he put the robe on him. Then no one knew whether he was rich or poor. He, all looked the same under a robe.

⁵³ And that's the way God does today. He gives the Holy Spirit, which is a type. Every man that He invites, we're all the same. Not this one...?...a little better than the other one, and that a little higher than this one. We're all the same in the sight of God, everyone that's invited to the wedding supper.

⁵⁴ Then, when He came in and He found one man...Now there's only one door to come through, because there's where the garments was given out. And he found a man at the supper table, without a garment on. He said, "Friend, what you doing here? Why haven't you got a garment on?" And the man was speechless. He came in by a window, some other way. He didn't come by the door.

⁵⁵ And every man that comes by Christ into the Body of Christ, receives the Holy Spirit, the Robe. He's standing right there to put It on you, just as soon as you come in. See? That's what He has promised, and that's what He does.

⁵⁶ Now, back there in the beginning, in the Eden, then He made a wife for him, or a helpmate. Now, you see these pictures in magazines sometime, of some artist...now, that's very poor inspiration. If you'd see Eve with hair sticking out like that, and oh, what a horrible looking thing. And say that was our mother? Why, there wouldn't be no one in the world could admire that. I believe Eve was the most beautiful woman that was ever on the earth. That's right. When Adam looked at her, his, he...It just...why, it goes to show that strain comes right on down through human beings today. If it didn't, it would be vice versa.

⁵⁷ So, Adam taken Eve as his wife. And then when sin came in...and I have my idea of what that was. I don't express it...?...in the church, 'less I'm just having a little class of some sort of what the sin was in the beginning. But anyhow, when it did, it separated them from fellowship with God.

⁵⁸ Now, here's the picture I want to get. Now, when God realized, or some angel, or some being had come up and told God that, "Your son is

lost. He's sinned. He's fallen." Now watch the strain of man. The first thing, is make himself a religion. A man, he's got some kind of religion...

⁵⁹ I was talking to a famous man here in the city the other day, said, "You know, my religion, Brother Branham, is keeping the Golden Rule." That's good, but brother, unless a man's born again, he'll perish. He's got to...he's got to be born again. Now, the Golden Rule is all right, that...a moral man can do that. But it's got to be all in the supernatural line, and you'll see what God had to do in order that we could be supernaturally born.

⁶⁰ Now, when, then he sinned...He made himself a religion...word religion means covering, and it's like something covers. This coat is a moral religion to me, because it covers my being, and your clothes is the same way. And it's a covering.

⁶¹ Now, notice. Then, when Adam...his fig leaves were all right as long as he didn't have to face God. But when he had to face God, he realized his fig leaves was no good. And now, friend, you might think you're a pretty good person. See? And you might be. That's right. But when you come to face God, you're...if you haven't accepted God's provided sacrifice for you, you're lost, and you'll know it.

⁶² I've stood by their side, watched them die, seen the doctors shoot hypos in their arms to keep them quiet. And hear them scream and carry on. Say, "Oh, they're just besides their selves."

⁶³ I said, "Doc, please keep it out just a minute longer." See? You hear them when they...They think you're right. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof is the ways of death." And every man that's ungenerated—unregenerated of God will go that way of destruction.

⁶⁴ You can't help it, your own soul guides you. If you're born again, you're bound to go up. If you're not born again, you've got to go down. Just a...Your own soul will do it. Just like a magic wand that would open a door somewhere. If you haven't got the wand, the door won't open. And if you're not born again, you're just rejected automatically. That's all.

⁶⁵ Now. And then, when I see there, then, when they come out...and God knew that they could not stand before Him, and He knew...and they were hiding. Hiding back in some bushes, yet covered up. But they knew their covering wasn't sufficient.

⁶⁶ And every man or woman that goes to church...Today I was thinking of the cathedrals ringing out, and the bells tolling, and so forth like that. And people going to the church and making ready, and the women buying their Easter hats, and so forth. What has this come to? My! How I

own way.

⁶⁹ You can't even reason it. Why, reasons can't even...Your reasons are not eligible. You're not eligible to reason it out. If you could reason it, it would no more be of faith. You've got to offer it by faith.

¹⁰⁰ Now, you say, "Brother Branham, you mean I have to get down there and get filled with the Holy Ghost, and carry on like the rest of them?" If you expect to be with the rest of them, you do. That's all. That's all. You can take...

¹⁰¹ Naaman had the same thing. God told the prophet, "Tell him, 'Go down and dip seven times.'"

¹⁰² He said, "Isn't this water cleaner and better?" But it was that water of Jordan. Looks pretty bad sometimes.

¹⁰³ But I wish everyone here tonight would look at Calvary, what it cost God nineteen hundred years ago, and would raise your hand and say, "I'll take the way with the Lord's despised few."

¹⁰⁴ You say, "I have to join with those guys that...Brother Thom's or some of them, called 'holy-rollers'?"

¹⁰⁵ Brother, I've been around the world pretty near three times, and I've never seen a holler-roller yet. No sir. I've seen holiness, but not holy-rollers. That's a name the devil tacked on the church. God said, "Without holiness no man shall see God." You can suit yourself about it. That's God's way.

¹⁰⁶ You say, "People that scream and shout and go on?" Brother, that's what it is. "Why," you say, "I...that seems crazy to me." That's the reason you ought to be born again. When you're born again, then it won't be crazy. You'll be with us. They thought the same as you did, one time. That's right. They thought the same as you did, until they got into it themselves.

¹⁰⁷ It's a change, a conversion. Convert means to change anything. And except a man dies out to himself and say, "Lord I don't know nothing about it, just take me in." Amen. Then God will do it. See?

¹⁰⁸ Now, Cain said, "I've laid all this down." God refused it. He made it all pretty. And maybe you think, "Well now, I'm going to sunrise service, I got to have a new bonnet."

¹⁰⁹ A girl one time was going to sing in my meeting. And she said, "Brother Branham..." Her mother washed over a washtub to make a living. And she had to have one of them kinking in her hairs, you know?

¹¹⁰ What is it, manicure? Or what is it you call the thing, ever what the thing is in her hair? I know that's wrong, I can't never think of that name of that. I don't know much about it. Tony? [Someone says, "No, permanent."] Permanent in it, that's what it was.

Lord. You say, "Well, Brother Branham, I don't only do that, but I make a sacrifice. I pay to foreign missions, and I..." them things are all right.

⁹² Them's all right. But God requires more. Cain did that himself. See? He brought a sacrifice. He worshipped the Lord. He knelt down and offered praise unto the Lord, and said, "Lord, Here am I, here am I, and I've brought You an offering. I've built an altar." Amen.

⁹³ In so many words, "I am a member of a church." Did it hit the bottom? Look! "I am a member of a church. I believe in You." It'll go to the bottom now, let it soak real deep. "I am a believer in God. I have built an altar. I have brought a sacrifice. And here I am, Lord, I am worshipping You." And God turned His back on it. Right.

⁹⁴ And Easter morning...Like a pastor of this city said, "You know what I do, preacher, on Easter morning?"

I said, "What?"

Said, "I tell all my folks, I bid them a 'Merry Christmas.'"

Said, "Why?"

Said, "I won't see them anymore till next Easter."

⁹⁵ Everybody comes out on Easter. That's all. Buy new bonnets and new clothes, and what's that got to do with Christ? Oh! And there'll be millions of dollars spent this year, tomorrow, in the Protestant realm, of lilies, great beautiful lilies, each member will come around and lay it on the altar. God don't care about the lily on the altar. He wants you on the altar. It isn't the lily, it isn't your sacrifice. You are the guy should be on the altar. That's the difference. Putting...What God requires on the altar is you.

⁹⁶ Now, I want you to notice how that, that strain, that was Satan in Cain. And notice that the very...Now, this ought to make you feel real good, some of you that's a pilgrim and wayfaring person. And we have to maybe say, "Well, I wish we could do this in our church, and that..." Be satisfied. Hallelujah! I'd rather worship in a little old room somewhere in the back alley, and have God in it, than in a cathedral with God not in it. That's right. Sure. There...He was a poor man. Notice. Then he brought his offering, Cain did, and laid it upon there. Notice, he came from the line of Satan because he expected God to receive it because it was beautiful. Fruits; something that he done himself.

⁹⁷ And so many people say, "Well, I belong to the certain different orders. And I give to the Red Cross, and I give to charity. I donate to churches. What about that, Brother Branham?" That's all alright, but, "Except a man be born again, he will in no wise enter into the Kingdom." Notice it.

⁹⁸ Those charitable things are fine, but out...that's not God's provided way yet. Cain come in his own way. And many tonight are coming their

can't understand where a rabbit has anything to do with the resurrection. See? No, sir. Or how a Christmas tree has anything to do with the birth of Christ. It's pagan, friends. We got off the path somewhere. That's right. But now, a real born again man or woman realizes, because their life within you tells you that that's wrong. Is that right?

⁶⁷ Now, watch Adam and Eve. Oh, my! When I think of that I lose the thoughts of my influenza, or ever what I had. When I think, way back in the beginning...Watch, you talk about blood...

⁶⁸ Here not long ago, when they were figuring on now, in the great Methodist council, to take all of the blood songs out of the Methodist hymnal. Said, "It's not a slaughter block religion." Said, "We don't...We want something nice and dignified."

⁶⁹ Brother, that's not the way God receives it. It's either "When I see the blood I'll pass over you." Blood. God...only substitutionary there is, is in only...The life lays in the blood. "You may eat the meat therefore, but the blood thereof, which is the life thereof, pour it upon the ground." See? Not eat the life...

⁷⁰ Notice, how beautiful. How I think of that...Then God thought, "Now, come out here, Adam and Eve. And before I can bring you out, I'm going to have to do something." So, He goes over there on the hillside and gets a sheep. Kill him, pull the skin off of him, let him die, because God has to keep His Word.

⁷¹ No matter how good a man you are, how good a woman you are, what you are, if God...God's got to keep His Word. That's the reason the virgin Mary had to go up at the day of Pentecost and receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost just like the rest of them did, because she was born here as a mortal and had to be born again before she could go to Heaven. Amen.

⁷² Now look, lady, let me tell you, just because the times has changed, God hasn't changed. You come anything short of that, you're lost. See? Now, I'm only speaking in behalf of what God did nineteen hundred years ago today on Calvary, to show you what a sacrifice that had to be made to pay this, and that's God's way.

⁷³ Now there's a way that seems right, but God has a provided way. If you'll always go in God's provided way, you'll never go wrong. Like if you start to go to Indianapolis, or across the bridge, you say, "Well here, is that Louisville over there?"

"Yes."

⁷⁴ And just take right across this way; you'll be caught up pretty soon. That's right. You better get the blueprint, the map; study it out and see which way you're going.

⁷⁵ And then here is God's blueprint to Glory. Study it out. There it is. It's blood-sprinkled all the way. You can't lose the track if you'll follow the Blood. Amen. Now you can see. Just keep right with the Blood, and you'll be alright. For there's a bloody footprint every step of the way.

⁷⁶ Now, notice how God back there, before He could do it now, He, could stand or...Even they could stand to receive, He'd kill them right now. He had to, because He's sovereign. He has to keep His Word. He said, "The day you eat thereof, that day you die." That settled it forever.

⁷⁷ Then I can see Him back there when He killed His sheep...You say, "Were they sheep, Brother Branham?" I believe it. He was the Lamb that was slain from the foundation of the world. And it was a sheepskin; taken, throwed them back in the bushes, and told them to wrap up in these and come out, and to receive.

⁷⁸ And I can see Adam and Eve pull these old bloody, flappy skins around them. Could you imagine? The lovely, beautiful bodies of those two perfect human beings, now wrapped in bloody sheepskin? I can see them stand out there.

⁷⁹ And God said, "Adam, because you listened to your wife instead of Me, then, I took thee out of the dust, and to dust you'll return." And, "Eve, because you listened to the serpent instead of Me, why, you brought life...took life out of the world, you'll have to bring life into the world. I will multiply your sorrows, and your desire shall be to your husband," and so forth.

⁸⁰ And He said, then, "Serpent, because you did this..." Walked up...He wasn't a reptile, he was a beast. Walked up, more subtle than all the beasts of the field. Bear me record, that's Scripture. Walked up like a man. And he had deceived her. And He said, "Because you did this, off comes your legs, and on your belly you'll go all the days of your life. And dust shall be your meat."

⁸¹ And right there they was: judgment. God had to keep His judgment, 'cause He had spoke it and He's God; He can't back up on it. He's got to stay...And in order to be God, God has to keep His Word. That's right.

⁸² So, there I can imagine seeing that poor little Eve, when she looked at Adam, her long blond hair hanging down her back, those big, bright blue eyes that looked like the skies, where God had made them, the tears pouring down, mixing with the blood on the garments, and flapping down around her body. Eve...Adam, with his strong body, caught her and leaned her over on his bosom, and there the tears mingling, falling, as it run through the sheepskin, blood dripping down. Blood all the way! There, now He said, "You have to depart out of My Presence." And I can see Eve and Adam with their arms around one another, going, moving out like this, them old sheepskins, [Brother Branham claps his hands

together once—Ed.] flopping against their leg. Bloody, beating on their leg.

⁸³ Then I can see all that space, which was God. God has no beginning of days, ending of years. He's forever and forever. I can see all that great space begin to move together like this, coming down to a funnel shape like that, and it moved right down, as He began to eye that little couple going down through the Garden of Eden, bloody skins flopping against their legs. He couldn't stand it. And it moved down, oh, it moved down to the very heart of God, spelled L-O-V-E, "God so loved..." He just couldn't see them go.

⁸⁴ He called them back, said, "I'm going to put enmity between your seed and Satan's seed."

⁸⁵ Then, when that was done, was at Calvary, when God Himself came down to a woman, born of a virgin. How I would like to deal there just a little bit, in Eden. Notice, when they were driven from the garden because of transgression, all the blessings cut off because of transgression.

⁸⁶ Now, I think, tonight, that's what's the matter with the church. All the blessings are being cut off because of transgression. There you are. Driven from the Garden of Eden...

⁸⁷ Now, I want you to notice, here come...When Cain and Abel, the two sons of Adam and Eve, came forward to make an offering...I believe the great Cherubim was at the east side of the gate, and that Sword whirling back and forth, guarding that gate there that entered into Eden.

⁸⁸ Notice, fire, the Holy Spirit, fire guarding the gate. And today, that's what guards the gate. If you're scared of Holy Ghost and fire, you'll never get in. Fiery, the Sword of God, God is a consuming fire, watching that Tree, guarding that Tree of Life.

⁸⁹ And now, notice, then, this is a beautiful picture. Oh, my! I can see Adam, or Cain and Abel rather, toiling now, or going out to make a sacrifice. I believe they built their altar right at the gate, at the Throne, where they could worship.

⁹⁰ Notice, here comes Cain. He probably worked all year, toiling, doing everything he could to get the very biggest apples, or the very biggest pumpkins or whatever he had, brought it up to the gate, built him an altar right there by the side of the gate in the Presence of God, put all of his fruits and the big calla lilies and everything, and laid them on the altar correctly, then knelt down and worshipped God.

⁹¹ Now, I want you to...I hope this just soaks way down, as it never before, till you get it, see? Now, notice, if God only required you to go to church, Cain was just as just as Abel was. Cain built an altar unto the