

Theophany

"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (II Corinthians 5:1).

See, everything in the Bible is in a trinity. You know that. I said, **"You're a trinity: soul, body, and spirit."** (I Thess. 5:23). You live in a trinity: kitchen, and living room, and the bedroom. You might have eight or ten different rooms, but bedrooms and spare this, but you only live in three rooms. God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost in a trinity.

And we find out that **the coming of Christ is in a trinity. He came first to redeem His Bride, comes next to receive His Bride, comes next with His Bride, as King and Queen, to reign through the Millennium.** You know that. Everything is in a trinity. And we're in a trinity, **we have a mortal body, a celestial body, and then a glorified body. Three stages bring us back to our perfection again like in Eden.** [1]

His first being was Spirit, God, supernatural, all right, the great Eternal. Second, He begin to form Himself towards flesh, **in a theophany, it's called "the Word; a body."** (John 1:1-2). This then is the state He was in when He met Abraham, was called Melchisedec (Gen. 14:13-20; Heb. 7:1-10). He was in the form of **theophany. He was the Word.**

A theophany is something that you could not see. It could be right here now, yet you cannot see it. It's just like, well, like television. That's in another dimension.

Now, God, It's this stage of His creation, **later formed into flesh, Jesus (John 1:14).** From what? **From the great beginning, Spirit, then came down to be the Word, bringing Itself out.** The Word doesn't yet make Itself, it's just spoke out, en morphe, **later He becomes flesh, Jesus, mortal, to taste death for all of us sinners (II Cor. 5:15; Heb. 2:9-10).**

Now we see the attribute, sons of His Spirit, **have not yet entered into the Word-form body, a theophany;** this body is subject to the Word and we are waiting for the change of the body (Rom. 8:23; Phil. 3:20-21).

Now, the difference between Him and you, as a son. See, **He was, at the beginning, the Word, an en morphe body.** He came in and lived in the Person of Melchisedec. Then, later, we never heard no more of Melchisedec, because **He became Jesus Christ.** Melchisedec was the

Priest (*Heb. 7:1-28*), but He became Jesus Christ. Now, **you by-passed that. Because, in that form, He knowed all things, and you have never been able to know that yet.**

You come like Adam, like me, **you became from the attribute to the flesh, to be tempted** (*Heb. 12:4-11; I Cor. 10:13*). But when this life is finished here, "*If this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting.*" (*II Cor. 5:1*). **That's where we go; that is the Word.** Then we can look back and see what we done. Now we don't understand it. **We have never become the Word; we've just become the flesh-man, not the Word.**

And look, clearly makes it clear, you will never be the Word unless you were a thought at the beginning. **That proves the predestination of God** (*Rom. 8:28-30*). See? You can't be the Word unless **you're a thought. You had to be in the thinking, first.**

But, you see, in order to stand temptation, you had to bypass the theophany. You had to come down here in flesh, to be tempted by sin (*Matt. 4:1-11; I Peter 2:21*). And then, if you stand, "*All the Father hath given Me will come to Me, and I'll raise him up at the last days.*" (*John 6:37,44*). See, you had to be first.

Before the foundation of the world, his name is put on the Lamb's Book of Life. **Then, from that, He become the Word, the theophany, that could appear, disappear. And then He became flesh and returned back again, resurrected that same body in a glorified condition** (*Luke 24:30-43; John 21:1-14; I Tim. 3:16*).

But you by-passed the theophany and become flesh-man, to be tempted by sin (*Rom. 3:23-24*). And then, "*If this earthly tabernacle is dissolved, we have one already waiting.*" (*II Cor. 5:1*). **We have not yet the bodies.**

But, look! **When this body receives the Spirit of God, the immortal Life inside of you, it throws this body in subjection to God** (*Rom. 8:11*). Hallelujah! "*He that's born of God doth not commit sin; he cannot sin.*" (*I John 5:18*). There you are. **See, that throws your body subject.**

You don't have to say, "Oh, if I could just quit drinking! If I could just..." **Just get in Christ, and it's all gone, see, because your body is subject to the Spirit.** It's no more subject to the things of the world; they're dead (*Rom. 6:1-14*). They are dead; your sins are buried in baptism, and you are a new creation in Christ (*II Cor. 5:17*). And your body, becoming subject to the Spirit, **trying to live a right kind of life.**

Then, when a man is born again, from Heaven, **he becomes a spirit babe in Christ** (*I Cor. 3:1-2; John 3:3-8*).

And, then, when **this robe of flesh is dropped, there is a natural body, theophany**, a body not made with hands, neither born of a woman, **that we go to. Then that body returns back and picks up the glorified body.**

"If this earthly body be dissolved, this earthly tabernacle, we have another one." (II Cor. 5:1). See, **we have by-passed that, to come straight from God, the attribute; to be flesh, to be tempted and tested by sin, like Adam did. But when testing of His Word is over, then we are taken up to this body that was prepared for us before the foundation of the world. It is the Word there that we skipped, to come right around, down here to be tempted and tested.** If we'd have come through that, there'd have been no temptation; we'd know all things. **That's the reason Jesus knew all things, 'cause He was Word before He was flesh.**

Then we become the Word. Here we are formed to the Word image (I Cor. 15:49; I John 3:2-3), to be a partaker of the Word, feed on the Word, by being predestinated since the beginning; you see that little spark of Life that you had in you from the beginning, when you started your journey. Many of you can remember it. You joined this church and joined that church, you'd try this and that; **nothing satisfied.** That's right. **But one day you just recognized It. Right.**

Then, after you recognized the very Word of God was Eagle Food, then you left the other thing. You have then been formed into the living image of the living God (Rom. 8:29). You heard from your theophany. *"If this earthly body be dissolved, we have one waiting."*

If you're an attribute of God expressed here on earth, **"you've got a body waiting after you leave this world."** (John 14:1-3). There they were, standing on Mount Transfiguration, in their theophany. For, they were prophets to whom the Word came to (Matt. 17:1-8).

And after Samuel had been dead, buried, and rotted in the grave, here he was standing there in that cave, with his prophet's robes on; and was still a prophet, amen, for he said, "Why did you call me out of my rest, seeing you become an enemy to God?" (I Sam. 28:14-19). Watch him prophesy. "Tomorrow night, by this time, you will be with me." He was still a prophet, though he was gone from this body.

See, he had become here and was part of that Word, and he entered from the flesh life back into the body that had been prepared for him before the foundation of the world. **He entered into the theophany, which was the Word.** You get it? That's where all believers go when we turn from here.

Now the true revelation of Melchisedec comes into view. What? **He was God, the Word, before He became flesh; God, the Word.** Cause, He had to be; no one else could be immortal like Him. See, I had father and mother; you did, too. Jesus had father and mother. **"But this Man had no father, or had no mother."** (*Heb. 7:1-10*). Jesus had a time He started; this Man didn't. **Jesus gave His life; this Man couldn't, because He was Life. And it's the selfsame Man all the time. I hope God reveals it to you. The selfsame Person, all the time.**

Moses has seen Him (*Exodus 33:2*), **He was a theophany.** Moses wanted to see God. He had heard His voice, heard Him talk to him, seen Him in a bush there, as a big **Pillar of Fire.** And he said, "Who are You? I want to know Who You are. If You'll let me see You, I would like to see Your face."

He said, "No man can see My face. I'll put My hand over your eyes, and I'll pass by. And you can see My back, but not My face." See? And when He did, **it was the back of a Man; it was a theophany.** Then the Word that come to Moses, **"I AM," that was the Word.** The Word came to Moses in the form of a Pillar of Fire in a burning bush, the "I AM." (*Exod. 3:3-14*).

He came to Abraham as a Man, under the oak tree (*Gen. 18:1-3*). Now look at there. Why did He come? Abraham, being the one with the promise and the message of the coming son, and also **he was God's Word-prophet** that was trusting God's Word, calling anything contrary as though it wasn't (*Rom. 4:16-21*). See how perfect the Word is? The Word came to the prophet. See, **there was God in a theophany.** And the Bible said, "The Word comes to the prophet." (*Amos 3:7*). **And here was the Word in the theophany.**

Now you say, "Was that God?" Abraham said it was. He said His name, **he called Him Elohim.** Now in Genesis 1:1, you find out, "In the beginning Elohim created the heavens and earth." In Genesis 18:1-3, we find out that Abraham called this Person... that set there and talked to him, and could tell him the secrets of his heart, tell him what Sarah was thinking behind Him (*Gen. 18:9-15*). Abraham said, "*It is Elohim.*" **He was in a theophany form.** You get it?

Notice again, Melchisedec went to meet Abraham before he got back home. What a beautiful type here we have! **Melchisedec meeting Abraham before he got back home, after the battle** (*Gen. 14:13-20*).

We meet Jesus in the air, before we get Home. That's right. I Thessalonians 4:13-17, tells us that, for, "we meet Him in the air." A

beautiful type of **Rebekah meeting Isaac, in the field, in the cool of the day** (*Gen. 24:6-7*). Perfect, all these types. [2]

As soon when a baby is born in this world and breathes its first breath, **it becomes a living soul**. See? **Because as soon as the earthly body is born into the world, there's a celestial body, or a spiritual body, to take a hold of it**. And as soon as this natural body is dropped, **there is a heavenly tabernacle waiting for it**: "*If this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, there is a heavenly tabernacle waiting for it.*" Just as soon as the baby's dropped into the earth in flesh, **there's a spiritual body waiting to receive it**. And as soon as the **natural body is dissolved, there's a spiritual body waiting yonder, a theophany we call it, a theophany**. [3]

It's a body that's waiting for you Christians. As soon as the life leaves this, you go into that body. When this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting, a theophany. [4]

Peter had an experience one night while he was praying (*Acts 12:1-17*). That same Light come into the building, opened up the doors before him, went out into the streets. And Peter thought he was dreaming; he was so anointed. He didn't know what taken place. He said, "Have I just woke up? But I'm out here on the street."

And he went down to John Mark's house. And the little girl opened the door, **been in a prayer meeting**. "Oh," she said, "here is Peter right now. You're praying for him to get out of prison. The Lord has delivered him."

"Oh," they said, "go on." "O Lord, deliver him!" "Why," she said, "he is standing at the door, knocking." Peter just kept pounding, "Let me in." "Oh," she said, "it's Peter." Them days, they still have it, a little drawbar. Little lid here, you raise back and look out, see. Before you let your guest in, you have to know who is knocking at your door. Cause, they had robbers; if you opened the door, they'd kill you. So, they opened the door. She said, "It's Peter."

And they thought Peter done died, this old body had dropped, and they'd bury it in a few days. **"He had entered into his angel-... or his glorified..." Not glorified body, but in his theophany, the body that's already prepared**. It's in an image of a man. "Come down, and was knocking at the door", she said, "it's Peter. He's standing there." He opened the door and walked in. There he was. Now, **Peter had been delivered by this Light**. [5]

And now **the Logos that went out of God**, which was the Logos, all this begin to form into a **body shape**. And this body shape was called, **Logos, the Logos that went out of God. In other words, a better word for it, was what we call a theophany. Theophany is a human body that's glorified.** Not exactly with flesh and blood like it will be in its glorified stage, but it is of a form of a human body that doesn't eat, neither does it drink, but it's a body, **a body that's waiting for us as soon as we leave this one.** Now, in there, we enter into that body. **And that's the kind of body that God was,** for He said, *"Let us make man in our own image and in our likeness."* (*Gen. 1:26*).

Now, when man become into that body, he had control of all the fishes, and fowls, and beasts of the field. *"And then there was no man to till the soil"* (*Gen. 2*). He done made male and female, but there's no man to till the soil.

Then God made man out of the dust of the earth (*Gen. 2:7*). **And this earthly body is in the image of animal life, and it's made out of the same kind of material.** Your body is made just the same kind of material as a horse, or a dog, or anything like that. It's made out of calcium, potash, petroleum, cosmic light. All flesh like that is not the same flesh; it's different flesh, but it's made out of the dust of the earth where it come from (*I Cor. 15:38-41*).

But, the difference between an animal and a man, God put a soul in a man, and He didn't put it in the animal. Because, the soul that was in the man is that theophany. [6]

God, in the beginning, was Spirit. **And then, from God, went out the Logos, or the theophany, which was a form of a man, called the Son of God,** prefigured (*Prov. 8:22-31*). **He came in earth, in a body of flesh, even before He came in Jesus Christ. Now swallow that one once, brother. I'll prove it to you.**

Then, that theophany had to be made flesh. Not another Person, but the same Person had to become flesh, to take the sting out of death. Like a bee when he stings, it leaves the stinger. He could put a sting in human flesh because it's sin. **But, brother, when he stung that Emmanuel's flesh, he lost his stinger** (*I Cor. 15:54-57*). Yes, sir. He can buzz but he ain't got no stinger no more. [7]

And how do we know that there is a real true spirit of love. There is a real true spirit of loyalty. There is a real true spirit of honesty.

How many knows that? We know it. We see it. Well, that is God, the very Fountain. [8]

In the beginning God was a Spirit. **And all the fountain of goodness and mercy and power, and all the good things of love, God was the center of that fountain.** And then the Logos that went out of God **in the beginning become what we would call a theophany, or a supernatural body. God is just not like the air, but He's in a body.** Moses seen Him pass and said it looked like the back part of a man. And then that same theophany was made flesh and dwelled among us. **And we beheld Him, the only begotten of the Father: Christ** (*John 1:14-18*). [9]

In the beginning was the same, **He was that great Spirit, Fountain where all the trueness, all the love, all the peace. Everything that was pure was in this Fountain. It begin to form a body, a theophany, the kind of body that we go to. Not a glorified body, but an angelic body, like; has shape, form.**

Every time I see a tree, I think, "That tree is the negative. There is a positive somewhere." That tree was made off of something. An intelligence made it. **And all this earth does, is reflecting the Heavenly.** The Bible said so (*Heb. 8:3-5*). And if there is a tree here that has to perish, there is one in Glory that won't perish.

I see a lovely little young couple, man and his wife, walking down the street, sweethearts together. What does it reflect? Blessed be the Name of the Lord! **There is one in Heaven that'll never perish. "If this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting,"** the theophany. [7]

Brother Branham was asked: *Explain about each person's angel who abides with them from birth unto death.*

Now, there is an Angel, **but this Angel of the Lord that is encamped about those that fear Him** (*Psalms 34:7*). Now, it isn't promised that sinners have Angels; **it's only the redeemed have Angels.** Did you know that? The Angels of the Lord encamp about those that fear Him.

Now, **Angels are messengers.** I want you to notice It's so perfect, and it'll prove predestination to you.

Notice, a mother, she can be ever so mean and cruel, but just before that baby is born, **there's a certain kindness that sets in.** Did you ever notice a mother when she's to be mother? There's something sweet about her; she always takes on that sweetness. **It's because that little angel, little spirit, a little messenger to this little tabernacle is ready to come forth into the world.** And then, when this little angel comes into the body

(That's a little angel of the earth, a spirit that's ordained of God to take this body.), then that baby has to have a choice. It makes its decision. Then when this takes place, **then you see the Angel of the Lord now comes in here which is a spiritual body, that eternal.**

This is a dying spirit in a dying body; but now, you can't be in two bodies at one time, **but there can be two natures in you at one time.** Now, the nature of the Spirit of the Lord... **When you're born again (I Peter 1:23),** you're not born of physical, like the baby was; but what's happened, **the spiritual birth has come to you. And while this spiritual birth is growing into your heart, of God, there is a celestial body growing to receive that spirit.** And when the life leaves this body, **it goes to that body.** Just as when the body is presented to the earth, the spirit comes in, and when the spirit goes out of the body, **there is a body waiting.** *"For we know that after this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting."* See? That's it, **the spiritual body of the people.** [10]

Reference:

- [1] "Abraham" (60-0803), par. E-39
- [2] "Who Is This Melchisedec" (65-0221E), par. 57-58, 64-71, 78-80, 88-89, 92, 95-102, 109
- [3] "Questions & Answers" (61-0112), par. 330
- [4] "Thirsting For Life" (57-0630), par. 12
- [5] "Hebrews Chapter 3" (57-0901M), par. 82-90
- [6] "Hebrews Chapter 2 Part 3" (57-0828), par. 278-279
- [7] "Hebrews Chapter 4" (57-0901E), par. 132-133, 146-148
- [8] "Life" (57-0602), par. E-21
- [9] "We Would See Jesus" (57-0516), par. E-15
- [10] "Questions & Answers" (64-0830E), Q-No. 381, par. 52-53, 57-58

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*There's coming one with a Message that's straight on the Bible, and quick work will circle the earth. The seeds will go in newspapers, reading material, until every predestinated Seed of God has heard It.
[Bro. Branham in „Conduct-Order-Doctrine“, page 724]*