

Fellowship with God is so Vital

1 John 1:5-7, "This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Now, **when God made man in the beginning to fellowship with Him**, then this man was in **perfect fellowship in the garden of Eden. He was in perfect fellowship with God.** And how it must have been on that day when God would come down in the cool of the evening and call Adam. He and Eve would come up, and **they would worship God, and they would fellowship and commune, one with the other.** That's the very thing that calls us together like this, setting together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus (*Eph. 2:6*), **fellowshipping in the Holy Spirit** (*Phil. 2:1-4*). No difference in us, we are all one in Christ Jesus, in that **perfect harmony of fellowship.** There's nothing like it I've ever found on earth, is to come together in heavenly places and have communion, **fellowship with God and with each other.** Now that's what God intended in the garden of Eden (*Gen. 2:15-17; Gen. 3:8-9*).

Then **that fellowship from God and man was broken by sin** - which is unbelief (*John 16:8-9*). Now, God made a basis and a ground upon which man could remain or retain his fellowship. And it wasn't through a get-together, or organization, or an education. It was on the basis of the shed blood of an innocent animal (*Gen. 3:21; Gen. 4:1-4*), and that's the only place of fellowship that we have with God today, and **the only meeting place is through the Blood of Jesus Christ.** [1]

In the garden of Eden, there were two trees: One was knowledge and one was Life. And as long as man eat off the Tree of Life, he had Everlasting Life. **The first bite he took from the tree of knowledge, he separated his fellowship from God**, and every time he takes a bite yet, he destroys himself. He bit off gun powder; look what that does. He bit off automobile off the tree of knowledge; kills more of his comrades than all the wars does. He's got a hydrogen bomb bit off now. I wonder what he's going to with that? **God doesn't destroy nothing; man destroys himself by knowledge.**

And men just educate themselves till they **educate themselves away from one another. They get complexes. You don't get no complex by the Blood of Jesus Christ; you get love.** You get love, not a complex, that, "I'm a little bigger than somebody else, little better than somebody else, and know a little more than somebody else." You just got your arms around everybody, and it's a basis of love through the Blood. **The Blood cleanses** (*Romans 5:3-10*).

Now, **fellowship comes by love. And love requires fellowship. If you love your wife, you've just got to get with her and talk with her.** If you love your friend, you've got to get with him and talk to him. And **if you love God, there's got to be a basis for fellowship.** You cannot have complete fellowship and livelihood without these agreements.

You cannot have fellowship with God without coming to God's agreement. **And there's a basic thing for fellowship, and that's the Blood, the Blood only.** It's been God's way from the beginning, and it will be till the end. **The only place of fellowship is through the Blood.** [1]

And when fellowship was broken between God and man, there had to be some sort of an agreement **to restore again that lost fellowship. And God found the plan; and it was through the blood of an innocent victim, that God restored man back to fellowship with Him again.**

There's been many substitutes tried. Adam tried it. We've tried to educate people to it. We've tried all different forms, **but there's nothing that brings man back into fellowship with His Maker but the Blood of His Son, Jesus Christ.** It's the only propitiation God has, **is the Blood** (*Romans 3:21-26*).

An innocent victim died for a guilty person. That brought the fellowship back to God and man again. Then Adam, covered by this Blood, could stand in the Presence of God and worship again. Oh, I love that. There's something about it, **when you speak of Blood. Blood has life.** Without the shedding of Blood there's no remission of sins (*Hebrews 9:11-22*).

You can have everything in the world. You can have any kind of a thing that you wish to, **any object of worship,** any creed to live by, **but you can never come into divine fellowship with God, until first you come under the Blood.** That's God's holy, and ordained, and provided way **for human beings to fellowship with Him, through the Blood of His Son,** the Lord Jesus Christ. That was God's plan. *"God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord"* (*I Cor. 1:9*). **It's still God's plan. It will forever be God's plan.** No other plan but through the shedding of the Blood... [3]

God came down and become flesh and died the death in Christ (Heb. 2:9), so that He could clean the Church in order to get into it for fellowship. God loves fellowship. That's what He made the man at the first time for, was for fellowship. God dwelled alone with Cherubims. And notice now, He made man, and man fell. So He came down and redeemed man, because God loves to be worshipped! [4]

God making Himself known through the Fatherhood, through the Sonship, and through the Holy Spirit. **He brought into Himself a blood cell, wrapped Himself up into this, broke forth the Blood at Calvary, threw out His Blood that He might bring through this Blood-cleansing, by this same Atonement, taking every sinner and cleanse him (Rom. 3:23-26), bring him into a fellowship that He can talk with man and walk with man, like He did in the garden of Eden before sin ever come on the earth.**

And our relationship is restored to Jehovah **through the offering of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.** [5]

And that's the only place He meets with men today, is under the shed Blood of the Sacrifice.

I don't care if you're a Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, whatever you might be, if you can forget your differences **and will come under the shed Blood, God will meet with both of us there.** That's where we can all meet and fellowship on the same grounds. But otherwise, He will not meet just because you're a Methodist. He will not meet just because you're Pentecostals. **He will meet with you under one condition; that's under the shed Blood, when your sins has been confessed and expelled in His Presence.** And the Blood is always before Him, and therefore, **He only can see you through that shed Blood.** And you're white as snow **when you've confessed your sins; otherwise, you're not there. You cannot fellowship (Isaiah 1:18).** [6]

The Blood of Jesus Christ, think of It, **the dripping, Bloody Word.** Amen. The Blood, **the Word of God bleeding Blood, to wash the Bride in.**

She stands perfect, virgin, unadulterated. She never sinned, in the first place. Amen. She was trapped into it. [7]

That's the reason that you don't see things happening in the churches; **they confess that they believe the Blood, but they reject the very plan to get to the Blood - the Word.**

There's only one way God will honor that Word. The only way you can do it is under the mercies of God **through His grace,** is to come through the shed Blood of Jesus Christ. Say, "Lord, I claim the promise." See? **And**

then if you really are under that Blood, God's obligated to that Word. But first, you've got to be under that Blood. You see it now? [6]

Your garments, **washed by the Water of the bleeding Word! The Word become Blood.** The Word bled for you, and **you are washed in bleeding Word** (*John 1:1-3,14*). **The Word, bleeding! The Life of God in the Word,** and the Word was bled for you, that you might be washed from the filth of these prostitutes, **and be cleaned and sanctified by the washing of the Water of the Word** (*Eph. 5:26-27*). [8]

Now, we find there, then, **that only under the blood, that God met the worshipper, so they met at Jerusalem** (*Deut. 16:1-2*). **And Christ is God's provided Lamb of sacrifice.** And today, there's only one place that God will meet man, and that's **under the Blood of Jesus Christ. Anywhere else it is condemned;** God will never hear it. You might do all kind of emotions, and all kind of isms, and shake, and jump, and have blood and fire and smoke and everything else; **but as long as that life isn't compared with the Word, and God thoroughly identifying that life;** then there's no need of trying it, because you're out. And God will never meet it **till it comes under the care of that Blood.** That's right.

So you see, in the Scripture we've got a Jerusalem (the church has); **it's in heaven, a heavenly Jerusalem, where God is God** (*Rev. 21:2*). And today, it's not under some creed or something that we try to make it a Jerusalem. The Methodists would like to make the Methodist headquarters at Jerusalem; the Catholic like to make Rome. And the different places where we have our headquarters, we'd like to make that our Jerusalem. **But the Bible says that our Jerusalem is from above, which is mother of all the believers** (*Gal. 4:26*).

Now, and **Christ is God's provided Lamb.** Notice how appropriate it was now, showing that that Jerusalem was ceasing. When? It was in effect until that hour; **the blood of the lamb was all right until that day. But now, at the crucifixion of Christ it changes. The old system is done. There was a new one, and the Lamb of God Jesus Christ was at the sacrifice.** The Lamb, the sacrificial Lamb, was on the grounds. They were condemning and doing the very thing there that they had to do. That's right.

God be blessed for seeing this wonderful, heavenly Light in this last day, **because the churches is doing the same thing today.** Until the hour that organization religion is condemned and **proved to be sacrificing Christ's Word, from then on comes the Word and the Word only. The old paschal lamb passed away, and Christ become our Lamb at the day of the crucifixion.** And the day that the denomination **crucified the Word of God** and accepted a creed in the stead of the Word, **that's the day the Word come into full effect.** That's just been recently. [6]

I was preaching on the only place that God will meet a man in; and that is... He said, the place that He put His Name (*Deuteronomy 16:1-17*). He said, "I won't meet them in any other place but the place--the gate that I put My Name in." Now, He doesn't meet you in a Methodist gate, a Baptist gate, or Pentecostal gate, or any of them, **but He put His Name in His Son. He said, "I came in My Father's Name" (*John 5:43*)**. Any child comes in his father's name. And Jesus, the Son, came in the Father's Name. And He said: **"In this Gate that I put My Name in that was the Sacrifice." And in Jesus Christ is the only place that you'll ever find fellowship and worship to God.**

You say, "Well, I belong to the church." That doesn't make one thing different. **You've got to be in Christ.** [7]

The man on the outside, standing in **justification**, he can hear the Word. He might be an orator of any kind that could **explain that Word in ways that the other fellow knew nothing about**, but still, if he hasn't walked through those elements in **under the Blood to the fellowship and the Shekinah Glory, he doesn't know what we're talking about**. But here, where we've all received the Holy Ghost, we're altogether one for we've been all made drink of the **same Spirit (*I Cor. 12:13*)**. After we've **been sanctified, into one Spirit. Justification it's waters of separation, sanctification, the cleansing of our soul**. And when we go into the **Holiest of Holies where the Shekinah Glory is, by that one Spirit we are baptized into that one Body and have fellowship with God (*Gal. 3:26-28*)**.

You say, "I'm a Christian, I made a confession." That's fine. You've come through the waters of separation. "I've been sanctified. I don't smoke or drink with..." That's very fine, my brother, **but have you come into the fellowship yet, where God meets you under the shed Blood? After you have come under the shed Blood, the Life in that Blood comes back in the form of the Holy Ghost, which is Christ in the Spirit to fellowship with His children.**

Sanctification is what cleanses us up. [1] **Then the sanctifying power of God cleansed all the habits out of your life.** You used to smoke, drink, do things that wasn't right, tell lies, everything. Then the sanctifying power of the Blood of Jesus Christ comes into your life and takes all the things away from you. Now, **the next thing you receive, was the baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire.** [7] The reason the animal life couldn't give them the Holy Ghost, is because the life that was in the animal, when that life was taken, it was the animal's life. It would not coincide to the human life, **because the animal has not a soul. But when Jesus died, then He was not only man, but He was God and man, God in-veiled in man. And**

when that cell was broken, God was turned loose again to come back through the shed Blood to sanctify and to live in every vessel, that would dare to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost. There's why we have that fellowship. That's what makes the real thing. [1]

And in bleeding He sanctified a church that He Himself might live in, and fellowship, and commune with, that lost spot of fellowship from the garden of Eden where God came down every evening, church time. Did you notice, God came down in the cool of the day, the setting of the sun. There's something about when it starts to get night, people think of church and of God--Christians. You see the sun setting; you realize that your sun is setting.

And in the cool of the evening He'd come down and commune with them. And there He lost that fellowship, because sin would not let Him do it. And then He was made flesh and dwelt among us in order that He could come back again to man, and live in man, and restore man to a state of communion with Him again, and give him back his God-given right. That's what He did. [9]

By faith are you saved; that's your faith in God (*Eph. 2:8-9*). The Blood keeps you clean from sin, because it makes a sacrifice. The Blood doesn't save you; the Blood keeps you clean. How do you say you're saved? By faith are you saved, and that by God's foreknowledge, calling you (*Acts 13:48*). You are saved, and the Blood makes an atonement, constantly keeping you clean. And then by one Spirit you're baptized into the Holy Ghost, into the fellowship of the believers, and into the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, to be led by the Spirit, doing signs, wonders (*I Cor. 12:13*). [10]

If you've got Eternal Life, you were in God before there ever was a world. You are a part, a son of God, an attribute of God. He knewed the very age you were coming. He predestinated you to that age to take that place, and no one else can take it. I don't care how many impersonations and things, you've got to be there, because He knew you'd be there (*Eph. 1:3-5; II Tim. 1:8-10*). Now, you are made manifest; now you can fellowship with Him, and that's what He wants. He's longing for fellowship, to be worshipped. But if your life has not always been an attribute in God, you're just a mimic of Christianity. [11]

God put His sons here, His attributes, to fellowship with Him by hearing His Word. [12]

And when we get out of **fellowship with one another in the church, and out of fellowship with the Holy Spirit, it brings us to a dry place, a desert**, nothing alive, everything got stickers on it. See, a desert, a little piece of cactus with that sticker on it. Did you know what that is? **That's a precious little tender leaf that hasn't had no water**, it's just wound itself up so tight till it's a sticker. And when you see somebody like that, maybe it's a precious soul that could have been watered right, would have been a tender little leaf or something. But instead of that, it's wound itself up till it's a sticker, just punching at everything, you know, finding fault. **Only thing it needs is just water**. That's all. It just needs a revival, or a breaking up, **a refreshing from the Lord**. It'll unfold its little self, **if you'll just put it to the water**.

But that's where them who live in that place has to suffer with the conditions of that place. And those who desire to live in that kind of an atmosphere, of where everything is just punching and fussing, and quarreling and stewing like that, well, you'll just live under that atmosphere, that's all. But we don't have to live there, it's not necessary for us to stay there. [13]

When you're outside of Christ, you don't understand the heavenly place. When you're out there, you look and say, "Oh, that bunch of fanatics, they don't know what they're speaking about."

The reason you don't know because you've never been a partaker of the fellowship of His suffering (*Phil. 3:7-11; I Peter 4:1-2; Acts 5:40-42*). You've never laid your hands upon His blessed sacred head, **and felt the pains of Calvary for your sins**. You never knowed what that was, fellow friend.

You don't know what it means till you once climb to Calvary and see what a price was paid for you. Then when you realize what it's all about, God through grace, **takes you through the Blood stream into His own fellowship with His beloved Son Christ Jesus**. [14]

We find one place there, where the Son of God spent so much time in prayer. And **if Jesus had to spend much time in prayer to stay in fellowship with the Spirit that was in Him, how much more do you and I have to spend in prayer?** Much time in prayer. **If you only knew what time in prayer meant**. Sometimes when you're in prayer, God changes the complete destination of different things that's going to happen. Do you believe that? Might be something fixing to happen, and **your prayer could change the whole situation**.

Well, you say, "If God knows it's going to happen, what would my prayer do?"

Now, Jesus put much time in prayer. One day there He told His disciples, "Now, cross over to the other side." He sent them away while He went up in the mountain **to pray**. While He was up there alone, a storm coming up. I believe, I don't know, but I believe if I'd been the disciples, I'd said, "I know He told us to go over, but I believe I'll just wait till He comes and goes along." I'd like for Him to be along in these cases, don't you?

So we see Him now going up into the mountain to pray (*Matt. 14:22-23*). The disciples thrust out into the sea and picked up their oars, and their little ship's sail went up, and away they started, oaring across to the other side where Jesus was to meet them on the other side. **Then going in the absence of the Holy Spirit, or Christ then in visible form, on the road over trouble set in. And usually, if you start anywhere without Christ, trouble's on its road. Just as soon as the devil sees you out of fellowship with Christ, right then he will set out for you as hard as he can.** Just as soon as he sees you away from prayer, away from consecration, Satan will catch you right then if he possibly can. [15]

It comes to my mind of a Scripture that I believe Paul wrote, "There is nothing present, nothing future, and no powers, neither nakedness, starvation, peril, or any creature present, neither life, nor death, **can separate us from the love of God that's in Jesus Christ.**" How that even death itself, will never separate us **because we have been joined together, in heart, in this great fellowship around the Word of God.** And even death itself, will not separate us. We will be united in the great Eternal for all times and ages (*Romans 8:38-39*). [16]

Reference:

- [1] "Fellowship" (60-0611B), par. 16-18, 37-38, 58
- [2] "Whatever He Saith Unto You Do It" (54-0722), par. 12
- [3] "God's Provided Approach To Divine Fellowship" (60-0630), par. 10-11
- [4] "Who Is This Melchisedec" (65-0221E), par. 44-45
- [5] "God Perfecting His Church" (54-1204), par. 23-24
- [6] "The Indictment" (63-0707M), par. 100-102, 107-111
- [7] "Things That Are To Be" (65-1205), par. 62-64, 79
- [8] "Invisible Union of the Bride of Christ" (65-1125), par. 274
- [9] "What Was The Holy Ghost Given For?" (59-1217), par. 29-30
- [10] "Adoption, Part 3" (60-0522M), par. 131
- [11] "The Rapture" (65-1204), par. 85
- [12] "Satan's Eden" (65-0829), par. 79
- [13] "The Ever-Present Water From The Rock" (61-0723M), par. 88-89
- [14] "The Believer's Position In Christ" (55-0116A), par. 29
- [15] "The Healing of Jairus' Daughter" (55-0227E), par. 15, 17
- [16] "Standing In The Gap" (63-0623M), par. 9

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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]