

The Message Is Christ

- and Christ and the Holy Spirit is the same thing.

"But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets" (Rev. 10:7).

We're not to come together to talk about the Message. **We are to come together to get in the Message. And the Message is Christ (Col. 1:26-29), He is the Word.** That's right. **We're to get into It, get beneath It.** Yes, sir. That's what we're supposed to do, [1] and His Word is Spirit and Life (*John 6:63*).

He spoke of this age, what would be now. **The believers of this age have to believe This, what He promised today. Just the same as they had to come into the ark, to be saved (I Peter 3:20-22) go out of Egypt to be saved; they have to come into Christ, to be saved now, into the Word Message, that He's the same yesterday, today, and forever.**

How do you get into It? **By baptism!** Baptism of what, water? **By the Holy Ghost!** "One Spirit, we're all baptized into this one Body." (*I Cor. 12:13; Eph. 4:4-6*).

And His promised Word, you won't have to interpret It. **He will interpret It through you; what you are doing, what He promised to do.** The Church that follows Him **will be so much like Him** until the people will know. [2]

My revelation by the Holy Spirit is: Christ and the Holy Spirit is the selfsame Person, only in a different form. [3]

So get Christ in your heart; that's a real... Christ and the Holy Spirit's the same thing. Holy Spirit, "Christ" means "the anointed One." And the Holy Spirit is that Anointing, and you are the one that's anointed. See? And it's Christ in you anointing you. [4]

Now it's not some man here is the Messiah. **It's the Holy Spirit is the Messiah. Christ and the Holy Spirit is the same thing,** so here It is here now just working in the flesh, **getting the Body ready for the rapturing grace.** Believe it, friends. [5]

Now that's what we want to see. **We want to see the Person.** You say, "Well, Brother Branham, we will see Him when He comes." (*I Peter 1:8-12*). Yes, **but He promised that He, in the Person of the Holy Spirit, would**

come in the last days and would be with us, even in us, to the end of the world. And the things that He did, we would do also. He said, in Hebrews 13:8, "*He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*" Now there would only be one way to know what He is today.

We find we couldn't find Him in fine lecturers, 'cause we find people who can stand up and **can explain the Word in such a way**, it's just breathtaking. But when we find it, **it's still just a lecture.** See, just a lecture, it's the mechanics. And we find the entertainer who can go through all the actions, and so forth, but that still isn't it. That isn't what we're looking for. We find the religious type, with their robes on, and so forth, that still isn't what we're looking for. See? No.

We're looking for the Person, Jesus Christ. See, the Person, Jesus Christ! [6]

Now, **look at the promise of the last days.** And here we see it vindicated right before us, **the present coming of the Holy Spirit** and the works that He was supposed to do, and we find it right among us. [7]

Moses knew intellectually that he was a deliverer. But when he thought the children of God would understand him when he slew the Egyptian, the first little rumor come up he wasn't perseverant at all (*Exod. 2:11-15*). Just before he even got to Pharaoh, he took for the desert, because he wasn't perseverant. He wasn't too sure. **He just knew it from the Word standpoint, the promise.**

But one day he saw a bush that was afire, and it was burning, and it did not consume. So Moses went up the mountainside. And setting back in that bush was that **big Pillar of Fire that was to lead him the rest of his days.** And in this Pillar of Fire spoke out a Voice: "*I have seen the afflictions of my people. I've heard their groanings and I remember My promise to Abraham, and I'm come down to deliver them. Now, go down there.*" (*Exod. 3:1-9*).

Oh, don't miss it, church. **You might know it from a Word standpoint.** You might know that the Bible said the prayer of faith shall save the sick. **But you pray until God says the prayer of faith saves you** (*James 5:16*). **That's the difference.** [8]

And if you've got the baptism of the Holy Ghost, **it can only point to Christ, and Christ is the Word.** [9]

The Word Itself is Spirit; it's Spirit in Word form (*John 6:63*). And then, you see, when It is quickened or brought to Life, **the Spirit of the Word goes to work and acts.** [7]

The Spirit leads with the Word, 'cause the Spirit can only come out of the Word, 'cause His Word is Spirit. The real true Spirit of God can only speak the Word of God. [10]

But, remember, **the last thing is His Divine Presence, the Word Itself. He is the Word. The Head, the Word, It's coming to the Body.** [5]

Now, Paul speaking here now, and in this sense, **the Spirit-Word, "We are ministers, not of the letter, the law; but able ministers of the Spirit," that the Spirit takes the letter and manifests It (II Cor. 3:4-6).**

That was just law, you had to go look at it, say, "*Thou shall not commit adultery. Thou shall not steal. Thou shall not lie. Thou shall not do this, that, or the other.*" See? You had to look at that (*Deut. 5:6-21*).

But this is Spirit that comes upon the promised Word for this age, and brings forth and manifests, not two tables of stone, but the Presence of the living God. Not a mythical thought somebody made up, or some Houdini, a trick; **but the very promise of God revealed and made manifest right before us.** [11]

No matter how religious you are, how many churches you belong to, how many books your name's on, **if that genuine Holy Ghost is in you - which is this Word manifested (John 6:63) - you'll see the Message and the hour, because it's the Holy Ghost that does it (John 8:31-32; John 14:16-20). But there has to be something light that off, inspiration strike you.** And if you pour water on the ground, on the ground, on the ground, and **there's no seed in there to strike it,** how can it ever bring forth anything? There's nothing there to bring forth. **That is, that only the Elected of God will see It (I Thess. 1:4-6; Eph. 1:3-4).**

The Elected of God seen It in Noah's time, Moses' time, Jesus' time, the apostles' time, Luther's time, Wesley's time, Pentecostal time, because that was the Seed that was on the earth when this inspiration was poured out (Eph. 1:3-6). Now while the inspiration's poured out, to gather the Bride together, it's only those who are Elected will see It. Jesus said, "*I thank Thee, Father, that Thou hast hid these things from the eyes of the wise and prudent, and revealed It to babes such as will learn*" (*Matt. 11:25-27*). Now, **inspiration has to strike it.**

Now, when the inspiration struck Job, that did it. He had It then! Now, **we find out, there comes a time of these crisis when the press is right on. And you look around today, look at the condition we're living in.** Aren't we living in a modern Sodom and Gomorrah? Hasn't the world come back? **That was a Gentile world that was destroyed then, by fire.** Didn't Jesus say, in Saint Luke 17:28-30, that, "*As it was in the days of Sodom, so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man, when the Son of man is being revealed*"?

What is a "revealed"? **Is a secret made known, a revelation; is to reveal or make known a secret.** [12]

All down through the ages, they receive the Holy Spirit, but not in the measure that they have It now, 'cause it's a restoration of the first. As we take the candlesticks, Alpha and Omega, how they lit the first candle; it went higher and higher, and got dimmer and dimmer; then come back again. See? First and last, and so forth.

Now, but in this church age, **the Message is being poured into the church. But the church body, itself, in altogether...** [13]

The church, too, has departed from what she originally was. She is a hybrid. That is, the church nominal is a hybrid. People say, "I am a Baptist." It wasn't so in the beginning. "I am Methodist." It wasn't so in the beginning. Instead of the straight Word of God, **instead of the Spirit-filled men in the church who were led by Spirit-given revelation,** there are now creeds, and by-laws, and the educated guesses **of educated men. Learning has taken the place of revelation. Reason has replaced faith. Program has replaced spontaneous praise in the Holy Ghost.** It wasn't so from the beginning. The whole specie has changed. It has become a hybrid church. [14]

You see, **the Scripture is inspiration. You'll never be able to know the Scripture just by setting down and reading It from a theological standpoint,** from an educational standpoint; **it never has worked.**

I was speaking with a Baptist minister not long ago, he said, "Until we learn the correct Greek, until we..."

I said, "In the Nicaea Council, before that, they were arguing about the Greek words in the Bible." You'll never know It.

The Bible is to be revealed by inspiration. That's the only thing, the revelation. Jesus told Peter, "Upon this rock." **This rock of revelation reveals Who He is.** *"Blessed art thou Simon, son of Jonas, flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father which is in Heaven has revealed this to you; upon this rock I'll build My Church."* (Matt. 16:17-18). Not upon Peter, not upon Himself, **but upon the spiritual revelation of Who He was.** [15]

Now we find out, that when Peter come up into the audience, where Jesus was; Jesus, never seeing him before, turned and looked at him, and said, *"Your name is Simon, you are the son of Jonas."* (John 21:15-17). Not only did He know him, but He knew his godly old father that had instructed him. And Peter, without enough education to sign his name, **considered an ignorant and an unlearned man, who it pleased God to make him the bishop at Jerusalem,** and Jesus give him the keys to the Kingdom (Matt. 16:13-20) and made him the head of the church. **This man, upon this**

revealed revelation, knowing what Messiah was to be, he said, recognized Him as Messiah, and fell at His feet, because He did that. [16]

Now, God hides His Message between the lines. The seminary will never know It. That's right. No, no. **It's a love story.**

And if you're in love with God, and God's Spirit is in you, the Holy Spirit Himself is the Interpreter of this Word. [17]

You know, if you read the Word right like this here, it's all right, **but you sure miss the meanings of It. The Word is written between the lines.** Jesus said, *"I've hid It from the eyes of the wise and prudent and revealed It to babes such as will learn."* (Matt. 11:25-27). These theological seminaries are just like them priests were back there, and the high priest, and all of them that read the Word **but failed to see Jesus being the Christ.** See what I mean? [18]

Then we find out, after all these **trials and testings**, one little part we want to get to. Do you like to read between the lines? Why, **the best part of the Bible is written between the lines.** Sure it is. The Bible is hidden from every seminary. **You don't know God by the seminary experience; you know Him by a born again experience** (*I Peter 1:22-23*). That's right.

Then when God, writing His letter, then He's got it hidden, like a letter from my wife. She writes me a letter, but I read between the line, because I love her; and I can just about know what she's talking about. **No matter what she says on the paper, I know what she means, because I love her.** And that's the way you do when you love the Lord Jesus and you pick up the Bible. It's a different Book then. **After you're born again, God gets a hold of you and begins to reveal Himself to you through the Word.** [19]

Born again from Above (*John 3:3-5*). Then we are active, active in things from Above (*Col. 3:1-4*), and, **for His Life is in us, which is His Word** vindicating the Word Itself. **The Spirit that's in you is the Word made flesh in you. The Spirit minds the Word,** and is active in vindicating the Word.

Now, **the Spirit is not active in any denomination.** It's not interested in making organization, **because the Spirit Itself is contrary to the organization.**

Now, **we are active in the things from Above. The Spirit minds the Word.** Now, that's right, **'cause the Spirit gives the Word Life.** *"The letter killeth; the Spirit giveth Life."* (*II Cor. 3:4-6*). [20]

Now, my subject today, I trust that God will reveal this. And each time, if you who take the tapes and listen, and I hope and trust **that you have had a spiritual understanding of what that God has been trying to get over to**

the Church without saying it right out. See? It's a thing, sometime, **we have to say things in such a way that it might thin down, it might bring some to go out, some to leave, and some to ponder over. But that's done purposely. It must be done that way.**

Then it might be that some would say, "You mean God would purposely do a thing like that?" He certainly did. He does yet.

He said one day, when He had thousands around Him, *"Except you eat of the Flesh of the Son of man, and drink His Blood, you have no Life in you."* (John 6:53-58).

You can't explain faith. It's something that you believe, and it's so solid that there is nothing else will take its place. [11]

That's the reason there's no way, at all, of ever being saved until you're ready to accept what you cannot explain. You've got to believe. *"He that cometh to God must believe that He is"* (Heb. 11:6). Now, there's no way of scientifically proving that, **but you must believe it anyhow. And if you could prove it, then it would no more be an act of faith. God has so hidden Himself until you have to believe that He is, without seeing Him,** know that He's there, anyhow. Whether you see it, or not, you believe it. Surely you believe it, anyhow. [21]

Jesus said that when He went away He would send His Spirit Which the world could not receive (John 14:17). That is right. The world, or world systems could not receive Him. That is what organization is--**it is world system.** Show me a world system church that is full of the Holy Ghost. I want to see it. If you can show me such a church you **are finding a mistake in the Word.** No sir. Not one of these messengers was organized. Either they were put out or got out because they were convicted of the sin of organization. How can the Holy Spirit possibly be in organization **when it is organization that takes the place of the Spirit and denominations take the place of the Word?** Remember, "Organization" is "DEATH". It just can't be any other way. If the world takes over, the Spirit departs. [22]

Remember, God is always in threes. Like Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and **justification, sanctification, baptism of the Holy Ghost; He's in threes.**

Now, God is that message of repentance to the church nominal. **God's in that message of Divine healing to the church Pentecostal. God's in the Message to the Bride.** So we find out that all of them calling, one to this, this to that, and that to that. God calling the church out of the world; calling the church in the denominational church into Pentecost; and **calling the Bride out of Pentecost.** [23]

Now, before we open the Bible, we know that this is text **and God has a context written between the lines.** You see? So, we can just read the text, and **let God give us the context.** [24]

But if you're reading between the lines and try to make It say something, that in between the lines says something different than what the lines say, then it's wrong. But it's got to agree, all the way through It. The Bible is just like a great jig-saw puzzle, if you'll excuse the expression. And if you just try to put it together just the way you look at it, you've got to have something over here to look at. If you don't, you'll ruin your scene. You'll have a cow picking grass on top of a tree. So it won't be right.

So that's the way it is **when you try to put the Bible together with an intellectual understanding of It.** You can't do it. **It's a Spirit written Word, and it takes the Holy Spirit to place It together.** Then you get the whole great picture from Eden out into chaos, and the way of the cross back home. That's the entire picture: **God's redemption story of sending His own Son to redeem a lost and polluted people.** [25]

Now, **we lose our glory, if we lose faith. Now, if we get away from faith, then we take the church into an intellectual realm.** And many times, it's been thought amongst people, that because a congregation was large, and they had great churches, great steeples, and a great lot of well-dressed and groomed peoples, and a lot of finances, that they could afford such things, we many times, thought **that was inspiring**--that this certain church must be inspired. Or we've often referred to different ministers, who get out on the field and have great gatherings of crowds, and we think, sometimes, that they are the signs of inspiration. But that's not altogether the truth. **That's human inspiration.**

But the real inspiration comes by doing the will of God, whether it is a one or just a handful. Whether it is a big church or a small church, it matters not. **Whether he is a great eloquent speaker or just a man that hardly knows his ABC's, it doesn't matter.** It depends on the message that he's bringing, **whether it is inspired by the Word of God or is it inspired by intellectual conceptions of human inspiration.**

Some people can be inspired because of an eloquent speaker. That doesn't make it right. Sometimes they're inspired, because the man is so trained, till he could put his point over. That doesn't mean that it's of God. See? It's only through God's everlasting, eternal, **blessed Word can we receive inspiration, and that's given by the Holy Ghost (II Tim. 3:16-17; II Peter 1:20-21).** **By faith we receive it.** [26]

I Corinthians 13:10 says this: *"When that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away with."* So all these little things of jumping up-and-down like a kid, trying to talk in tongues, and all these other things,

when that which is perfect... **And we do have today, by God's help, the perfect interpretation of the Word with Divine vindication.** Then that which is in part is done away with. *"When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child; but when I become a man, I put away childish things" (1 Cor. 13:11).* Amen. [27]

Will you receive It in the Spirit that It's written in? Will you receive It in the Spirit that It's been given in? If you haven't as yet... We have no room for an altar; **your heart is the altar.** Would you raise up your hand, say, "God, be merciful to me. **Let the Spirit of God come into me,** condemning me now of all my sins, and frustrations, all my bad habits, and high tempers, and fusses, and fights, and stews, and everything I've had. And I know something, that my spirit isn't mellow for Heaven. **Make me mellow, Lord,** in this last moment. This may be the last sermon I'll ever hear. This may be the last time I'll ever hear the Message. I raise my hand. God, be merciful to me." [28]

Reference:

- [1] "The Token" (63-1128E), par. 119
- [2] "God's Chosen Place of Worship" (65-0220), par. 91-93
- [3] "The First Seal" (63-0318), par. 268
- [4] "Questions & Answers" (64-0830M), par. 82
- [5] "Jehovah Jireh Part 1" (64-0402), par. 195-196
- [6] "Sir, We Would See Jesus" (63-1112), par. 64-66
- [7] "The Fourth Seal" (63-0321), par. 67
- [8] "Perseverance" (62-0608), par. E30-31
- [9] "An Absolute" (63-0127), par. 120
- [10] "And Thy Seed Shall Possess the Gate of his Enemy" (62-0121M), par. 199
- [11] "The Unveiling of God" (64-0614M), par. 134-136, 22-24, 30
- [12] "I Have Heard, But Now I See" (65-1127E), par. 103-105
- [13] "Blasphemous Names" (62-1104M), par. 121-122
- [14] "Smyrmaean Church Age", CAB pg. 124
- [15] "Modern Events Are Made Clear By Prophecy" (65-1206), par. 26-29
- [16] "Sirs, We Would See Jesus" (64-0304), par. 83
- [17] "The Trial" (64-0621), par. 119, 121
- [18] "Israel and the Church, Part 2" (53-0326), par. 55
- [19] "Redeemer, Redemption" (55-1119), par. E33,35
- [20] "Why I'm Against Organized Religion" (62-1111E), par. 143-144
- [21] "Awakening Jesus" (63-0117), par. 20
- [22] "Sardisean Church Age", CAB pg. 251
- [23] "God Doesn't Call Man to Judgment Without First Warning Him" (63-0724), par. 60-61
- [24] "Joseph Meeting His Brethren" (56-1230), par. E20
- [25] "Jehovah Jireh" (59-0417), par. E23
- [26] "By Faith, Moses" (58-0720M), par. E17
- [27] "Questions & Answers" (64-0823E), COD pg. 1005, par. 57
- [28] "Recognizing Your Day and Its Message" (64-0726M), par. 224

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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]