

## When You Receive the Word, You Receive JESUS

*“Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God. For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. **And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:** So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.” (I Thess. 1:4-7).*

Is there any here that hasn't received the baptism of the Spirit, yet? Now you say, "Brother Branham, I tell you, I shouted one time." That's very good. "I spoke in tongues once." That's very good, too. But still that ain't what I'm talking about. How can you shout and speak in tongues and deny the Word? **The evidence of the Holy Ghost is believing His Word. Always been every age if you can receive the Word. Those priests had beaten Jesus a million miles when it comes to the fruits of the Spirit:** gentle, and peaceful, and meek, lowly. He tore up churches, kicked the tables over; and tore the people out, and called them "snakes in the grass" and everything (*Matt. 21:12-13; Mark. 11:15-18*). But He was that Word. He was that Word. **That's it: believe God. God is the Word.** Believe It. [1]

And the promise that we receive, **the seal, is the baptism of the Holy Ghost** (*Eph. 1:13-14*). That's right. **For that is God in form of Spirit, you being His Word in you, then He comes in. If you receive the Word in you, the Holy Spirit is the only thing that can make That live** (*II Cor. 3:6-7*), and then you have the promise of possessing the gate of every enemy that tries to attack you. That's right. God promised it, and it's so. [2]

To believe the Word, **is to receive the Word and let It become Life.** Now, God showing there how He was confirming this covenant. It has to be that way. The Church! Not an organization, not a denomination; **but the individual and God has become the same Spirit.** That's God's purpose, in the beginning. [3]

**If you just receive the Word by knowing the Word, that doesn't do you any good. "The letter killeth; the Spirit giveth life." (II Cor. 3:6). Then you must be born again, and then the Holy Spirit quickens the Word to you (John 1:12-13).** In other words, like a grain of corn, if it's laying in my hand, it's just a grain of corn, it'll never be nothing else. But bury it, it comes contaminated, molds, and then it brings up another grain of corn just like it. [4]

The Gospel is not, "Go out and teach them the Bible." That isn't the Gospel. It said in the Scriptures **that the Gospel didn't come to you just in Word only, but through the power and demonstration of the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 2:3-5). The Gospel, that is the Word...** But the letter killeth; the Spirit giveth Life.

Now, a seed laying here on the pulpit, is just a seed **until it dies and becomes germitized and dies, it'll never do anything.** ~~So the seed...~~ The Word here **has to be made manifest** in order to be of God.

He said, *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."* (John 1:1-3).

To take a word is the expression of thought. **It has to be a thought before it can be a word. So God, in the beginning, gave the thought of what would be, spoke the Word what for; we see, we receive the Word, and it produces what God thought was. The Word is the Gospel in seed form (Luke 8:11-15).** [5]

Jesus had Perfect Faith. He had it, **and it come because He was the Word. And you become the Word; you become the Word, as you receive the Word.** *"If ye abide in Me, and My Words in you. My Words which..."* (this Word) *"abides in you, then ask what you will, and it'll be done for you."* (John 15:7). See? *"If ye say to this mountain, 'Be moved,' and don't doubt, but believe in what you've said, then you shall have what you said. When you pray, believe that you receive what you ask for, and ye shall have it; it'll be given to you."* (Mark 11:22-26). Time, space, nothing else will ever change it. **You know it's done.** It's already over with. [6]

And we read over there in Saint John 5:24, *"He that heareth My Word."* Now, the real translation of that is not "he that heareth." That's the King James. The real translation, in the Hebrew in that, is this, **"He that receiveth My Word."** Not he that heareth; anybody can hear It, sinners and everything else. **But, "he that receiveth," can take It all.** Not, "he who receiveth one of My Words." *"He that receiveth My Word, and believeth on*

*Him that sent Me."* **When you receive the Word, you receive Him. Everything He said do, that you are willing and happy to do.** [7]

Here a few days ago in our church, they brought a little girl in there on a stretcher, and they had called me in the nighttime on the road and said, "The girl cannot live," the cancer was so bad, about seventeen years old. It was a pitiful case.

**To prove something to my church, I never touched the child at all.** I walked in, laying on a stretcher, course there were other sick people, but I was concerned about the child, **to catch her spirit when I spoke to her.** And she seemed like, very fine little girl, **I see no reason why that child should fill a premature grave, and that has to be the devil trying to take her life. So I never touched the child at all,** went right to the pulpit with the Word, **and stayed right with the Word, and the Word healed her so instantly until she got up and walked away, is all right now,** and living like anybody else, can't find a trace of it anywhere. **Never even touched her.**

See, the Word went forth, and she believed the Word, **and the Word is God's life and God's power. And the Word is what does it. The Word heals the sick** (*Psalm 107:20*).

Then you say, "Well, Jesus healed the sick."

He is the Word. He is the Word. **When you receive the Word, you receive Jesus,** for He is the Word. *"The Word was made flesh and dwelled among us."* We believe that, don't we, every bit? **We believe that Christ is God's Word made manifest** (*John 1:14-18*); **and we believe that His Bride must be the same thing.** We believe that she must believe every bit of the Word **and have that Word in her, because she is part of the body. She is the body where He is the head** (*Eph. 1:20-23*). [8]

Now, this is always, fundamentally, **the correct Word of God, the Bible, every bit of It inspired** (*II Tim. 3:16-17*). And it's all God's Word, **and God is in His Word. So if God is in His Word, then if you receive the Word, you receive God.**

**Now that is God's plan,** God's motive, God's attitude, God's love, God's salvation. **Everything rests in His printed Word.** And if those Words are just like grains, or seed that you could pick out **and swallow,** every one of them would produce just exactly what it says it'll do here. **But by faith we receive them.** [9]

**But listen to your pastor**, a good God-sent man, a teacher that'll send and tell you just exactly what to do, **because himself is anointed with the Holy Ghost**. And watch him; he will stay right smack with the Word. Exactly what the Word says, he will say right with It. And God will bless that Word. I don't care where it's at; He will bless it because He promised He would do it. That's right. **He will stay**.

You stay right on the Word. **And that Word is Life. And every time you receive the Word, you receive Life. Take It into your heart and believe It as your own possession. Every promise is yours.** God gave you a checkbook, when you received the Holy Ghost with Jesus' Name wrote at the bottom of it, for whatsoever you desire. Are you afraid to fill it out?

*"Ask what you will in My Name, God will give it to you."* (John 16:23-24). I like that. Oh, my, stand there with just unadulterated faith. **Ask and believe, and it shall come to pass. That's the way to do it.** [10]

And when the Word of God is put into the **fertile grounds of the inspired believer, it produces just exactly what God said it would do, because it can't fail.** It's God's eternal Word. Got to waken the people, **got to bring us to something when the Word is received. And that's the inspiration.** And man is in no condition, **outside of repentance** (*Acts 11:18*); **he's no condition to receive the Word until first he has been inspired.** [11]

**The evidence of the Holy Ghost is when you can receive the Word; not some system, but have a clear understanding** (*1 Thess. 1:4-6*). How do you know the Word is clear, understand It? **Watch It vindicate Itself.**

"Well," you say, "I see this do it, and that." Oh, yes, weeds live the same way. **But it's got to be the entire Word. To be the Bride, you have to be part of Him. He is the Word.** See? And what a part of Him is it? **The Word that's promised for this day when He calls His Bride. Be a part of that.** You get it? Now, don't lose that now. [13]

Now notice, and **no man can have faith for healing until it's revealed to him by the Holy Spirit, that he's going to get well.** You might stumble at it. You might go through life **living a good Christian life.** You might belong to some church. You might have a fine membership. You might be a moral character, and all of that, but brother, **that still isn't Christianity. Christianity is when the Holy Ghost has taken full possession of you and you're led by the Holy Spirit** (*Acts 16:6-10; Rom. 8:14*). No matter how good, how moral, how good a church member... Cain was just as good

as any church member. So was Esau, fine cultured gentlemen. So was Cain, very religious, believed in God, made sacrifice, built a church altar, done all the things that's religious, and God refused him. **No man can say Jesus is the Christ, only by the Holy Ghost** (*I Cor. 12:3*).

Peter has been justified and believed on the Lord Jesus Christ. He'd even preached the Gospel, but Jesus told him, "**After you are converted, then strengthen your brothers.**" See? "After you are converted..." (*Luke 22:32*).

**Conversion is the Holy Spirit that moves the old nature out, and the new nature comes in which is the Holy Ghost.** And when a man has truly been born of the Spirit of God, he has Everlasting Life (*I Peter 1:22-23*). Jesus said so. "*He that heareth My Words, believeth on Him that sent Me, hath Everlasting Life, and shall not come into condemnation or judgment, but has passed from death unto Life.*" (*John 5:24*). That's what He said. I believe Him, don't you?

So someone said not long ago, said, "Brother Branham, I believe that we have the Holy Ghost. I believe that I am saved and so forth." Well, **how can you believe unless you have the Holy Spirit?** You can't correctly believe. Now, there's the flaw. There's the thing that the Christian doesn't climb over. There's the thing the sick person doesn't climb over. See? **There's a vast difference in looking at God's Word, and receiving God's Word. Them that receive the Word, not them that examined It, but them that received It, God added to the church, such as be saved** (*Acts 2:37-41; Acts 5:12-16*). **Three thousand souls received the Word.**

Now, you can hear the Word preached. You can look at It and admit that it's right. Cain did; all the others did. But just where the word fell, brought forth. **Them that received it, gladly was baptized. See? Receiving the Word...**

**Now, when you receive the inspiration that Jesus Christ died for your sickness, it's that very hour that your healing has come.** That's right. **When you receive from heaven, that Jesus died for your sins and you have accepted it, you don't need any prayer for you then. You've already accepted it.** It's settled.

**Now, we can preach the Word, explain the Word. But you have to receive the Word.** Oh, hallelujah. That's what sets it afire, brother. **When you receive it, the revelation, something slips out of the unseen world yonder, comes rolling down through a mystical channel somewhere into your soul, that says, "Now I see it."** Your eyes brighten; your lips that hung down, straighten up and smile. Every muscle in your body seems to rejoice. Something's going to happen. You don't need to be in a prayer line then. **You've got it then.**

If everybody in this building, at this time, would get **in that kind of an attitude, every person would be perfectly healed.** Now, how do we get people that way? Some can receive it. **Some cannot receive it. But those who can receive it, they look at it, and accept it, believe it.** Others, maybe in other meeting. **Now, that's one way of preaching it by the Word.** Another way is to, maybe, somebody speak with tongues, and they give an interpretation and reveal the secrets of their heart. Or maybe, there'd be someone was a prophet would stand, and do something in the supernatural that you'd look up and say, "Oh, there it is. There it is." **Then something happens to you.** But you set there and say, "Uhm, that's mental telepathy. Oh, I know, Dr. Jones said so." Brother, you're in a dangerous place. You're in a terrible place. You might say it's all punk, and so forth like that. But you'll answer at the day of judgment for it. That's right.

**And remember, when God is making His revelation, revealing Himself to His people...** Now, that's the benefit of the meetings (*I Cor. 12:7*). That's what God gave the gifts for, **was to magnify Him, and to unify the people,** and to bring the body together, and to help us to unite our efforts and our prayers (*I Cor. 12:4-31*). [14]

*"He that receiveth My Words, and believeth on Him that sent Me, has already passed from death to Life."* (*John 5:24*). But can you receive the Word, first? **Can you receive the Word, all the Word, all of Christ? Christ is the anointed Word. He is the Word, anointed** (*Luke 2:10-11*).

Christ means "the anointed One," **the anointed Word for that day, made manifest, the Saviour, the Redeemer.** That's when He was to come, and He was that anointed Person to take that place. [15]

**Jacob alone had the seed; that is why he had respect to the birthright and covenant of God. If you are true seed, you will hear that Word; the Spirit will baptize you into the body of Christ** (*I Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:27-29*), **filling you and empowering you, and you will receive the Word for your day and age. See how clear the true evidence becomes when the Word is revealed to you?** Again, note, **Jesus was the Royal Seed.** He lived in a human body. When the Spirit called to Him (**the Word-Manifested Thought**), He went to Jordan and was there baptized in water (*Matt. 3:13-17*). **Upon obeying the Word,** the Holy Spirit came upon Him and the voice said, "This is My beloved Son, hear ye Him." The voice did not say, "This has become My Son," Jesus was the Son. **The Holy Ghost positioned Him as that Son before them all** (*Matt. 17:1-8*). Then having been filled thus (and the same pattern holds at Pentecost and ever after), He

went in demonstrated power, **receiving the full revelation of God and from God, for that day.** [16]

The ground has to receive the wheat in order **to reproduce life. And you have to receive the Word of God in your heart to produce what the Word says it will be. Every Word of God is a Seed** (*Luke 8:11*). Jesus said it was. The sower went forth sowing seeds; He said the seed was the Word of God.

And now notice, **a corn will bring forth a corn, a wheat a wheat, a barley a barley.** Whatever it may be, it'll produce. **And if God's Word is a Seed, as Jesus said It was, and It's placed in the human heart, and there, watered by faith, It'll produce anything that God said in His Word that It would do.** It'll produce. If you need salvation, "*Come unto Me all ye that labor and heavy laden, I'll give you rest.*" (*Matt. 11:28-30*). **If you need healing, "He was wounded for your transgressions, with His stripes you were healed."** (*Isaiah 53:4-5*). God has provided the sacrifice for sin and sickness. And worry, and trouble, and sorrows, and all these things, **God has provided the Sacrifice.** He's here today. [17]

Today I was talking with my good friend, Doctor Lee Vayle, who is present now. And he's quite a theologian, and so we usually have some pretty good discussions on the Scripture. Very smart.

And he asked me one time what I thought about the initial evidence of the Holy Ghost, "Was it speaking in tongues?" It's been many years ago.

I said, "No; can't see that."

He said, "Neither do I," said, "though I've been taught that." He said, "What would you think would be an evidence?"

I said, "The most perfect evidence I can think of is love." And so we got to talking on that.

And then I thought that sounded pretty good so I just held that, "If a man has got love."

But one day the Lord, in a vision, straightened me out. And He said, that, **"The evidence of the Spirit was those who could receive the Word," neither love, nor speaking in tongues, but it's receiving the Word** (*I Thess. 1:4-6*).

And then Doctor Vayle was saying to me, that, "That is Scriptural," he said, "because, in John 14, Jesus said, '*When He the Holy Ghost is come upon you, He will reveal these things to you, that I've taught you, and will show you things to come.*'" (*John 14:26*).

**So there is the genuine evidence of the Holy Ghost!** He has never told me anything wrong yet. That, **"It is the evidence of the Holy Ghost, is he who can believe the Word."** **You can receive It** (*Acts 2:41*).

Cause, Jesus never said, "When the Holy Ghost is come, you'll speak with tongues." He never said, the Holy Ghost come, you'd do any of those things. But He said, **"He will take these things of Mine and show them to you, and will show you things that is to come."** (*John 16:13-14*). So there is the genuine evidence of the Holy Ghost, according to Jesus Himself.

[18]

Reference:

- [1] "Who Do You Say This Is" (64-1227), par. 218
- [2] "The Patriarch Abraham" (64-0207), par. 28
- [3] "Jehovah Jireh Part 2" (64-0403), par. 112
- [4] "Speak To The Rock" (53-0512), par. E5
- [5] "The Second Coming" (55-0220A), par. E24
- [6] "Perfect Faith" (63-0825E), par. 93
- [7] "The Token" (63-1128E), par. 189
- [8] "The End Time Sign Seed" (62-0319), par. E9-10
- [9] "Doctor Moses" (55-0114), par. E1
- [10] "Hear Ye Him" (60-0712), par. E55-56
- [11] "Hear Ye Him" (56-0930), par. E16
- [12] "God's Provided Place of Worship" (65-0425), par. 126
- [13] "The Future Home" (64-0802), par. 195-197
- [14] "God's Provided Way of Healing" (54-0719A), par. E27-30
- [15] "Three Kinds of Believers" (63-1124E), par. 305-306
- [16] "Smyrnaean Church Age", Church Age-Book pg. 154
- [17] "God's Provided Healing For This Generation" (54-0719E), par. E31
- [18] "Broken Cisterns" (64-0726E), par. 66-68

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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]*