

Until That Nature is Changed

II Cor. 5:17, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Don't you borderline with God. Don't you just be a good man or a good woman. You be filled with the Holy Ghost, baptized into the Body by the Holy Ghost (Gal. 3:27-28). Don't take no hearsay nothing about it. Stay there until you're dead (Col. 3:1-4), and your life is new in Christ (II Cor. 5:17), and your whole life is changed. Just don't take an emotion, a sensation, or some... Don't do that. Stay there until something actually happens that changes you completely.

[1]

Yes, you can accept it by faith; **you have to accept Christ by faith**; that's exactly right. And you accept the Holy Spirit by faith, **but then let the Holy Spirit come and give the circumcision as a witness that He's accepted your faith (Phil. 3:3).**

See, Abraham believed God and it was imputed to him for righteousness, and **God give him the sign of circumcision as a confirmation He'd accepted his faith (Rom. 4:9-12). So that's the same thing we must do. We must wait on the Holy Spirit till It's done something**, not necessarily 'cause we spoke in tongues, not because we have danced, or we got emotional, we shouted (*Matt. 7:21-23*); **until we were changed, until something actually happened. I don't care what form it comes in, just so it happened; that's the main thing.**

And I believe in speaking in tongues and all these other things are all right, **but just that in itself won't work, and you know it won't work.**

"Though I speak with tongue of men and angels and have not charity, it profit me nothing." (I Cor. 13:1-3). Though I could do it. See? **So those things don't mean that you have the Holy Spirit. But when He, the Person, the immortal Spirit of Christ becomes your personal Saviour, and changes you, and throws your views right straight into Calvary, to this Word, something's happened. Yes, sir. Something has happened.** No one will have to tell you about it; **you'll know it when it happens.** [2]

Could you imagine a pig, the pig will go to the pile of manure and he will eat; I don't blame him; he's a pig; that's what makes him do it. **But you'll never get a lamb to do that, because there's two natures.** The pig has one nature, and the lamb has another nature. And as long as you could keep that same nature in that pig, **no matter how you try to clean him up, he will be the same nature**, because he's a pig to begin with.

We take people and bring them in the church, make them members **when they've never become saved.** That's the reason today that such a mix-up is in the face of the people; they don't know which way to turn. **They see people professing Christianity and no different than the world. Is because a person has never come in contact or never been born again, never accepted the Lord Jesus, never**

believed on Him. They might have been worked up; they might have danced; they might have shouted, they might have spoken with tongues; they might have done all these things, **but never come to the Person, Christ Jesus, and actually been born again in their heart** (*1 Peter 1:22-23*). **These things die out; our nature is changed, and a new person is born** (*Eph. 4:20-24*). [3]

Now, not by keeping a code, not keeping creeds, not doing this: **not by good works are we saved but by His grace, His mercy** (*Eph. 2:8-9*). We're already bought. **The price is paid for** (*1 Peter 1:18-19*). **Nothing you can do about it.** You can no more save yourself than a leopard could cleanse his spots. All the washing and going through would just make them brighter. Yes, sir. **It's a work of God** (*Eph. 2:10*). **You never chose God and never did seek God** (*Rom. 3:9-12*). **God seeks you.** It's against human nature. [4]

See, that's just the nature of man. He wants his own way. And **God did not make man to desire his own way. God made man to depend on Him, to forsake his way to crucify his way. He likened us unto sheep. And the sheep is one animal that cannot find his own way. He must be led** (*John 10:1-15,25-30*). A little lamb can lose himself from the fold, and he's just totally lost. He just stands there and bleats.

And that's the way it is with the human being. **If he becomes a lamb, if his nature is changed, he depends wholly upon God and upon God's leading** (*Rom. 8:14*). But the earth man, when Adam realized that he had fallen from that estate, where God had him wholly depending on Him, **Adam quickly showed his second nature, his fallen nature.** And he wanted a way back, to be redeemed, but he wanted to do it his way and after his own thinking.

I trust that the church will understand this: **that we have no right to use our own thinking about things.** When we become Christians, **we totally surrender every bit of our mental powers to God and follow after His leading.** And as long as we try to go after our own feeling, then we are using **the fallen state of the being.**

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Christians, oh, **you must have a personal relationship to God.** In order to be a son of God, **you must become relation to God. He must be your Father, in order for you to be a son. And only His sons and daughters are saved,** not the members of a church, but sons and daughters (*John 1:12-13*). **There's only one thing that will produce that, that's the new Birth. The new Birth is the only thing that will produce relationship to God.** That right? Sons and daughters (*Rom. 8:15-17*).

Then when this takes place, then here's the question I want to get to you, "What do we do then after we been born again?" So many ask me that question. "What should I do then, Brother Branham?" **If you are born again, your entire nature is changed. You are dead to the things you once thought** (*Col. 3:1-4*).

"Well," you say, "When I joined church, I got that."

Well, then, when, God said, "*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever* (*Heb. 13:8*). He still heals the sick. He still shows vision."

"But, Brother Branham, my church!" Now, you're not born again. You can't be; for, **if the very God, if His Life is in you**, like you're in the life of your father. **And if the very Life of God is in you, the very Spirit that was in Christ, in you**, how can the Spirit live in Jesus Christ and write This, and then come back down in you and deny That? Can't do it. It'll punctuate every Word to be so. [6]

And you cannot make a man see the Word of God till his nature has been changed; and when his nature is changed from what he is, to a son of God, and the Holy Spirit comes into him. The Holy Spirit wrote the Word of God! (*II Tim. 3:16-17*). [7]

You know, I think, today, we bury too many live people. You bury people after they're dead. Is that right? Yes, sir. Listen, brother, **a dead man won't argue with you. You can say anything to him you want to, call him all kinds of names, he won't say a word. Why? He's dead** (*Rom. 6:1-11*).

And a man that's dead in Christ, you can offer him a drink, you can give him this, that, or the other, but he's dead (*Col. 3:1-3*). **And he's hidden in Christ, through God, sealed by the Holy Spirit** (*Eph. 1:13-14*). Amen. **That's it.** Now, then he can't do those things, because he just can't do it. **It's against his nature. He becomes a new creature** (*II Cor. 5:17*).

That's the only way to make a Christian: Let his nature be changed, from a sinner to a saint. See? **And there's only one remedy, that's the Holy Spirit** (*Acts 1:8*). Then you're a witness. Amen. [8]

A man that's born of the Spirit of God becomes a dove of God, his nature, his change, his makeup. Yes, sir. **You put the spirit of the dove** in the crow (*John 1:29-34*), he'd never set on a dead carcass. If he lit down by mistake, he'd certainly **get away quickly**. He couldn't stand it. And a man that's born of the Spirit of God, don't tolerate. He might light in a barroom sometime, but he'll get out of there quick. A woman might entice him, get him to turned around, but he'll turn his head again. **He'll get away from there quick. Why? He's a dove.** That's right. You ain't going to fool him, because that he knows. "My sheep **know My Voice, and a stranger they will not follow.**" (*John 10:1-16*). He's a dove, to begin with. There is what I'm speaking about, **the actual something that anchors in there.** [9]

A real, born again Christian cannot tolerate the things of the world. If you love the world or the things of the world... (*I John 2:15-17*). Now, I mean not by a law, saying, **"I know I shouldn't do that." That isn't it. It's God in you, changing your nature and desire.** Certainly. There's the difference.

Not while you're trying to impersonate that. If you are, you're still a crow. That's right. **You've got to get your nature changed to make your desires change. Then when you truly love God and believe Him with all your heart, that's it. When you do anything wrong, you feel the tears of repentance rolling down your cheeks.** You can't stand it. You have to go back. You lay on your face before the Father and say, "God, You know I didn't mean to do that." And you'll stay right there **until it's settled with God forever.** That's right.

But an old crow, it doesn't bother him. He can just eat anything he wants to. He can digest it. **But the dove cannot digest these things.**

Then notice and go back **to the lamb. Now, he's so meek and so gentle.** And the day that when a lamb comes into the earth, he's born meek and gentle. He's a lamb to begin with. **And when a Christian is born into the Kingdom, he takes the nature of the Lamb.**

Now, the lamb **can't take care of himself.** And a lamb cannot find his way around. **A lamb has to be led by the shepherd.**

And **how beautiful to see the dove leading the lamb to Calvary.** Amen.

A lamb is the kind of an animal that won't get back. I just wonder. A lamb is not fussy. A lamb is a forfeited animal. You take a lamb, he has wool on him. And that's his God-given rights. God give him the wool. That's his. But he's willing to lay upon a shearing block and have every bit of it sheared off of him. And he won't kick and fuss about it. Just lay him up there, and put the loops around his legs, and he just lays there, and you take from him everything that he has, that he forfeits it without murmuring about it. [10]

Now, holy God could not condone sin, so nothing could touch the mountain where God was (*Heb. 12:18-29*).

Then God was made flesh and dwelt among us, in the form of Jesus Christ, His Son, His creation (*John 1:1-5,14*). Then that Son gave His life, and the Blood cell of God was broken, **that the Life might come out of the Blood, to us** (*John 19:31-34*).

Through that Blood we are cleansed (*Eph. 1:3-7*). And now our blood, our life (*Rom. 8:3-4*), which came by living through sexual desire, brought our life in the world. **The Blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us** (*I John 1:7*), **changes our nature, by sending upon us the Holy Spirit; then we become into the Divine nature of God, then we become a dwelling place for God** (*Eph. 2:19-22; II Peter 1:3-11*).

[11]

Notice, **He never changed His nature, only His form.** Hebrews 13:8, said, "*He's the same yesterday, today, and forever.*" So He did not change His nature when He come. He is always that Prophet, all down through the age, same thing: **the Word, the Word, the Word, the Word.** See? **He cannot change His nature, but He changed His form.** He just changed His mask. [12]

The Holy Spirit comes today in like manner to present God to man; but man wants to go to church. It drowns his thinking. He cannot fathom it. And we must learn that **God is not known by intellectual conception. God is known by the new birth** (*John 3:3-6*), **by the Holy Ghost, not by any other way. The Bible has plainly quoted us that, "No man can call Jesus the Christ, only by the Holy Ghost."** (*I Cor. 12:3*). And if you've never received the Holy Ghost, **you don't know that He is the Christ, for that's the only way He reveals Himself.**

You're not converted until you receive the Holy Ghost. The Bible said so. After Peter had both been saved and sanctified, give power to cast out unclean spirits (*Matt. 10:1-6*), and to preach the Gospel, Jesus plainly told him he was not

converted, **until he received the Holy Ghost.** And He said, "*After you're converted, then strengthen your brethren.*" (Luke 22:31-32). That was on the night of the betrayal, that he was not yet converted. **And no man is truly converted until he's been changed, and died to himself, and the Holy Spirit has control of that person.** They don't want to do it.

Now, the Holy Spirit will not misbehave itself in one person, and behave itself in another. **It'll make each person come into Its character, because it's a Spirit that leads you. It makes you subject to Its nature. You don't bring It subject to your nature; It makes you subject to Its nature. And the Holy Spirit makes you live and love to do it. Oh, how you love to give up the things of the world, when the Holy Spirit comes in.** How it cleanses you and washes you (*1 John 3:3*), and puts a desire in you to follow Him, and a thirst, and a hunger for more of it, just bathing yourself. **He brings realities.** [13]

Please explain the difference between the spirit and the soul.

The first thing you are a triune being, just like Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Father, Son, and Holy Ghost **are three titles going to one Person, which is Jesus Christ.** And you're soul, body, and spirit. But it takes those three to make you. **With just one of them, you're not you.** It takes the three to make you.

Like I said the other day, "This is my hand; this is my finger; this is my nose; these are my eyes; **but who's me?**" Who is me that this belongs to? **It's what's on the inside of me; that's the intelligence.**

If this eyes, if this hands, if this body stood here just as it is today, yet I could... My body could be here, but me could be gone, what I am. Whoever I am inside of me has gone on. That's the part that is the spirit. **The soul is the nature of that spirit, that when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, It does not do nothing... It changes or converts your spirit to a different soul. And that soul is a different nature that's on that spirit. So the soul is the nature of your spirit.**

First you were mean, and evil, and hatred, and malice, and strife; **now you're loving, sweet, kind...** See the difference? **It's your nature.** I'll call it that. It's your soul that's been changed. **The old soul died (Ezek. 18:20), and the new soul which is the new nature was born into you.**

Your brain is not your intelligence; **it's your spirit that's in you is your intelligence.** Your brain is a bunch of matter and cells and so forth; it has no intelligence in itself. If it did, then as long as it laid there, whether you were dead or alive, it would still operate. But it's not your brain; **it is your spirit inside of you.** And **your soul is the nature of that spirit.** That's the soul of the spirit **that controls the body (James 3:1-8).** See? There you are. [14]

The body is the flesh that you look at that must rot. It was born by sexual desire of father and mother. It must rot. **It's no good (Rom. 3:10-12).** Therefore in the new birth, in the resurrection **when you're brought forth again in a new body,** it'll be God's **creative power** that'll speak like He did to Adam and you'll come forth.

Now, the body is what you look at, **the spirit is what controls you, your soul is the motive of that spirit, or the nature of that spirit.** "The soul that sinneth,

that soul shall die.” (*Ezek. 18:20*). You’re born in the world with a sinful soul. That is, **the nature of your spirit is sinful**. You long for the things of the world. Then **the Holy Ghost comes down and baptizes you and changes the nature of that spirit. Then the nature that’s left on you is of Heaven**. Then you profess that you are a pilgrim and stranger. **Then you are born from above. You’re from above, you’re a candidate of Heaven, you’re a new creature in Christ Jesus**, with the same body, with the same spirit, **only it’s changed**. And you are, or, **your nature of that spirit is changed from unrighteousness to righteousness**. That’s soul, body, and spirit. [15]

The soul of man is not the body of man, it's the soul. See? **And the soul is something that's the nature of the spirit**. And then when the nature of a man... When he said, "We are dead," the Scripture plainly tells us that, "we are dead, and our lives are hidden in God through Christ, sealed there by the Holy Spirit." (*Col. 3:1-4*). **It wasn't that your body died; it wasn't your spirit died. It was the nature of your spirit died**; the nature, which is the soul. The nature of your soul is God, if you're born again (*I Peter 1:22-23*). If it's not, it's of the world. Anything that begin has to end, so therefore the only way that you can have Eternal Life is to have **a Life that never did begin**. And then your life did begin when you were born, when God breathed the breath of life into your nostrils and you became a living soul, then you begin then (*Gen. 2:7*).

But, that soul that's in there, see, that soul is what God is working on. **If He can only get that nature, that spirit, to agree with Him, then that nature dies, the nature and the love of the world dies, and the things of the world are dead**. Because, "If you love the world, or the things of the world, the love of God is not in you." (*I John 2:15-17*). **A man must be born again. So, this nature has to die, and the nature of God comes and lives in you** (*I Peter 1:22-23*). God is the only thing there is that never did begin or never can end.

So, therefore, He has partnershiped, you see, and taken this man, earthly, and this Eternal Spirit, and put it together. Because, God reflected Himself back in that, that He become a Man when He become Christ Jesus, and He was God. **God was in Christ** (*Col. 2:9-10*); **that, see, lived in Him, reconciling the world to Himself** (*II Cor. 5:18*). And, through that perfect Man, each one of us imperfect that believe in God and has accepted That, **become the perfection of Him**. [16]

Reference:

[1] "Investments" (62-1124B), par. 27 / [2] "The Fourth Seal" (63-0321), par. 76-78,81 / [3] "At Kadesh-Barnea" (56-0527), par. 32 / [4] "Abraham" (56-1208), par. 16 / [5] "All The Days Of Our Life" (59-0612), par. 14-15 / [6] "Is Your Life Worthy Of The Gospel" (63-0630E), par. 138-140 / [7] "Broken Cisterns" (64-0726E), par. 65 / [8] "Witnesses" (53-0405E), par. 101-106 / [9] "Hebrews Ch. 6 Pt. 3" (57-0915M), par. 606 / [10] "God Making His Promise" (56-1209A), par. 37-40 / [11] "Stature Of A Perfect Man" (62-10-14M), par. 72-74 / [12] "Unveiling Of God" (64-0614M), par. 89 / [13] "The Unfailing Realities Of The Living God" (60-0626), par. 74-76 / [14] "Questions & Answers" (61-1015M), par. 157-160 / [15] "Questions & Answers" (59-0628E), par. 172 / [16] "Souls That Are In Prison Now" (63-1110M), par.36-44

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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]