

With the Spirit of Meekness, Receive Christ, the Word !

James 1:19-21, "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls."

The most innocent thing that we have, I suppose, would be the lamb. **When God wanted to identify Jesus Christ, He identified Him as a Lamb (Matt. 3:13-17). And when He wanted to identify Himself, He identified Himself as a bird, a Dove.** And the dove is the most innocent and cleanest of all the bird life, and the lamb is the most innocent and pure of all the animal life.

Jesus was baptized by John, and the Bible said, "And he saw the Spirit of God, **like a dove**, coming down upon Him." (*John 1:29-34*). Therefore if it would have been a wolf, or if it had been any other animal, the nature of the dove could not have blended with the nature of the wolf, neither could the nature of the dove blended with any other animal but the lamb. **And those two natures came together, then they could agree with each other.**

Now do you see predestination? It was a lamb when it come there. It was born a lamb. It was raised up, a lamb.

And, therefore, that's the only kind of a true Spirit that can receive the Word, that can receive Christ. Rest of them will try, they tried to get It, and put the Spirit of God upon a wolf, see, angered, ill, mean. It won't stay there. The Holy Spirit just flies right away. It will not do it.

What if that Dove had come down, and, instead of It being a Lamb, there would have been some other animal? It would quickly have taken Its flight and went back. See? **But when He found that nature that He could blend into, It just become One.**

And then **the Dove led the Lamb**, and, notice, It led the Lamb to slaughter (*Isaiah 53:7*). Now, **the Lamb was obedient to the Dove (Phil. 2:5-11)**. No matter where It led It, It was willing to go.

I wonder, today, when God leads us to a life **of complete surrender and service to Him (Rom. 8:36-37)**. I wonder if our spirits then sometime

don't rebel, kind of showing that, wonder if we are lambs? **A lamb is obedient.**

A lamb is self-sacrificial. It doesn't take, claim its own. Can lay it right down and shear the wool off of it. That's the only thing it's got. It never says anything about it; just sacrifices everything it's got. **That's a lamb. It gives everything away, itself and all it is.**

And that's the way a real Christian is, self-sacrifice themselves, caring nothing for this world, but giving all they got to God. [1]

A lamb is so gentle that it can be led. And that's the reason that God represented Christ as the Lamb and Himself as the Dove. And on the day that John baptized Jesus at the river of Jordan, one of the greatest events that had ever taken place, taken place right there. Notice, how beautiful! **The Lamb, the meekest of all the creatures of the earth, and the Dove, the meekest of all the fowls of heaven, now, that's the only way that they could ever be united. It's the only way that the Dove would ever come on the Lamb.** Now, when the Dove came down, John saw Jesus, and he said, "*Behold the Lamb of God, that take away the sins of the world*" (John 1:29-33). And John said, "*I bare record, seeing the Spirit of God like a Dove coming down, and abiding on Him.*" Hallelujah! There you are. **The Dove and the Lamb united together. That's when God and Man became one. That's when heaven and earth embraced each other.** Hallelujah! That's when God was made flesh, brought it (I Tim. 3:16); that's when **God came down from the Spirit form and was made a Man and dwelt among us.** That's when all eternity embraced each other. That's when the human fallen race of Adam's people and Jehovah God and every angel come together, **when God and man was made one** on that great memorial day when John baptized Jesus. Now, what if they would've been a wolf? [2]

When the day that John baptized **Jesus, the Lamb,** John said, "**There comes the meekness of God.** *Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.*" (John 1:29). And when John baptized Him and He went out of the water, God, the Holy Spirit in the form of a Dove, come down on Him and abode in Him, Amen, abode in Him.

That was the greatest event this world has ever seen and will see, **until Christ and the church has united together again. That is when God and Man became One.** Heaven and earth embraced each other, and kissed each other, and settled the sin question forever (II Cor. 5:17-19) is when the **Dove and the Lamb** united together. **When the greatest reconciliation that was ever made, is when God and Christ united as**

One. And friend, let me tell you something: **We are God's lambs.** He likened us unto His sheep (*John 10:1-30*). [3]

John saw a young Man coming. **He saw that Pillar of Fire, in the form of a Dove,** coming down from Heaven; a Voice, saying, "*This is My beloved Son, in Whom I'm pleased to dwell in.*" John said, "**I bear record that He that told me in the wilderness,**" not at the seminary, "in the wilderness, said, '*Upon Whom thou shall see the Spirit descending, and remaining on,*' amen, '**He is the One that'll baptize with the Holy Ghost and Fire.**'" (*John 1:33*). And I bear record that it's the Truth." (*Matt. 3:11-12*).

What was it? That prophet was a sign that Messiah was ready to speak. What was the Messiah? **The Messiah was the Word, in full. He was the fullness of God** (*Col. 2:9-10*). The prophets were a little flickering Light. But in Him was all that Light, was in this Messiah, **for He was the manifested God, made Emmanuel,** God among us in human flesh (*Matt. 1:22-25*). [4]

The Father didn't dwell in Him at that time; because He come on the day when He baptized Him. [5] Spiritually speaking, when the Holy Spirit come upon Him at the baptism of John, **and He become the Anointed Messiah...** Now, remember, He was the Son of God when He was born. He was God's virgin-born Son (*John 1:16-18; Isaiah 7:14*). **But when He become Messiah, that's when the Holy Spirit come on Him,** 'cause the "Messiah" means the "anointed one." See? And He was the Anointed One when the Holy Spirit came on Him (*John 1:40-42*). [6]

And I thought of how God and the Dove – the dove is such a loving bird – **God, wanting to make love with His human beings... God wants to be loved.** God wants to love you. "*God so loved the world, He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but to have Everlasting Life*" (*John 3:16*). Blessed be the Lord! Then God, wanting to make love, He had to make something lovable. He had to make something gentle like Himself. **He had to make something of His Own nature.**

You couldn't love nothing that wasn't of your own nature. Loving has to unite with love. A husband and wife have to love one another, if they ever make the grade. Family has to love one another, if they ever make the grade. You search everywhere, find a girl to be your wife that you love. She searches, finding a husband that she could love.

And God searches, trying to find a soul that He can love. So He represented Himself here on earth as a gentle Dove and a gentle Lamb.

How gentle He was to always not to try to do Himself, not to try to be self-sufficient. He said, "I do nothing until the Father shows Me first, and the Father dwells in Me" (*John 5:19*).

Now, another thing the lamb is, **the lamb is willing to submit its rights**. Now, God wants us to be lambs, but there's so many times that we don't want to submit our rights, forfeit our rights. So many of you say, "Well, I've got rights, Brother Branham." That's true, but are you willing to forfeit your rights? **Are you willing to give your rights that God could lead you?** That's what's the matter with our churches today in the great majority. **We are supposed to be lambs;** we have become everything else but lambs. **And that's the reason, as soon as we get that attitude, the Dove of the Holy Spirit takes Her flight and leaves.** If the Lamb of God would've made the first snarl like a wolf, or would've done **anything contrary to what the gentle Dove would've permitted, the Dove would've took Her flight.** She'd have left in a minute.

And that's the reason today that we're wondering what's the matter with the Pentecostal church. It's because **we have taken on a different nature. We've taken on a nature that, "We want our rights. We're going to do what we know that's right to do." And we become arrogant.** We become hostile. We become indifferent. We let temper come in. We let selfishness come in.

A lamb owns his own wool; that's his right. They take the lamb and throw him up on the blocks, and tie his feet down. He never kicks; he never fusses. You just take his rights right away from him, because he's a lamb. **He can't do nothing else, because that's his nature. But one time cross a Christian's path, you'll find out whether he's a lamb or a goat.** You'll find out what he is; cross him up one time. **And that's the reason today that our churches are in the condition they are.**

You haven't got no right. You are bought with a price, that was **the price of the precious Blood of the Son of God** (*I Peter 1:17-21*). You have no legal right. Hallelujah. The only rights you have, is, come to the Fountain filled with Blood drawn from Immanuel's Vein, when sinners plunged beneath the flood lose all their guilty stain. Yes, sir. **That's the only right you have, is a surrendered self-will to God, and then God does the leading from then on** (*Psalms 78:14*).

That's what causes so many strange things. The Holy Spirit said, "This is not right. Stop the meeting; move yonder." I stop it too, brother, move right on. That's right, because you've got to be led by the Spirit of God. **And the only way to be led by the Spirit of God is keep gentle, not to know a whole lot** (*Psalms 25:8-9*).

Oh, you think, "I know a whole lot." Yeah, you get your brain all worked up and it can't even work itself. **You know all the books, and all the answers, and all the Greek and all the Hebrew, till it ain't got no place for the Dove to roost.** That's right. **But you know it all; then the Dove can't lead, 'cause you know too much** (*Eccl. 3:5-8*).

The lamb doesn't claim to know nothing. It's got to have somebody else to lead it. Glory. That's it. Don't know nothing! Amen. **The only thing I know is Christ Jesus died to save me.** [2]

How beautiful it's typed here as Jesus being the Lamb, and God being the Dove. And the dove would not have settled on a wolf, his nature's not right. It couldn't settled on a dog, his nature's not right. **It had to be on a lamb; the two natures had to be the same.** And that's the way we have to be, **our natures have to change from the roaring sinner to the meekness of a lamb.**

And did you notice the Dove led the Lamb? And notice, the Lamb forfeit everything He had to the Dove. And look where the Dove led Him: to crucifixion for the sins of us all (*II Cor. 5:21; Col. 1:19-20*).

Now, God wanted to represent His Son, He was represented by the most cleanest and meekest animal on the earth, an earthbound creature; but when God represented Himself in the heavens, was by the meekest and most cleanest bird there is in the heavens, **a dove.**

Now, the dove is a very odd constructed bird, because of his habits that he cannot eat anything that's unclean; he just couldn't do it, because he's not built for it.

Now, I've always talked about the dove being the symbol of God, and the crow being the symbol of a hypocrite. A crow can set out on an old dead carcass and eat, all day long, and fly right out in the field and eat wheat with the dove. But the dove can eat wheat all right, but it can't eat the dead carcass. See? He just can't do it, he can't stomach it. **And I wondered why he couldn't do it;** they're both fowls, both birds. But why? **It's the structure of them.**

And that's the way it is with a genuine Christian. Just a denominational Christian can just take anything, **but a genuine, born-again Christian cannot take the things of the world. He's constructed different** (*II Cor. 5:17*).

I found out that the dove doesn't have any gall. There's no gall in a dove because he has no need of it.

So that's the way it is with **a Christian, he doesn't need any bitterness, 'cause he only can eat the food of God** (*John 6:32-33,41-58*). And it doesn't take bitterness to dissolve that; **takes love to dissolve the**

food. Bitterness: they differ with It. But love always receives It, the Word of God.

Now, he has no gall, it's just against him to eat anything bad. And if he would, it would kill him. But there's no danger, **he isn't going to eat it, because he has no appetite for it.**

And that's the way with a real Christian. Did you know a real Christian doesn't have even any sin at all imputed to him? David said, *"Blessed is the man who God will not impute sin to"* (Psalm 32:1-2). When you're washed in the Blood of the Lamb (not by make-belief, but really the Blood of the Lamb), God does not impute to you anything that's done (Rom. 5:9; Rom. 3:23-26), **because you're under the Blood and He doesn't see it** (Rom. 4:6-8). **There's a Blood sacrifice; the only thing He can see you in, is the way He saw you before the foundation of the world when He put your name in the Lamb's Book of Life** (Rev. 13:8). That's all He can look at, because you are redeemed from everything that was ever done, **you're washed in the Blood of the Lamb.** Therefore there's no gall in you, **there's no unclean habit in you,** because that the Blood of the Lamb has did this; and God cannot impute sin to you **after you've got a sin-offering laying there waiting for you.**

"Well," you say, "that gives me plenty of room then, Brother Branham, I can do what I want to." **I always do; always. But when a man can really see what Jesus has done for him, and turns around and does something contrary to Him, it shows he never received Christ.** [7]

In Revelation 5:5-6 *"one of the elders said unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. And, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb..."*

"A Lamb." Why didn't he see the Lamb before? **The Lamb had been seated on the Father's Throne, inside the guards.** John could not see into there, he has only seen those four beasts standing there, or those four Cherubims standing there guarding the Holy Place. He has seen that but he could not see what was beyond that. And in there, all at once, there appeared... just mysteriously, suddenly, **there was One, a Lamb.**

Now, to show **It was not a natural beast, lamb, because It took the Book out of the right hand of Him that sat upon the Throne** (Rev. 5:5-7); the lamb couldn't do that. He was a Lamb, **was Christ.** In other words, **His attributes He was meek and gentle like a lamb.**

Now, notice, **it was a Lamb Redeemer,** a Lamb Redeemer just like the first. God never can change! Amen! **The first redeemer was a lamb, in the garden of Eden, it was a lamb that God offered** (Gen. 3:21). And

here it is again, plumb over in Revelation, **it's again a Lamb**. To redeem what? The fallen condition and the fallen inheritance of a fallen race of people. **A Lamb comes back to redeem**, like ours was at the beginning, to redeem us.

To redeem what? What's He going to redeem us about? **Anything that's redeemed is something that's been lost**. It's something that's been lost **and then it's been brought back again**. What does He bring back to us, this Lamb? **Everything we had at the beginning**.

What did we have at the beginning? Eternal Life. We were heirs of the world. We had Life, we never had to die. We never had to be sick. We never had to get old. We never had any wearies. There were no funerals, no graves, no evil, no death, no gray hairs, no stooped shoulders, no mourning, no crying. We had Life Eternal! We had the jurisdiction over all the earth. We were just a god on the earth, and walked about. And if this tree didn't look right standing here, we'd say, "Be thou plucked up and set over here," and it would do it. The winds were blowing and we didn't want the winds to blow, "Peace, be still," and it did it. And what did He come to do? **To redeem all that back to us again, get all that back again**.

And now nature in itself is groaning, waiting for **the manifestation of the sons of God; for the sons of God to be manifested**. [8]

Like in the Book here, and the spot there we were talking **about the two Books being One, the Book of Life. The first Book of life coming up, was when you were born, that was your natural birth**. But then one time, way back down in there, there's a little grain of Life laying there, that you wonder, "Where did It come from? What these strange things?"

I was saying this, taking for myself, like you was going to say, "William Branham, well, forty years ago, the William Branham, it isn't the same one tonight." If somebody back there would say, "William Branham, he was a rank rascal," see, because I was born of Charles and Ella Branham. In their nature I was a sinner, I came to the world, a liar, and all the habits of the world laid right in me. **But down in there, too, was another nature present, predestinated, was in there by God. In this same body, see, two natures in there**. [9]

And as long as you're in this life, you're going to be sticky and have a carnal nature that's going to bother you as long as you live; but the inside of you, you're born again (*I Peter 1:23*). And when you're raised up, you're in the likeness of Christ and all the sin is gone from you. See? That's the thing.

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.** When you're born again, 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." (*II Cor. 5:1*). See? **That's it, the spiritual body of the people.** [10]

I pray that You'll help our dear pastor, Brother Neville. Make him, Lord, full of grace and full of power and with understanding **that he might take this stored food and feed the lambs of God** (*John 21:15-17*). Lord, I pray that **You'll keep sickness away from us.** May it come to pass that when people become sick that they'll remember the present and all-sufficient Blood of the Lord Jesus lays on the altar to make an atonement. And I pray that they'll be healed immediately. **And I pray that You'll keep the power of Satan away from them to discourage them** or to try to make them make cults or... Just keep all the powers of the enemy away, Lord. **Sanctify us to Thy Word** (*Heb. 13:12*). Grant it, Lord. [11]

Reference:

- [1] "Token" (63-0901M), par. 58-66
- [2] "The Church and its Condition" (56-0805), par. 33, 36-44, 97-99
- [3] "God Making His Promise" (56-1209A), par. 40-41
- [4] "The Voice of the Sign" (64-0313), par. 99-102
- [5] "Paradox" (64-0206B), par. 282
- [6] "Possessing the Enemy's Gates" (59-1108), par. 79
- [7] "On the Wings of a Snow-White Dove" (65-1128E), par. 40-51
- [8] "Revelation Chapter 5, Part 2" (61-0618), par. 88-94
- [9] "Communion" (65-1212), par. 44-45
- [10] "Questions & Answers" (64-0830E), par. 31, 58
- [11] "The Seventh Seal" (63-0324E), par. 370

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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]