

19601007 R2R03 (1)

Study number R2R3. The following message, titled, The Seven Great Ifs, was given Friday evening, October 7th, 1960. We want to praise God for victory.

How many of you praise God for victory tonight? We're serving a victorious Jesus. Hallelujah to God that went down into hell and death and has come up with the keys and nothing can stand before Him. Isn't that right? Praise God.

Hallelujah. Now, just for a little while, I would like to look at the subject with you, The Seven Great Ifs, in the New Testament. You know this way that we go and this way that we take and this Jesus that we serve, there's some ifs that are attached to it.

I find so many folk, beloved, in the days in which we live, that they want to pass over the little ifs and they want to get the inheritance and they want to get the blessing and they want to get the growth without meeting the condition. But God has attached some conditions to be met in this way. And if we meet the condition, we get the blessing.

And if we meet the condition, we get the spiritual growth. And if we meet the condition, we get the spiritual knowledge. If we meet the condition, we get the power.

If we meet the condition, we get our healing. Glory to God. Hallelujah.

Oh, I tell you, we serve a real wonderful God. And His name is Jesus. I'm the Messiah, that's right.

Hallelujah. Let's go to the 17th chapter, I believe it is, of Matthew. And, beloved, we see the first if that touches the very foundation of our building.

It touches our faith. It touches our faith. And surely faith is the foundation of your spiritual building tonight.

If you have a spiritual building, it's built on faith. If you have healing tonight, it's built on faith. The battlefield without faith, it is impossible to please God.

Everything you get from God must be built upon faith. Amen. Oh, wonderful Savior.

And we read here, listen to me, of an account where that even though that Jesus had committed unto His disciples a special impartation and portion of power, and we had read here where they had done great and mighty and wonderful things, there comes a case before them that is too hard for them. And too difficult. And, beloved, I don't know how you feel, but I realize my need before God constantly to go on.

We are in a day where there's so much self-righteousness ensued to God. And they spend all

their time looking backwards to the few treasures that they've gained from God. It's wonderful to look backwards once in a while and take stock and keep books and give Thanksgiving a fresh new for what God's done for you back there.

How He's brought you out of the horrible pit. How He's washed your soul in His precious blood. How He's baptized you as a holy ghost.

How He's brought you into the light of His precious name. It's wonderful to look back and give thanks. But, beloved, if you don't look ahead and ask God to increase your vision, if you keep on looking back, you're going to get so proud and so heady and so high-minded and so puffed up that after a while, you're just standing looking backwards and you think you're looking forward.

But, beloved, listen, our goal is the measure of the stature of the Lord Jesus Christ. That is the pride that Paul talked about in Philippians. The Apostle Paul, who suffered so much for His name, who counted all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus his Lord, and counted them but dumb that He might win Christ.

Hallelujah. And be found in Him, as Paul said, not having His own righteousness, but that which is through the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ. But He said that I may know Him.

There's your stature. If you don't know what the stature of His fullness is, Paul found out He'd already been saved. He'd already been baptized in His name.

He'd already been baptized in the Holy Ghost. He'd already walked with the Lord for a long time. And yet we find He's found out in the third chapter of Philippians that I may know Him.

May know Him. And that's where it's at. Oh, and I think that it's like a husband and a wife.

Because that's the first thing you want to run away from, is suffering. The flesh does not like to suffer. The flesh don't like for people to make fun of you.

The flesh don't like for people to say you're crazy. The flesh don't like for people to say you've gone off of your rocker. You've gone off of the deep end.

The flesh doesn't like any fellowship of his suffering. What was his suffering? The flesh don't like to stand alone. When your neighbors are forsaking you.

When your friends are forsaking you. When it seems like even your mother and your father are forsaking you. Even when your pastors are forsaking you.

It seems like when you're all alone, what do you do? Most of the time you weep and cry and feel sorry for yourself. And holler, Jesus, why has this happened to me? And we're so blind that we can't see that he's trying to teach us of the fellowship of his suffering. Oh, that you might eat of him.

Eat of him. Because, beloved, he suffered. And he walked alone.

Hallelujah. Everybody turned their back upon him. They mocked him.

They scoffed at him. They didn't want to have anything to do with him. They said he was mad that he had a devil.

But he was still the blessed sweet book of Moses. Godless Lamb of God. He was still my sweet Jesus and my sweet Savior.

Regardless of what they said about him. The fellowship of his suffering. I could preach all night long.

I could preach the rest of the week every night. And not exhaust the revelation. And experience, even in my own heart, let alone in the word of God, concerning the fellowship of his suffering.

Sometimes God brings suffering to your home. Sometimes children of God will let there come a rift, as it were, between husband and wife. But for the time being, just to let you see how much that Jesus Christ means to you.

Because when he needs to have a place for you, you can be less pained and alone than you can feel. Straight from the bottom of your heart. He's all I need.

Amen. Hallelujah. Amen.

Hallelujah. But we find, beloved, most of the times when we get in suffering, that he is not all that we need. Or at least we think he's not.

And we want the sympathy. We want that understanding. We want this.

We want that from people around the battle. Isn't that true, huh? That you may know him and the fellowship of his suffering. Being made conformable unto his death.

Being made conformable. How are you going to be made conformable? Beloved, Paul had the secret. He said, I die daily.

Oh, praise God. I'm going to let the sharp, two-edged sword of the word of God keep cutting out of my soul and my heart and my life. Those things that are unlike Jesus are nailed to the cross.

Until the stature of my flesh is hanging right there in conformity with his upon the cross of Calvary. Oh, hallelujah. And then up at the top of the cross, the last part, he said, and the power of his resurrection.

I find most folk want the power of the resurrection first. But, children, it don't come first. It comes after.

Suffering and after crucifixion and death. Amen. Hallelujah.

Now, I don't know how I got off on that, but the Lord sent somebody a message right then. Praise God. We find, beloved, that the disciples were powerless here.

They could not cast this demon out. Praise God. As I started to say a while ago, I'm conscious of my need.

And I cry daily to the Lord for more power. Yes, I have seen God do miracles in our life and in our ministry. But I want to see more of it.

I want to see more of his power. I've seen God raise the dead twice. I may never see it again, but I've seen it twice in my life.

I've seen God do great and mighty things. But then there are other times, beloved, when people come and stand before us and you feel so powerless. And you feel so helpless.

And you feel kind of like these disciples felt here when they couldn't cast out this demon. And so I cry unto the Lord daily for Him to increase His resurrection power. And, beloved, I know the price for resurrection power.

It's for Sister Hicks to die daily and to suffer daily with Him. And then I'll be brought up daily in greater resurrection and power. Amen.

Oh, my. I had the Lord say to me the other night when I was crying to Him for greater power in the ministry. And then He asked me.

He said, Do you really want it? Yes. Do you really want it? You know, sometimes, beloved, there's a side of our pride. Did you know that? Our spiritual pride that wants more power.

We'd like to have it so we can just use it until we get tired. So that everybody can see how much we've got of God and how big and wonderful we are. And God took me back to that time when we were in that big revival in Mexico in that big church there.

And we prayed all night long, ministered all night long. Started at 8 o'clock at night and going right around the clock until 8 o'clock the next morning. That's no far-fetched tale.

Some of you have heard Sister Graciela bear witness because she stood by my side and interpreted for me as we worked in that great meeting. And saw God do miracles and saw God pour out His power. And I got so tired in those meetings.

You don't know how it's like to pour out until there's nothing left, until you feel like you're a wrung-out sponge. There's not one drop of life left in you. And I used to get so tired when the little ones would come up.

I mean the people. And they would call me Irmana. That means sister.

And they'd say, Irmana Hicks. And then they'd start telling me what they wanted. Whether it was the Holy Ghost or whatever it was.

Whether it was healing for their bodies. And I got so tired. My body got so tired.

Have you ever been that tired? That your flesh was that tired and it didn't want to be offered anymore. It didn't want the fellowship of His brethren anymore. But Jesus wasn't like that when He hung upon the Calvary's cross.

But I mean that He poured out every drop of His blood. And He never wanted to flat-fire them. Even the very ones that were tried and had driven in the natives.

He just cried out, Father forgive them. They know not what they do to you. You get under pressure and you'll find out what's inside of you.

Yes, we'd like to have the power. If I found out it wasn't any bigger brother Ramson than the back door. And we didn't have to work any later than 1 or 2 o'clock.

And it didn't cost us too much. The Lord asked us, do you want the power? And it set me back up on my feet before God. And I said, Lord, I don't know whether I do or not.

I have to be honest. Then I thought a while and I prayed to God. And I surrendered to praise to the Lord.

And I said, Lord, yes, I do want it. I do want it, Lord. I do want to die inside.

I do want to get to the place where I can delight. In my life being poured out day and night. That's what God's preparing me for now.

That's the way my soul goes. Day and night, my soul is not my own. Tomorrow, folks driving in from Evansville and Owensboro and other places.

My house will be full tomorrow. It's not just my little church here. But it's the work all over.

That calls and drains. But I'm learning and I want you to pray for me. These folks here, they didn't have the power to deal with this demon.

And notice, they brought him unto Jesus. And notice in verse 20. That's the one that we want to talk about.

And Jesus said unto them, because of your unbelief, for barely I say unto you. And here's the first if that we want to talk about tonight. If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed.

You shall say unto this mountain, remove him to yonder place. And it shall remove. And nothing

shall be impossible unto you.

How be it, he said, unto Moshiah. He said, how be it, this kind. Go about my prayer and fasting.

What was he talking about? He wasn't only talking about that demon that was in that person. Beloved, that they couldn't cast out. But he was talking about that spirit of unbelief.

And they're all talking. Beloved, fasting and prayer should be for your own temple first. I've seen a lot of young ministers that they want to set the world on fire and turn it upside down.

It's like a lot of folk when their eyes get open to the precious crucified way and going on with Jesus. They have the same zeal. Lord, let's do this thing overnight.

Let's turn it upside down overnight. It doesn't work that way, children. And so they'll fast and pray because you know what they're trying to do? Listen, it's the spirit of silence.

They're trying to buy the power from God. But that is working in their own lives first. They're going to buy this power so they can go out and use it and show everybody how great they are.

They're not aware of that, but that's how it works. And then when it doesn't happen, they're brought face to face with reality. Then many of them give up, brethren.

And they never preach another sermon. But beloved, if you'll start on this temple here first. Fasting and prayer to get out the unbelief.

You won't have any trouble when you come up against the devil. Amen. Glory to God.

Hallelujah. Oh, when your motives are right. And your motive is only right when you do what you want by what you do.

Even in seeking God because you want to get closer than Him. Not because you want to be a big shot before other people. Bless God.

God, He said, if you have faith that the garden must be saved. That's the first if. That's the foundation.

It touches. It rocks. The very foundation.

Because everything you have, the foundation of it is faith. In the spiritual realm. Isn't He wonderful? Don't you love Him so? Praise God.

Hallelujah. Now I'm not preaching. I'm just going to teach to you.

Maybe. Let's go to Matthew, the 18th chapter. And let's see another if there.

Praise God. Let's start with the 15th verse. Because it all touches the same thing here.

He says, moreover, if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone. If he will hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

God has always believed in witnesses. It's always been three at the most. That's what God prefers.

He will accept two, but He prefers three. It was in the Old Testament. It's in the New Testament.

God Himself has divided Himself and revealed Himself in a threefold way as a witness unto man. 1 John said in the 5th chapter, he said there are three that by record are witnesses in heaven. The Father and the Word, which is the Lord Jesus, and the Spirit, the Holy Ghost.

And he said there are three that bear witness in the earth. There are three that bear witness of your salvation. What are they? The blood and the water and the spirit.

Amen. There's the threefold witness in your foundation of what's happened to you. Amen.

And so I've noticed here, and he said if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church. But if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee, as an heathen man, as a publican. That's strong language.

But you know something, beloved? So many churches are so scared to death of losing one or two members that they're scared to death to correct sin. Amen. Amen.

Praise the Lord. Praise God. And they still have to have the devil in the flesh to blind you.

If you correct sin and people don't mean business children, they're better off out of your midst. Amen. Then God's Spirit is free to work and to draw in.

Amen. There's a lot of people that don't come to God because of the lies that so-called believers and Christians are living in the church. Amen.

God help us. He said, Verily I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. What's he talking about? If you're obedient to deal with sin, then you'll have the binding power and the loosening power.

Yes. And he said again, I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. Amen.

What is this whole portion about? Agreeing. Yes. And why did you go to your brother when he's in the room? Why did you go to him when he's in sin? It's because you want him to agree to go

God's way.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

It's because of Jesus' nature and disposition and attitude. And when you get two people, you get Jesus' attitude and I get Jesus' attitude, saying we got power before God. Amen.

To bind and to loosen. I know some folks, they're trying to work this binding power and this loosening power in the flesh. And it doesn't work that way.

It doesn't work that way. But, beloved, there's a real agreement. There's a real agreement.

Yes, go unto God. And you know something? I imagine that a brother could testify to that. Do you know who the hardest people in the world there is to get to agree? Yes.

Who are they, brother? The ministers. The ministers. Yes.

All of them. You know why? Here's our beloved brother. We appreciate his ministry.

And our ministry. And bless this, I'm not just working to this every time he sticks his head in the door. Oh, you think I'm jealous of that? Well, I hope God knocks me right in the eyeball if I am.

Because I haven't lived on my face before Jesus and looked in the mirror of His Word and cried out for crucifixion of fleshly jealousy for nothing. But if I was jealous, you think I could agree with my brother when he goes to pray for the sick? You think God would have worked like He's worked you, brother Ramsher? No, sir. That's what, oh, glory be to God.

Well, hallelujah. Hallelujah. Amen.

Praise God. Some people might not understand. They might not like it, but I tell you, I sure get a blessing when God anoints brother to work.

To work. Yes. To walk.

Amen. Praise the Lord. To walk in the Spirit.

Hallelujah. And so if we can just get folk to agree, if we will agree, we can have anything. And we have seen God do that.

We're just poor people here, but you'd be amazed what God does for the missionary field through this little church. And we get down and we try to get in God's Spirit. Not that we're perfect.

Don't you misunderstand. And if our boast tonight is anything at all, it's in Jesus Christ. Because, beloved, I know where I was when Jesus found me.

Out in the nightclubs, playing in an all-girls dance orchestra, lost and undone, miserable and pale

and sad. Oh, sure, while I was beating that bass violin, of applause, there was a certain amount of satisfaction in the flesh, a certain amount of pleasure. But when I came home, and the hooray was all over with, my heart was like lead, and heavy as could be.

That's where I was when Jesus found me. And my eyes worked me over. He's got a long way to work yet, but if you just see what He's worked in me, you would be amazed.

Some of you knew me before God started working me over, so you can bear witness of what Jesus has done. But, beloved, if we can just get people to agree, and it isn't that you're going to agree in your mind that you want something, and I'll agree with my mind that God ought to give it to you. That is what He's talking about.

It's an agreement in the nature of Jesus Christ. When His love comes in your soul, and His love comes in my soul, then we can agree. When His humility comes in your soul, and His humility comes in my soul, then we can agree.

You see what He's talking about? Amen. Alright, let's go, beloved, to the 14th chapter of John, and verse 14, and learn about something else. If we can get faith, and if we can agree, and if we can do something else.

Praise God. Oh, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah. It's a further revelation of what we were just talking about, that matter of agreeing.

Let's look at it in John. Let's begin the 13th verse of the 14th chapter of John. And He says here, And whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

And if ye shall ask anything in My name, I will do it. I'm the most prideful. Glory to God.

He said, And if you'll ask anything in My name. But you know what it is, children? I'm going to show you a little secret here. There are two sides of it here.

There you are before the Lord came into your heart. And then when you accepted Jesus, you got a little baby heart there, in the image of the Lord. But sometimes we don't pray out of this heart here.

Sometimes our prayers arise out of this place up here. Do you believe that? And so we pray out of the place sometimes, and we say, Lord, do this, do this. Lord, I want this.

Oh God, grant this. Do this, do that. And then we put Jesus up here on top of it.

And we say, Now Jesus, I've asked it in Your name. No, you haven't. That's not what He's talking about.

That's not what He's talking about. Because beloved, when we ask out of this side of our nature,

it's always to please ourselves. It's always to consume it upon ourselves.

It's always for our own will, our own way. Did not James say over there, that you have not because you ask not. And then again, he said, you ask and you receive not because you ask amiss, that you might consume it upon your own flesh.

That's how we miss. And though we've tacked the name of Jesus on it, it don't work that way. Praise God.

But beloved, when we ask out of this new nature, praise God, and tack His name onto it. And He says you can have anything then. Glory to God.

Because everything back there, beloved, is like Him. You see that? It's like Him. And any desire that arises out of that heart is pure.

It's for God's glory. It's for His kingdom. It's for the edification of His saints.

And so He said, if you'll learn to ask in the right way. If you'll learn to ask in the right way. Praise God.

And then again, over here down in verse 15, praise God. He said, if you love Me, praise God. He said, keep My commandments.

Praise God. And again, He mentions that over there in verse 14, in the 15th chapter. And He says, ye are My friends if ye do whatsoever I command you.

If you love Me, you'll keep My commandments. If you keep My commandments, you'll be My friends. Praise God.

You know something? If you love Him, He'll take you as a bosom friend. He'll take you just like a husband takes his wife and shares with her all of his secrets, or he should, if there really was before the Lord. You should share things one together and not hide one from another.

You should share because God considers you one. Now then, remember back there how Abraham walked with the Lord? And God says, shall I hide from Abraham that which I'm going to do? No, He says, I'm not going to hide it from you. I'm not going to hide it from you.

Oh Beloved, when you love Him and you keep His commandments, He'll wake you up in the night hours. He'll wake you up in the early hours. He'll speak to you during the day.

And He'll reveal the secrets of touching His people and touching His kingdom. And it's an invitation to have a party. So He says, Abraham, come here.

I'm going to destroy that wicked city, those two wicked cities called Sodom and Gomorrah, because they're a stench in my nostrils anymore. That's the text of the words He said. He didn't

say those very words, but that's what He meant.

And Abraham had the privilege to plead for that city. So you say, what was the good of God letting Abraham plead for those cities when all the time God knew there wasn't enough righteous people left in it to save it? I wonder if you can give me the spiritual answer. Now what? God never does anything foolishly.

If you don't understand it, it's just because you don't understand it. But God never does anything foolish. You believe that? Are you serving a foolish God? I'm not.

He doesn't waste a job or a tittle in this Word. Even the job for the tittle in Hebrew has meaning. Did you know that? That's right.

Now why did He do that? Can you imagine? Why did God let Abraham plead for Sodom and Gomorrah when all the time God knew there wasn't enough people in it to save it, huh? Yes, of course, God was going to get Lot out anyway. He'd made provision. The angels were already on the way to get Lot out.

It gave Abraham a chance to grow through compassion and love. Children, let me tell you something. This is a good thing to learn.

Don't forget what I'm telling you tonight. Let me ask you this question. How many times have you labored with somebody and you've prayed and you've labored and you've prayed and then they didn't come through and that old spirit come over you? Well, what was the use? You wasted your time.

Let's see your hands. Be honest out there, huh? Huh? You didn't waste your time. You grew in that thing.

See what I mean? Every time you exercise, it's like exercising your muscles, like those boys that go down there to the Y. They lift these heavy weights and all of that. Every time they exercise, they develop a little more power. Every time you exercise love and compassion, you exercise a little more power and a little increase of growth inwardly.

Did you know that? And some people, dear hearts, that God puts before your pathway for your growth in the process of ministering to Him and not what you actually accomplish with that heart. And when you understand that, then you're never discouraged when the things don't work out like you thought it ought to work out. Oh, that's a... Listen, you might not shout over that tonight, but if you remember what I'm saying, you'll shout over that in the days to come.

One of your biggest enemies as you go on this way for God is discouragement. And we get discouraged because we don't understand what God is doing and what God is working. But Abraham had a wonderful opportunity to exercise compassion and intercession in the behalf of

those two wicked cities.

Amen. And Abraham grew. I wish I had time to go back to the life of Abraham now.

I'll show you how Abraham grew as a result of that. You always grow, listen, when you exercise compassion and love. And you always dwindle up and diminish when you exercise empathy and strife.

You just begin to swivel like a prune inside. If you're asking, my name. Whose name was Abraham asking? The flesh wouldn't intercede, would it like that? No, the flesh would say, that's just good enough for them.

That's just good enough for them. They've been so wicked and so forth, just let them have it, God. That's good enough for them.

But the Spirit of the Lord reaches out with compassion and says, Oh Lord. You know, sometimes I find the Spirit of God doing that in my own soul. Even though sometimes, beloved, I was going to speak on another subject which would include that Scripture over there in John.

Well, I believe it comes in tonight. Yes, it does. Yes, we'll get to that one later.

About those people, that sin of sin unto death. And he said, I say you shouldn't pray for that sin. That healing.

Did you know that? And I want to talk about the sin unto death. I wonder how many of you know what the sin unto death is. He's talking about literal death there.

Because the wages of sin is death. Anyway, but he's talking about going to a premature grave. I wonder if you know what that sin is.

How many of you have ever wondered about that sin, huh? You ever wondered about that sin? I'm going to talk about it in just a little bit if I hurry up here. Alright, praise the name of Jesus. Now, where are we? Which one are we on now? Number four.

Alright, let's go to that one. Oh yes, up here in John 15, 7. This is real precious. I want you to notice this.

Notice how many ifs are connected in this business of asking with God. I wish I had time now to preach on the 15th chapter of John. That's another one of my favorite chapters.

In verse 7, he says, If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask whatsoever ye will, and it shall be done unto you. We've been talking a lot about the Word today. If, he says, ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye can ask whatsoever ye will, and it shall be done.

Conditions all along the way. If you'll fast and pray, you can get rid of your unbelief. You see what

I mean? And the building of faith, the foundation of faith that can grow.

Praise God. Hallelujah. And if you'll get rid of disagreements and get rid of sin and come together as one, there's power in heaven and in earth for you.

And if, beloved, that you'll ask in His name, not ask out of your flesh. Get this crucified. Ask God to teach you to discern the difference between your own desires and that which originates out of the heart of God inside of you.

And if, he says, that you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye can ask whatsoever ye will, and it shall be done. How can the Word abide? It means to dwell, to live, and to stay. And the only way it can do that, is to be rooted.

The seed goes into the good ground and takes root downward and bears fruit upward. That's abiding. But some of the Word fell in stony ground.

But it didn't last very long. It didn't abide. Some of it fell in stony ground.

It didn't last very long. It didn't abide. What does it mean to abide? Take root downward and bear fruit upward.

Praise God. Hallelujah. Alright, let's hurry on here real quick.

And then number, where are we? Number five. Praise God. Yes, let's get that one.

And that's obedience. We had that one before in connection with the other one. Verse 14.

He said, If you do, if you love, and if you'll do. And beloved, if you love, then you'll do. Do you know the reason people are not doing more? Because they don't love more.

The Lord Jesus Christ. As you grow in love with Him, then comes the do into your heart. The do that thing which leads to Him.

And then on down, in the sixth, let's go over to 1 John. Praise God. 5.14. Praise God.

And He said, and this is the confidence. That we have in Him. If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

Notice the condition. Now that goes back and confirms again. If we ask God the will of our own flesh, He doesn't hear.

But if we ask according to His will, then beloved, don't you believe that we ought to pray more for the will of God to be revealed unto us before we ask? He said, and this is the confidence that we have in Him. That if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petition that we have desired of Him.

That's faith. If you ask Him according to His will, then you know that you've got it in your hands right now before it ever comes into reality. That's why I know I have that little blue card in my hands right tonight.

You said, still and wait. It'll be here. It'll be here.

Because I saw it. You say, did you really see it? Well, children, the saints of God have been seeing things in the Spirit from Genesis to Revelation ever since they've been serving God. But there's so many people that are so far behind they think they're in front.

And they never see anything and they think nobody else ever sees anything. How many of you, the Lord ever showed you something sometime or other, huh? Well, I'm glad I'm among friends. Praise God.

Beloved, it's real. It's real. Just like God showed me the orphan home for about, I don't know, three or four years before the Lord gave it to us.

The Lord has shown us the school in Mexico that hasn't come yet. But it'll be here in due season. Oh yes, we have a little school, Leavenworth Building.

But God has shown us a Bible school. And I know saints all over Mexico that are praying for a spiritual Bible school where they can get this Word just like here. Amen.

God showed us this little church. I could go down the line. That's just, that's our everyday experience in God.

It's God showing and God praying to pass. And you know, when God shows me and I wait for His will and He shows me just as clear as I'm looking at you and then I pray, then there's that faith present that puts it in my hands before it ever gets to my hands, really, in reality. You have that confidence.

You know. What is faith, beloved? Faith is knowing the faith before it ever is brought into reality. What is faith? Faith is that invisible power inwardly in us that reaches up into the invisible of God and brings it down into the visible.

Amen. Beloved, do you realize everything before you tonight was made out of the invisible by the Word of the Lord, even Jesus Christ Himself? Do you realize that bench that before it was a bench, it was a tree, and before it was a tree, my Jesus called it out of the invisible and inched it out of the very bowels of the Word, Himself? You understand that? So everything I want is in Jesus. You say, that's silly.

The Bible teaches it that in Him is everything. You believe that in Jesus is everything? Praise God, Hallelujah. Oh, praise the sweet Jesus.

I think I'll just be bound to fly down to Mexico when they get that little blue car and anoint it. Praise God. We do that.

Did you know that? Do you know why that old 47 Pontiac has ridden so long and been such a faithful old Indian? That's what they call it, El Indio, because of Indian on the Pontiac. You know why? Because we laid hands on it over here on Market Street in Louisville years ago. How many years old does that make it now? Huh? Brother Don says 14.

Right at 14 years old. How many of you are driving a car tonight that's 14 years old? Well, I can guarantee you one thing, son, that that car of yours hasn't begun to see what the old Indian has seen. I've ridden places in that thing in Mexico until I've been, if you won't know the truth, I was practically scared to death when we'd be up like this, you know, or down like this, or up like this.

Who knows what position. And over the roughest places, it's nobody but God. Do you know why it's ridden so long and been so sturdy? The anointing of God has been upon it.

Praise God. Hallelujah. Oh, I feel victory tonight.

Praise God. Hallelujah. Now then, let's go on down here real quick, and then I'll be through.

And he says here in verse 16, another if. Praise God. If.

There are lots of ifs. And, beloved, you know, if we get into God's pattern and God's plan and God's way, there is no disappointment to a person who's walking according to the mind and the will of God. You know where disappointment and discouragement come? When you walk according to your own will and way and it doesn't work out.

Now, sometimes we can pray and pray. I used to not understand this thing. It troubled me considerably.

And I'd have fits of despondency and discouragement in the spiritual and be almost ready to give up. Sometimes I'd go up to the bedside of a person sick and dying and the power of God would be present upon me and I couldn't understand why that that person wouldn't be healed and why they would go into eternity short of the days that God had promised them. But that was before God had revealed this word to me.

And he says here, If any man see his brother... Now, this is a situation concerning Christians. And we know that God has also said for, this thing even works for the sinner, but this verse was said particularly of a Christian. And we find a Paul saying over there in 1 Corinthians 11 chapter, he said, If we judge ourselves, we would not need be judged.

And he said, For this cause many are weak and sick and some even sleep. They've gone to premature graves. Because they haven't discerned the Lord's body.

What? That you can't come and eat of His flesh and His blood and go out and live like you want to live and get by with it. And if you don't judge Beloved, then God is going to judge you.