
THEN JESUS CAME



. . . and to the great Name of Thy anointed Child, the Lord Jesus Christ. We thank Thee for His Life, and for His grace that's shed abroad in our hearts, by the Holy Spirit.

2 If we would just stop, to count the many blessings that's given to us, it would be innumerable. We are grateful for our health, and for all the great blessings that money could not buy. Thou has richly, by Thy grace, bestowed them upon us. And we are a privileged people to know Thee.

3 And it's our hearts desire that those who do not know You, and not friendly with You, that they might become acquainted with You, and their sins be forgiven, and be friendly with You, Father. For You said, "I am meek and lowly. And the cross was easy and the burdens were light." And we just pray that You'll manifest that to each one tonight. If there would by chance be some here who doesn't know You, may they come tonight and receive You. Help the Christians as they're going on. Bless these songs, tonight, from the—the people that sing.

4 And help us in the coming revival. These five nights, Lord, we feel that would be Your will, that we might dedicate these nights to service, just before we celebrate the great resurrection; and the crucifixion, resurrection of our Lord.

5 Be with us now. Come to Thy Word, Lord, and minister to us, and may we have fellowship around the Word, by the Spirit of God. In Christ's Name we pray. Amen.

6 It is such a privilege to try to stand before one person, to talk about the Lord Jesus. And I have noticed, in my ministry, it just doesn't matter to God, whether there is a dozen, or there is thousands. He has the same Message all the time for the people, which is His grace.

7 Our subject tonight, starts back with one of the most beautiful settings of the Scripture. I think that all the Scripture is just perfect. There is no fault can be found with God's Word. It's just perfect. But, the text that we have under consideration, is one of the outstanding texts of the Scripture. It's one of the seals of His Messiahship.

8 You know, men can come to this earth, and can make all kinds of statements and all kinds of promises, but if they're not able to fulfill those promises, why, their promises doesn't do very good. But when a man comes and can make a promise, and then is able to fulfill that promise, that makes his word good.

9 And He was the only Man that's ever lived on the earth, that can make this statement, "I have power to lay My life down, and I have power to take it up again."

10 I've been privileged in my ministry, to stand by the grave of many great founders of religion, great founders such as Mohammed and many of the other outstanding religions of the world. But every one of them has a marked place where their founder died, and is buried, and lays there till this day.

11 And as yet, in the natural, I have never had the privilege to stand by that open tomb where Christ was laid, and the grave could not hold Him. For He was the One Who said, "I lay My life down; no man takes it from Me. I lay it down and I take it up again."

12 And it's the only religion in the world that can be proved to be correct, is the Christian religion. Our Lord, not only did He die for His people, but He rose again for their justification. And He's ascended on High, tonight, and sits on the Throne of God. And His Spirit lives in His Church, with His people, doing the very same things that He did when He was here on earth; carrying on His ministry.

13 And after this morning, the Holy Spirit so beautifully coming down and bathing us in His great beauty, I was just inspired to speak them words and say, that, some glorious day that all of the gifts that's in the church will just be set aside, on the mantel, as it was. And the Holy Spirit, Himself, will just take the Church in such a control, of Divine love, until the sick will be healed, the blind will see, the lame will walk, without being hands laid on them. It'll just be one great unity.

14 And when we stood this morning, in the age and the time that we are, and seen that man walk . . . or packed up here with his head bowed down between his knees, and with a spinal condition that had stooped him over like this, and drew him down. And while sitting there, begin to rock back-and-forth, in that back.

15 Then to see that man go back and sit down, after coming through the prayer line, and to know that he had made the statement, and said, for many years, he real hard of hearing in his ears, and to see the Lord Jesus open those ears so perfectly, till he could hear the lowest of whisper. Going back and sitting down and putting his hands over his ears and crying. A business man; a man who had drove hundreds of miles to get here.

16 Then, after that, at the platform, the testimonies of those children coming here, the people who had been in serious condition, of all kinds of diseases, from across the country, giving testimony of their conditions, and how they were dying with cancer and different things.

And here they are, normally, healed. That's just one of the vindications of His continuing Messiahship.

17 It's a vindication that Christianity is the Truth. There is no other religion is Truth but Christianity. And it is Truth. Christ is the Truth. And He. . . The religion of Christ did not die with Christ. It might have died with Him, but it raised with Him, also. And He, tonight, still proves His great Messiahship.

18 We are taught, in some little book that I was reading some time ago, called, *The Prince of the House of David*. I believe it was written by a man called Ingraham. And is supposedly to been, part of it, true, and taken off of some old manuscript, off of leather manuscript from many, many years back. That, there was a young Jewish, in Palestine, at the same time that Jesus was there. And she, writing to her father in Alexandria, was keeping close contact with her father, concerning John the Baptist and the Jesus who called Himself "the Messiah." And in there she gives a beautiful picture of our setting tonight.

19 She said that Martha and Mary and Lazarus was bosom friends to Jesus. That, after the death of Joseph, that they went. . . He come to live with them, and to be with them. Lazarus was learning to be a scribe at the temple. And Martha and Mary were also. . . They had no father and mother. So, they made little tapestries for the temple, the little cloths and things, needlework, and that gave them something to do. And Jesus come to dwell with them, before He had ever made Hisself known that He was the Messiah.

20 And Lazarus had been down to the river, to hear the preaching of John. So he come back and told them what a great prophet had come out of Galilee, out of the wilderness, and what he was proclaiming, that the coming of the Messiah was at hand. And little did Lazarus know that the very One he was speaking to was the Messiah, Himself.

21 And one day he persuaded Jesus, as it was, to go down with him, to hear this prophet preaching. And John, down there, not dressed with great swelling words; just a common ordinary man, not dressed like the high priest.

22 For, God doesn't dwell in the way we dress. God doesn't care very much about it, as long as we're dressed decently and look right. You don't have to have your collar turned around, or wear a turban on your head. God wants you to have a humble, submissive heart. That's what God looks for.

23 And as he seen Jesus coming with John, to his baptism, John turned and looked, and said, "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world."

24 And when Jesus was baptized of John, they say that He returned back later to the home of Lazarus and Martha. And as He lived there, eat at their table, slept in their beds there in Bethany. And one day, God spoke to Jesus and told Him, "I want You to leave this place, and to go where I will show You."

25 Now, we know that the Bible said, in Saint John 5:19, Jesus said, "I do nothing except the Father shows Me first what to do."

26 And now God had to show Him, then, what to do, or He would never have left Bethany. So He went out, about a days journey, or two.

27 And by and by, Lazarus got sick, and they sent for Jesus to come. But, instead of coming, Jesus just ignored the call.

28 Now would it not make you feel strange if the pastor did that? It would make you feel like, "Well, he doesn't care about us."

29 But, oh, if you would just stop a minute, to remember this, that, "All things work together for good to them that love God." Nothing in the world can go wrong, as long as you're in God. "The footsteps of the righteous is ordered of the Lord."

30 And then they sent again for Jesus. And He, seemingly, ignored their call and just went right on. After four days passed, He said, "Our friend, Lazarus, sleepeth, and for your sake I'm glad I wasn't there." For, if He would have been there, they would have been trying to get Him to do something that wasn't the will of God.

31 Oh, how I could stop here for a moment! How that, many times, with good intentions, people try to call people out of the will of God. A man should know his absolute calling. You should know what you're doing, and with not just a haphazard way, or let money pull you from one place to another, or popularity do it. No matter how popular you are, how rich you are, you should always first seek God, to know His plan and His will.

32 Now, when Lazarus was sick, it seemed strange that He would not go back. But Jesus said, "I'm glad I wasn't there."

33 Cause, they would have been persuading Him, say, "Now, why don't You come on over *here*? Why don't You do *this*? And why don't You raise him up? You raised others." But, Jesus knew better. Jesus knew what the Father's will was.

34 And, oh, what a blessed privilege it is, that we can know the Father's will. If we'll seek God, God will make known His will.

35 I'd rather know that I was in the will of God, if I never spoke to another person, than to preach to ten thousand people every night, out of the will of God. I'd rather know the will of God. I believe that it was

David that said, "I'd rather be a doormat," at the . . . or something, "at the house of my Lord, than to dwell in tents with wickedness."

³⁶ What a privilege, to find our place and there abide. No matter how the devil shakes, what he says, and how he scoffs, stay right straight in the will of God.

³⁷ Notice, then, when Jesus said, "Now, he's—he's dead." They thought he was taking a sleep. He said, "He's dead. And for your sake, I'm glad I wasn't there. But I go wake him." Oh, my! It wasn't no, "I'll go and see if I can; I'll go and make a try." But, "I'll go and wake him." For, He knew, God had showed Him by a vision, that Lazarus was going to come forth out of that grave. And it wasn't no guess work. Oh, if God would. . .

³⁸ Any time that God shows a vision of what's going to happen, it's going to be exactly that way, if the vision is from God. Just has to be! How I could stop here in my text, and just quote over, for hours, of cases that I know.

³⁹ I've went to cases where I would think, "O God, surely You will do it," just going out and just trying to test my faith against it. But many times it doesn't work.

⁴⁰ But when God shows a vision, oh, my, it's just got to happen. It can't fail. And because that He does it now, it's the infallible proof that He is still the Messiah, that His Messiahship is sealed by the signs and wonders of the vindication of His blessed Word.

⁴¹ And then to think, that, Lazarus, when he got sick. . . There is no one knows what sickness is until you've had it in your own home. And I'm sure that every one of us, tonight, can sympathize with Martha and Mary, of how their only bread-maker they had, their brother, laid sick in the bed. And perhaps the doctors had give him up. We're taught that he died with hemorrhages in the lungs, probably tubercular. And he died with that condition. And when he was so sick, and the doctor had give him up, and then Jesus failed to come to His friend.

⁴² Now, that really was a dark time. Could you imagine those two beautiful young ladies sending for Jesus to come, and He refused do it? After they had come out of the church and had denied the old Orthodox religion, and had separated themselves from the other associates of the world; and were then putting their whole trust in this Man, Christ, Who they believed to be the Messiah, Christ; and then He let them down!

⁴³ Oh, we all had them kind of experiences. I remember when I was first converted, how that my people thought I had lost my mind. Well, they said, "If you keep that kind of religion, you'll be in the insane institution in a few days." You've had the same thing, of people making

fun of you, and your associates saying that you've went off at the deep end. But as long as your faith is in Christ, everything will come out all right. Don't never worry about that. And I can remember how that the people . . .

⁴⁴ I'd meet my boy friend, and the young girls that I was going with, meet them on the street. And he said, "Billy, you've become a holy-roller." I didn't care, for I knew that something had happened, something taken place.

⁴⁵ And, in my heart, I believed it to be the real, genuine Holy Spirit. Twenty-four years has passed, and it's just as anchored there tonight. I have the same determination to serve Him, as I did the first night I promised Him, in that little ol' woodshed. Certainly. Something taken a hold! Dark hours has come. Tragic has come. Disappointments has come. Death has come. But, in the face of it all, I rest on that beautiful hope that He said, "I am the resurrection and Life; he that believeth in Me, through he were dead, yet shall he live."

My faith is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' Blood and righteousness;
When all around my soul gives way,
Then He is all my hope and stay.

On Christ, the solid Rock, we stand;
All other grounds is sinking sand. (Certainly!)

⁴⁶ Oh, it must have been a dark time; when their doctor had failed them, when their friend had failed them, and Lazarus was now dying. And the fourth day came, and he hemorrhaged his last time, and went to be with God. They taken him out; pulled the blood from his body, put spices and spikenard into his veins, wrapped him in cloth and laid him in the grave. And he laid there, four days, dead. His body was smelling.

⁴⁷ Now, anyone knows that the human body drops to pieces after about seventy-two hours.

⁴⁸ That's the reason Jesus had to raise before the three days was up. And seventy-two hours, the corruption sets in.

⁴⁹ And David, in the Bible, said, eight hundred years before Christ was born, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit said, "I'll not suffer My holy One to see corruption, neither will I leave His soul in hell."

⁵⁰ That's the reason He said, "Destroy this body, and I'll raise it up within three days." He knew that no corruption would set in. That's why He died on Friday afternoon, and rose up again on Sunday morning, is because He knowed not one cell of that blessed body could corruption touch.

51 For, God's Word is so infallible. Oh, my! He keeps His Word, to the letter. "He will not suffer My holy One to see corruption, neither will He leave His soul in hell." God's infallible Word could not fail. There laid His body.

Sure, people question. They said, "Three days and nights?"

52 But, it was within three days and nights, He said. He knew that it couldn't completely be three days and nights, 'cause corruption would set in.

53 So, here was Lazarus, four days had passed. The nose had already fell in, on the face. The fingers had already turned. The skin worms had begin to crawl into his body and eat up his flesh.

54 Oh, it must have been the darkest hour that little family ever seen: their Friend gone, their church, they were excommunicated, their brother was dead. And the people were scoffing and laughing at them, as those two little girls set together in the home, with their black veils over their face, as the oriental custom is, sitting there, weeping and mourning, of the going of their brother. There they was.

55 No one but who has set in those type of home; no one but those who has set by the side of their loved ones! We know, many of you know, how we sit by our loved one. Roy, I can see you sitting by the side of that little boy. Brother Roberson, I can see you and Sister Roberson sitting by the side of her mother. Oh, how the many of you! I can see myself sitting by the side of my little, gone baby, of about eight months old. We know what those things are. Oh, what dark hours!

56 But it was the darkest hour that little family had ever seen. And about that time, Jesus come on the scene. It's, usually, that's the way He does it. It's in the darkest of hour, and then Jesus comes on the scene.

57 It was way down in Babylon, one morning, many years ago, when three Hebrew children, that had been taken down there, captive, away from their homeland, they were sad because they were captive. They were sad because there was no place to worship. But they still lived true to God. And there came a bunch of deceivers along, and they passed a proclamation, that, "Whosoever wouldn't bow to an image," which was contrary to their religion, "would be thrown into the fiery furnace." And the king, with his great brawl, come out and said, "Whosoever will not bow to this image, must go into this fiery furnace and be burned up." Now, there was a testing time.

58 And there's always a testing time. "Every son that cometh to God, must first be tested, tried." Oh, I love it. Oh, I don't call for it, but, after it's passed, it yields the beautiful fruits of meekness. The testing time, when the fire is hot! How every Christian, through the ages, went

through that testing time. And the Bible said, “If we can’t stand that testing, we become illegitimate children, and not the children of God.” So, a real child in the testing time, which this was, they do not walk by sight. Their physical eyes are closed to the things that are around them. They only walk by the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ, looking to His Word, and believing that He will keep every Word exactly the way He said He would do it. Testing time, trials!

⁵⁹ And we see, when this trying time come to these three Hebrew children, they proved out faithful. They said, “We will not bow down to the image.” Oh, my!

⁶⁰ Then, the great proclamation that had been signed, they went and gathered them together, and pulled their hands behind them, and walked them up a great plank, a runway, to drop off into a furnace that had the skies literally red, seven times hotter than it ever been het. And while they were walking up this plank, knowing that in their heart, they did not see how that God would ever do it. But they knowed that God could do it. It was their privilege to walk to their death, as it was, to keep the Word of God.

⁶¹ And as they walked up there, perhaps was the darkest hour that they ever seen. They had no—no home to go to, on this earth. They were captives. They were just like slaves. They had been brought from their homeland. They wasn’t allowed to go to public worship. They worshipped idols in that country; so they could not go to idolatry, neither could they have their homeland privileges. They were captives. But, one thing, you can’t bind a believer from his God. No, you can’t.

⁶² And that morning, as they walked up there, knowing that they stood alone with God, and as they begin to make their steps, as they went up, perhaps, the darkest hour that they had ever come to, and the heat of the furnace begin to blat into their face, and as they made their final good-bye step to this world, down into that fiery furnace, then Jesus came along just at that time. And He got down into that fiery furnace, pulling a palm off of the evergreen trees from the Heaven, and He fanned the fire away from them.

⁶³ Until, after burning, perhaps for an hour or more, the king got all weary and said, “Open up, and let’s see what’s happened.”

⁶⁴ And when they pulled down the great lid of the furnace, and the big steel or brass lid fell down, the king looked in. And he said, “How many did we put in there?”

He said, “We put in three.”

⁶⁵ He said, “There is four in there. And One of them looks like the Son of God.”

66 It might come dark, heated times, it might come testing times, but Jesus is always on the scene if we'll just be true and faithful.

67 It was a little woman one time, who had spent all of her money, for doctors. And she had sold the farm, and the team, perhaps. And all that she had, she had sold; and give to the doctors, to try to get healed. None of them could do her any good. And as she sit alone, her little body was frail, because she was losing blood for many years. And nothing could seem to help her. And there . . .

68 She had heard. You know, "Faith cometh by hearing, hearing of the Word." She heard that way over in the other side of the Galilee, there was a Prophet over there, Who were healing the sick. But, she didn't have the money to cross the lake. She couldn't oar the boat, herself; she was too frail. And she couldn't have any money to pay somebody else, because she had spent all she had, for the doctors, and was still just as bad as she ever was.

69 One morning, while sitting out, as we would think, on the porch, with her little trembling fingers, trying to do a little crocheting or knitting. As she looked down there, there was a little noise taking place down at the seaside. And a little boat pushed into the willows, and she happened to look. And after . . .

70 She was sitting there, thinking, "Now all my money is gone. What will I do next? We got . . . probably be put out of the home. The mortgage has done took that. We don't even have food to eat, nor nothing else. And I can't get no relief." It was probably the darkest hour that she had ever seen.

71 And about that time, the little boat pushed in, and Jesus came along. She goes down to the river, with her little, trembling body.

72 And just remember, because Jesus come, every devil in hell will try to keep you away from Him. That's right. You might hear the Message, but the devil will sit right on your shoulder, and say, "Don't you listen. Don't you listen. Don't you listen." But don't you believe him.

73 He said, "Whosoever will, can come and drink from the waters of Life, freely."

Don't listen to him, for he is the devil.

74 And the little woman got down to where Jesus was coming up, and the people rallying around Him, the poor, and so forth.

75 And there stood the priest and all the—the great leaders of her religion. And they were making fun of Him, and say, "Ay, You're the One Who heals the sick, are You? Well, we got plenty of sick. Let's see You heal them. Well, You're the One Who raises the dead, are You? We got a graveyard full up here. Let's see You raise them."

76 He never even paid a bit of attention to them. He just walked on. He had one thing to do, that was the thing that God showed Him to do. Nothing less or nothing more!

77 When the Christian gets to that place, where he'll lay aside and not listen to all the scandal and stuff that's said, and all the going on, and have one motive, that's to do the will of God, that God sent you to do, there'll be a different day and a different church.

78 Here she walked down to this crowd. And Jesus was walking along, in His slow, steady walk.

79 And the people were running to Him, and saying, "Are You the Prophet? Are You *this*? Are You *that*? Say, how about coming over here and doing something for me? Let me see You perform a miracle. We would love to see You turn the waters to wine; here is a jug full of it. I'd like to have some. They say it was good wine. Make *this* wine. Let me see how it tastes."

80 He never even raised His head. He just kept walking on. That makes me love Him.

81 You know, it takes little bitty petty people to fuss and argue. A big man never pays any attention to nothing like that. Christians doesn't notice what the world says, if they want to say anything they want to. They've got . . . They're too big to notice those little bitty things. They just keep moving on, just going on.

82 The little woman thought, "Now, it's the only hour that I'll ever see Him; my last opportunity. The only opportunity that I've ever had. And I truly believe, if I could only touch the garment of that Man, I'd be made well." What a faith! What a time!

83 And, here, as the crowd is trying to keep her back, she gets down on her knees, some way, and crawls through all those crowd, until she touched His garment. And she walked back and stood in the crowd.

Jesus turned and said, "Who has touched Me?"

84 Why, the crowd said, "Why, no one has touched You." Everyone denied it.

85 And Peter rebuked Him. He said, "Lord, everybody has been sweeping against You."

He said, "But I perceive that virtue has gone from Me."

86 And He looked around until He found her. And He said, "Thy faith has saved thee."

87 Her darkest hour. And the Bible said, that, "She felt within her, that the blush . . . blood issue had stopped."

88 Was not the same Lord Jesus here this morning? To a man sitting there, with advanced cancer, till he . . . The doctor said, "He can just live a little while." And as he passed by the altar, in the darkest hour he had ever seen, and fifteen minutes stood back there. And had to come here and said, "All the heavy feeling has gone from me." Darkest hour, then Jesus comes along.

89 Brother Burns sitting over there, when . . . His lovely little companion in Glory, tonight. How it was, he was laying there, on the hospital here in Louisville, with cancer in the spleen. And the doctors was giving him up. And Brother Wood and I were out in the—the forest, a squirrel hunting. And we come in, and something constrained me to go to Louisville. Why? I don't know.

90 And I said, "Brother Wood, drive right around the corner, I'm going into Sutcliff's. And when you come back around, you can pick me up." I waited and waited. I couldn't find him anywhere. And after while, I noticed him turning the other corner, and passing by the street, thinking that Sutcliff's was another street up. If the man would have only looked, he would have seen Sutcliff's wasn't there. And he deals with Sutcliff's. He knows where the place is.

91 But little Sister Burns, that rests with God, tonight, was standing in her home; took that little picture with the Angel of the Lord on the top of it, and knelt down before it and said, "O God, help me to find Brother Branham for my dear husband."

92 And she goes downtown to pay a light bill, not knowing where I was in this wide world. And she come. I waited for over a half hour. And I kept seeing the truck pass the other corner. I said, "He is lost. I must go up there." And just as I got to the corner, and he come around the corner, for me to get in the truck, and just about that time, Sister Burns come around the corner.

93 And there, with a prayer of faith, God healed her husband. And there he sits tonight. It was in the darkest of hour, then Jesus comes along.

94 We just think that we're lost and we're forsaken. And when you get to feeling . . . Just keep holding on, He'll be there. Don't weary.

95 It was the darkest hour that little Georgie Carter had ever seen, down there at Milltown. She belonged to a church that did not believe in Divine healing. They ridiculed and made fun of Divine healing. And there that little woman laying in that condition. And the Lord spoke to me down here on the bed, and said, "Go down to Milltown." I had never heard of the place.

⁹⁶ I come to this very platform, and I said, “The Lord has sent me to a place called Milltown. There’s a little lamb that’s all hooked up in the bushes, and it’s crying for help.” No one knowed where it was.

⁹⁷ And Brother George Wright, he was here this morning, said, “I know where it is. It’s just below my place.” I went down the following Saturday. I looked everywhere, and started a meeting in the old Baptist church.

⁹⁸ And then Mr. Hall led me over there to pray for this little girl, and I prayed for her. Her people left the house. They didn’t want nothing to do with it, because their church had told them, “Any persons,” that walked into my meeting, “will be excommunicated from the church.” There she had laid, nine years and eight months, flat on her back, not even able to move. She had cried. She had prayed. Until, you can go, till this day, and look. Her little poster bed, she had rubbed all the—the paint off of the back of it, crying to God, to do something. And yet, her cold, formal indifferent church did not believe in Divine healing and would reject anyone to come pray for her in that way.

⁹⁹ There her papa was a deacon, or something, in the church. Her mama and them, great pillars in the church. And there they was rejected; all hopes was gone. The doctors give her up, five years before. She only weighed about thirty-seven pounds; nothing but bones. Her little legs looked like broom-sticks. And there she laid with nothing but just the skin over the bone.

¹⁰⁰ One day, going down there . . . And her mammy run; her daddy left home. They had nothing to do with that fanatic. And one day, walked in to pray for her, I said, “Little girl, would you be willing to rise and be baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus, to wash away your sins, and would serve Him?”

¹⁰¹ I had to get close to hear what she said. She said, “I’ll do anything.” I looked, laying on my . . . her bed, and there laid my little book, called *Jesus The Same Yesterday, Today, And Forever*. I prayed for her, it seemed like it didn’t do any good.

¹⁰² Two weeks I held a meeting. I went up to baptize up at the Totten Ford. And that day the meeting was ending, that night. And while baptizing . . .

¹⁰³ There was another minister up there who made fun and ridiculed the very thoughts of water baptism, and using the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. He said, “If any of my people that’s sitting under this tent, was ever around the man, get out of here now. I want nothing to do with them.” And Mr. Wright happened to be sitting there, and he got right up and went out. And the very following Sunday . . . I never opened my mouth and said a word about the man.

104 And I went on up there, to the place to be . . . to baptize up there at Totten Ford. And when I walked out in the water, there stood the people from his revival, standing on the banks, to make fun at me baptizing in the Name of the Lord Jesus. And when I walked out into the water, about that time Jesus came along.

105 Here come his entire congregation, with their good clothes on, wading out in that muddy water, screaming, "God be merciful to me!" And I baptized every one of them in the Name of Jesus Christ, right there in that hole of water.

106 Goes on up to Brother George's. And Brother George said, "Brother Branham, come on to supper in a few minutes."

107 I said, "I must pray." I went over in the woods, and I couldn't pray, here and there. And all of a sudden, when it got almost dark, I looked, and there was a Light shining down through a little dogwood tree, and said, "Rise from your feet, on your feet, and go by the way of Carter's."

108 Little Georgie laying there, crying, and saying, "Oh, mama, I'm going to be left out. He is going to leave today, and I won't be able to see him anymore." And that was the closing service, that night, of the great revival. There she was, with all hopes gone, looked like. And about that time, Jesus came along.

109 And that little woman laying there, only thirty-something pounds in weight. When I walked in there and laid her by the hand, I said, "Sister, the Lord Jesus appeared to me a while ago, over on the side of the hill there. He said come here and lay my hands on you, that you might be healed."

110 That little, bony frame that hadn't raised from the bed for nine years and eight months . . . [Blank spot on tape—Ed.] . . . stood on her feet and rushed to the piano, and begin to play:

Jesus, keep me near the cross,
There's a precious Fountain,
Free to all, a healing stream
That flows from Calvary's mountain.

111 It was the darkest hour that Georgie ever seen, then Jesus come along.

112 Congressman Willie D. Upshaw, sixty-six years in a wheel chair, pushed from congress hall, to place after place. Had been prayed for, hundreds of times. He was the vice-president of the Baptist Association of the south, the Southern Baptist. A great man, a wonderful man, a man that would have been President in the United States, in 1926, if he would have sold his birthright. But, he hated whiskey. And he run on the prohibition ticket, when the Democrat party would have elected

him. They said they would, and they would have done it. Cause, he could have easily done it. He was well loved.

¹¹³ But he said, "I wouldn't swap my birthright, to be President of the world." Hallelujah! God give us men like that, in our White House here. Yes, sir. How would he lay then as a cripple? His back broke, since he was seventeen years old, and was eighty-six.

¹¹⁴ And one night, yonder, before tens of thousands of people, when Roy Davis sent him out there. And he moved him in in a wheel chair, after Roy prayed for him, and hundreds of others. And I never heard of the man, in my life. There he was, sitting back there, just in another meeting. I walked up to the platform. And about that time, I looked, and I saw a haystack, and a little boy playing. As the Holy Spirit begin to reveal, It pointed him out and told him he was a congressman, and that Jesus Christ had made him well.

¹¹⁵ There, him, an invalid, sixty-six years in the wheel chair, eighty-six years old, the darkest hour he had ever seen. All hopes was gone, for his healing, then Jesus came along. And a man, had been in a wheel chair for sixty-six years, raised and run to the platform, at eighty-six years old, and touched his feet, and jumped up-and-down. And stood in Billy Graham's meeting and sung *I'm Leaning On The Everlasting Arms*, on the steps of the White House. The darkest hour, then Jesus come along.

¹¹⁶ It was the darkest hour Abraham seen, when he was a hundred years old, then Jesus came along.

¹¹⁷ One night after being preaching a long time, He sent His disciples away. And they got in a ship and went out without Him. And looked like, that, when He did, then he's out into the sea, the little ship was. And the little storm come up. And the devil said, "I've got them away from Him now. I've got these holy-rollers away from their Master. I'll see how much Message they'll take to all the world. I'll drown every one of them out here."

¹¹⁸ So, there come up a great storm. The devil begin to snort his breath, and the storm came up. And the little ship begin to bounce up-and-down, like *this*. The sails broke. The oars broke. The ship filled with water. And it was the darkest time. No doubt they were holding one another around the waist, and crying. They thought, "Oh, where has He gone? What has happened to Him? Why didn't we wait and take Him with us? Why didn't we have Him in the boat?"

¹¹⁹ And many times, you might think the same thing. My friend, you might have went off without Him, but, remember, He is still watching you. He knows right where you are. They may be trouble in your home. There may be trouble in your soul. There may be trouble in your body.

Whatever it is, don't you worry. He has got His eyes on you. He is watching you.

120 He climbed up on top of a mountain. He was looking out there, and He seen every trick that devil was playing. Hallelujah!

121 He not only climbed, but He climbed the ramparts of Calvary; not only to Calvary, but the ramparts of Glory. And He sits tonight, at the Majesty. He looks down on earth. There's not even a— a ripple can come on the water without (He) it's by His permission; the sea can't move; a leaf can't move; a bird can't fly. Oh, blessed be the Name of the Lord!

122 He is above all principalities and powers. The earth made Him the lowest name that can be brought; God give Him the highest name could be given. The earth put Him as low as they could get Him, in a sinning grave; but God raised Him in the highest High. He is so high till He has to look down to see Heaven.

His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.

123 He watches you. He knows every thought that's in your mind. He knows every action you make. He knows everything about you. That's right.

124 You say, "But, I've backslid, Brother Branham." That don't make a bit of difference. He knows just exactly what you backslid over. He knows just exactly where you're at.

125 You say, "Well, Brother Branham, I went off without Him, too. I had an opportunity, one time, to speak. I had an opportunity, one time, to— to be a Christian. I had an opportunity. The preacher made the call, and I ought to have went. I tried it once, but I failed. I did *this, that*." No matter what you've done, He has still got His eye on you.

126 Those disciples went off without Him. And the darkest hour, when that devil got them away from there, away from His Presence, he begin to storm on them.

127 Maybe that's what he's doing to you tonight. He might give you cancer. He might give you *this*. He might give you *that*. He might give you a broken home. He might give you a tore up heart. He might give you worries. He might give you a headache. I don't know what he'll do. But there's one thing I do know, that God has still got His eye on you. This may be your darkest hour. I don't know; God does.

128 But just in that darkest hour, when they were just about ready to go down, then Jesus come walking off, from the water, just all undisturbed. The big waves just flattened out in front of Him, as He walked along.

Peter said, "Lord, if that be You, bid me come to You."

He said, "Come on. Walk out here."

¹²⁹ "Ask, and you shall receive; seek, and you shall find; knock and it will be opened unto you. For every one that knocketh, it shall be opened; every one that seeketh, he shall find." Certainly. He is still watching. And the strange thing about it, when those disciples were helpless and hopeless, and when Jesus came to them, it was the only thing that could help them, and they were afraid of Him. They were scared of Him.

¹³⁰ And I say today, friend, that when nations has failed, that when people has failed, when communities has failed, where the church has failed, where everything else has failed, it looks like we're totally gone. And most any time, any hour, you can hear a scream, and you wouldn't be able to get through the scream till the whole world will be annihilated. One setting off of bombs would do it. That's all you have to do, just one. They don't have to leave Moscow. They can sit right there and drop one on Fourth Street, in Louisville. And we can stand right here and drop one on Moscow, too.

¹³¹ And what's it going to be when these big ships laying out into the sea like this, with them trained rockets right on them cities? One on this side, training *this* way; and one on this side, training *that* way. The first one touches off, these will touch that way.

¹³² What's going to happen? What good is your home going to do you then? What good is your money going to do you then? What good is your boy friend going to do you, or your girl friend going to do you? What good is anything going to do you? If you're not right with God, you're gone, for time and Eternity.

¹³³ This is the darkest hour that this world has ever faced since the beginning of time. There has never been a time in all the world's history that is dark as it is right now.

¹³⁴ Cancer is on the rampage. Just think, that . . . I heard a statement the other day, a bill like this, "That there will be more people die in America this year, from smoking cigarettes, cause cancer, that will die this year in America, than there was killed in the four years of the Korean War." Cancer is on the rampage.

¹³⁵ Diseases are happening, and everything is taking place. Well, we don't know what to expect. The doctors don't know what to call the diseases, so they're saying they're viruses. What is a *virus*? Ask the doctor. It's something that he don't know nothing about, he just says, "It's a virus." That's all there is.

¹³⁶ There's little ol' bugs and demons flying that man never heard of before. Everything is on the move. Everything, we're trying to curb it with natural things. But, when we try to do this, it breaks out

something else. That's right. You give a man penicillin for *this*, it'll set up something else. You give *this*, it's . . .

137 You're just all out of the way. God has a way, we might as well get into it.

138 The churches has failed. The Presbyterians fail. The Methodist fail. The Baptist fail. The Pentecostal fail. The Pilgrim Holiness fail. The church of God fail. We've, every one, failed. That's right. You can't say, "I'm a Methodist," and act secure. You can't say you're a Baptist and act secure; Methodist, or a Presbyterian, whatever you may be, or Pentecostal. You can't say you're secure, not belonging to the church, because the church has miserably failed.

139 The sickness is on such a rampage until, I believe, five out of eight, or something like that, will die this year, from cancer. Think of it. And diseases of all kinds, new diseases, and things a breaking out, that's just terrible to think about.

140 Automobiles are killing. And every day, the people are driving down the road so nervously, and screaming.

141 Why, I was walking down the street in Louisville, yesterday, and a woman was going to slap me off the street. I was walking along like *this*, and my wife was with me, and I heard somebody behind me. The—the crowd was just . . . And some silly-looking woman, with smoking a cigarette, she said, "Well, now, if you don't know what side of the street you want to walk on, get off the street."

I said, "Well, lady . . ."

She said, "Shut up!" There you are. There you are.

142 What is it? It's neurotics. It's mentally. And the doctors claim that nine out of every ten Americans is suffering with mental deficiency. Even the psychiatrists, that's supposed to be mental interpreters, they are going wild and insane. They're hooking them by the great cuffs, in the insane institution.

143 Insanity is on the move. Rape is on the move. Whiskey is on the move. Sin is on the move. Device-ity is on the move. There is no way to stop it. Communism is sweeping in like a flood. There is no way to stop it, because they're in the government and everywhere else.

144 Oh, but, bless be to God! Just in this darkest of hour, then here comes Jesus moving in, with His outstretched hand, and showing signs and wonders, and giving salvation and mercy to the people. The darkest hour this world has ever seen! When, the rock of Gibraltar will blow to pieces, one day. But, the Rock of ages will stand forever, as a memorial to the resurrection, Christ.

145 God bless you people! God bless you, children! You may be poor. You may not know where the next meal is a coming from. But, there is one thing, you are just as welcome at the Fountain of Life tonight, as the richest man in the world. You come without money, without price. It's open to whosoever will.

146 It's the darkest hour that the family has ever seen. Look at the families broke up. There is more divorces in America, alone, than there is in the whole rest of the world put together. Divorce on the rampage. Where has the honesty and the—the sincerity and the womanhood of our American women gone to? Look at the men, and all they do is speed on the roads, trying to knock everything out of their way, they can, going down, and to drink beer before they go home.

147 Look at our young teenage girls coming down the street, cigarettes in their hands. And so no matter how much the medical science puts out warning, "It's cancer! It's cancer!" They don't care. They don't care. They'll puff them right away, anyhow.

148 A preacher can stand and preach his day-lights out, and tell them it's wrong, and they'll say, "Oh, you old fanatic." The world is ready for judgment, and we're going to receive it. Mark my word, it won't be too long until there is going to be something take place.

149 When I seen this revival, swept in a moment. It's went over. And standing there, that Morning Star hung down on the river, twenty-something years ago, when He said, "The Message will sweep the world." And there has been an old-fashion, Pentecostal outpouring of the Holy Ghost, and revival fires and healing services has covered the globe.

150 They made many mistakes. The newspaper's write-up here, not long ago, in McCrall, or, McCall's, when that man sat in my meeting up there at Minneapolis, some of them, Mr. Peterson and them, come telling me that he was in the meeting. I said, "No doubt at all. But you never searched your articles right. You said A. A. Allen wrote that book. And A. A. Allen had nothing to do with it. Then, if that was such a mistake, I believe the rest of it is a lot of mistake." I said, "Truly, the brethren might deserve a lot of criticism. They made many mistakes. That's all right. But, brother, I'd rather be found on the battlefield, making mistakes, than to be a criticizer of the man that's trying to get souls saved to God." What are you doing about it?

151 Blessed be the Name of the Lord God! The Power of the Lord Jesus Christ is just as sufficient tonight. It's the only Rock. It's the only hope. It's the only Faith. And Christ has presented It to you.

152 [Blank spot on tape—Ed.] . . . and live, or turn away and die. It's the darkest hour the world has ever seen. But Jesus has come along, and

He's here now. His blessings is open. His side is pierced. His hands are reaching. "And whosoever will, may come and drink from the fountains of Life, freely." You make your choice. Your Eternal destination will be—will be staked upon your attitude towards Jesus Christ. This might be your last chance.

153 And when we bow our heads now just for a word of prayer, I'll ask the sister to come to the piano.

154 And while every person is in prayer, I want you to think it over. Where could you go tonight? What would happen tonight if a heart attack would strike you? This may be the last opportunity you have. Think it over now. Thing is, won't you take this opportunity?

155 You say, "Well, I'm kind of young." Oh, brother, sister, He's no respect of age. You can cross the line when you're young or when you're old; it doesn't matter. See?

156 Our Heavenly Father, this Message we now give to You, in Christ's Name. It is the darkest hour the world has seen. It's the darkest time that human history has ever written. There is missiles in the air, flying saucers, they call them.

157 You said, "There would be signs in the heaven; and in earth, great earthquakes shaking in divers places, volcanic eruptions; great waves in the sea." You said, "The sea a roaring. Man's heart failing." Truly. The world don't know what to do. The first atomic bomb tells it. "Perplexed of time, distress between the nations." You said, "When these things come to pass, then lift up your head, your Redemption is drawing nigh."

158 When I think of yonder, those Jews. I see that old six-point star of David, the oldest flag in the world, hanging yonder. Why can't the nations see it? And to think, that our own beloved nation is going to hook up with the Arabs, look like. They'll be cursed, just as sure. They've spurned the—the mercy of God, now they must stand judgment. See that old flag hanging yonder! See the desert coming forth like a rose blossoming! See those Jews coming back from way down in Iran, been there for twenty-five hundred years! The Bible said they'd be carried back to Jerusalem on eagles wing. To see those great United Airlines bringing them back on the wings of an eagle, as it was. Them getting off the ships, and looking, and saying, "Where is the Messiah?"

159 You said, "When the fig tree puts forth her buds, know summer is nigh." We see she is budding. And we see all the other trees a budding. We know it's near. We see Ishmael and Isaac, yonder at the gate, of each other's throat, just as You said. Every prophecy right now striking. God, be merciful and save the lost.

160 If there should be one here tonight, Lord, Who needs You, speak to his or her heart just now, for it may be that it is the darkest hour. Though we may not realize it. There may be some here who does not realize that this is the darkest hour, but it is. Satan may had them so smugged up in the things of the world, until they don't realize it.

161 You said, in the Bible, "You're naked, wretched, miserable, blind, and don't know it."

162 God, grant, tonight, that men and women, boys and girls, may come to themselves and realize that this is the darkest hour the world has ever seen. Now grant it, Lord, that if there be any here who doesn't know You, that they'll come sweetly and humbly to the cross, tonight, and accept Christ as personal Saviour.

163 Is there such an attitude, with our heads bowed, that you would like to be remembered in prayer as we close the service? Would you raise your hand to God, and say, "Remember me."

164 God bless you. God bless you. God bless you, and you, and you, and you. God bless you back there. And you, lady, yes. Would there be another just before closing? God bless you, young lady.

165 You say, "Brother Branham, does that mean anything when I raise my hand?" It just depends on what you meant.

166 Do you know, when you raise your hand, you defy every law of science? Do you know your hand is supposed to hang down, gravitation holds it to the ground? You know, when you raise your hand up, that it shows that there's something supernatural, in you, has made a decision? Something that's not natural. Something that's not scientific. It's a spirit that's in you, has made you break gravitation, by a supernatural Being in you, raising your hand towards the God of Heaven, and saying, "I now accept Jesus as my Saviour." Do you know it's a spirit in you doing that? You cannot do it yourself. That's what it means, the difference between Life and death.

167 If you're wrong, raise your hand to Him. If He sees the sparrow, He sees you. Surely.

168 Now, while you're right in your seat, if you want to come to the altar and pray, that's up to you. If you want to remain in your seat, we're going to pray for you. You can make your choice of which way you want to pray. God will hear. There's about a dozen hands up.

169 Now, if you desire, and want God to do for you, right where He has give you the conviction, right on that same spot, He'll take conviction away from you. He'll take your judgment upon Himself. And He's already paid for it.

170 And He'll say, "Father, put all of his account to Mine. It's settled." God then will give you the Holy Spirit, right where you're at.

171 Did you really mean it when you raised your hand? If you did, now let's pray.

172 Blessed Saviour, I don't know just what night is going to be my last sermon. I want to preach every one just like it was my last one. For I don't know when You're going to say, "It's all finished now. Come Home." I pray that You keep me. I want to stay, to preach the Word. I see the need of the Gospel, and the effect It has upon mankind. But here in our own beautiful land of America, we've seen so much ease, riches, money, everything.

173 Oh, we just can't go on like this, and the most of the world starving. We've been well-fed and clothed, and we own our homes, our cars. We have no need of nothing, and don't know that we're "miserable, wretched, blind," spiritually speaking, "naked," without the Blood of the Lord Jesus. Though, we may have great membership in church. We may have great social standing in the neighborhood. We may dress better, eat better. But, O God, about that soul!

174 Now, in this dark hour, You're still here, because You're putting conviction on hearts. There has been several hands, I guess, a dozen; I may be wrong. Might have been more or less. I do not know, Lord, but Thou knowest every one of them.

175 And now, solemnly, in the closing prayer, I'm bringing them sweetly and humbly to Thy feet, as the attributes of my sermon tonight, as the fruit of the Message. I'm bringing them to Thee, Lord, as they raise their hand for me to remember them in prayer. And they're kneeling now in their heart, at the cross. Receive them, Father. Take them as Thy beloved children. And wherever they go to church at, wherever it may be, oh, may they become prayer warriors. May they become soul winners; work, for the night is coming. Grant it, Father. Take them into Thy care, and bless them and give them the great desire of their heart. And may the blessed Holy Spirit fill their life. For we ask it in Christ's Name. Amen.

176 How many loves the Lord Jesus with all their heart? Oh, isn't He wonderful? How many just feels all scoured out? Just like the Lord had just come down and took His great scrub brush and just scrubbed it all away. Oh, my!

177 Give us the chord on that old, I believe, Salvation Army song, "What can wash away all sin? Nothing but the . . ." [Congregation says, "Blood of Jesus."—Ed.] "What can make me whole again? Nothing but the . . ." ["Blood of Jesus."] That's right. Let us sing it, all together, now.

What can wash away our sin?
 Nothing but the Blood of Jesus;
 What can make me whole again?
 Nothing but the Blood of Jesus.

Oh, precious is the flow,
 That makes me white as snow;
 No other fount I know,
 Nothing but the Blood of Jesus.

¹⁷⁸ Isn't that wonderful? You like those old hymns? Oh, my! I wanted to see something now. Which one of you . . . All the Methodists hold up your hand. Good. All the Baptists hold up your hand. Is there a Pilgrim Holiness? Hold up your hand. Nazarene? Hold up your hand. Church of God? Hold up your hand. Presbyterian? Hold up your hand. Would there be a Catholic? Hold up your hand. Just look at the different churches in here!

¹⁷⁹ Now while we sing that again, what makes a Presbyterian whole? Nothing but the Blood of Jesus. What makes a Methodist whole? Nothing but the Blood of Jesus. What makes a Nazarene whole? Nothing but the Blood of Jesus.

¹⁸⁰ What makes . . .? How many Pentecostals? I forgot to ask that. How many Pentecostals in here? Raise your hand. Now the people see. They say that we're a Pentecostal church. There was five hands went up, for Pentecostals. There you are.

¹⁸¹ We're not Pentecostal, in denomination. We are the Church of the living God. We are just children of God. We are Presbyterians. We're Methodists. We're Baptists. We're Lutherans. We're Nazarene. We're Pentecostals. We are Pilgrim Holiness. We're all of them. For we are all one, in Christ Jesus. What did it? *This!*

What can wash away my sin?
 Nothing but the Blood of Jesus;
 Oh, what can make me whole again?
 Nothing but the Blood of Jesus.

Oh, precious is the flow,
 That makes me white as snow;
 No other fount I know,
 Nothing but the Blood of Jesus.

¹⁸² Isn't He wonderful? Yes, sir! Now while we sing, *Down At The Cross*, I want the Methodist, and Baptist, and Presbyterian, and Pentecostal, and Nazarene, all to shake one another hands, all right, while we sing it.

Down at the cross where . . .

Turn right around now, shake hands with somebody.

Down where for cleansing . . .
There to my heart was the Blood applied;
Glory to His Name! (. . . ? . . .)
Glory to His precious Name!
There to my heart was the Blood applied;
Glory to His Name!

¹⁸³ Now this is communion night, as everybody knows. We take communion tonight. And I forgot about it till Brother Neville just reminded me.

¹⁸⁴ Now how many feels real good, that you're a Nazarene Pilgrim Holiness Pentecostal Baptist? Let's see your hand. I was noticing here, a Baptist and Methodist standing on the platform, shake one another's hands. Oh, aren't we . . . Isn't it wonderful to be a servant of the Lord!

¹⁸⁵ Now we're just children. And children has awful funny ways, you know. They'll be fussing one minute and playing the next. And that's the way we got to be. Just get rid of the fuss, off your shoulder, and go on out and have some more fun, play with your dollies, and whatever has got to be done.

¹⁸⁶ Now we got a revival coming up. And we're going to sing the Gospel, preach the Gospel, and just have a wonderful time. How many is going to be praying for it? [Congregation says, "Amen."—Ed.] Oh, that's good. Now, come and help us. Get on the phone. Get every little way you can, invite all the children in. Tell them, "Come on over now, and help us now. We're going to have some fellowship around the Word."

¹⁸⁷ Now it's communion time. Everybody is welcome to take the communion with us, just a few minutes. They bring them up here at the altar, and, ten or fifteen minutes, it's all over, then we observe feet washing.

¹⁸⁸ Brother Neville will now read the Scripture concerning the communion, while we be real reverent now, as we take the supper. 

57-0407E Then Jesus Came
Branham Tabernacle
Jeffersonville, Indiana U.S.A.

ENGLISH

©1993 VGR, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

VOICE OF GOD RECORDINGS
P.O. Box 950, JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA 47131 U.S.A.
(812) 256-1177 • www.branham.org

Copyright Notice

All rights reserved. This book may be printed on a home printer for personal use or to be given out, free of charge, as a tool to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This book cannot be sold, reproduced on a large scale, posted on a website, stored in a retrieval system, translated into other languages, or used for soliciting funds without the express written permission of Voice Of God Recordings®.

For more information or for other available material, please contact:

VOICE OF GOD RECORDINGS
P.O. BOX 950, JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA 47131 U.S.A.
(812) 256-1177 • www.branham.org